

NOTE: As part of our assessment this past year 2016-2017, we decided to begin to clarify the assessment plan. What you see here is a work in progress. We did not complete as much work on this as we had hoped. We will continue clarifying points of assessment and specific rubrics in the coming year. You will notice several points of assessment listed for various learning outcomes. This is likely to change. We do not feel all learning outcomes need to be assessed in every class. This is just a means to organize information for our own use.

Soc/Anth Mission Statement:

Majoring in Sociology and Anthropology at Wells prepares students to think critically, reason wisely and act humanely by first developing the understanding that they are interconnected to others around the globe in complex ways. Students learn that how they live in the world can either perpetuate or change the social conditions around them and that the cultures humans create are ever changing.

Sociology and Anthropology introduces students to the many complex paths toward social justice, including sustainability. Sociology/Anthropology students develop an awareness and understanding of national and global inequalities based on race, class, gender, age, sexuality, religion, nationality and the effects of colonialism past and present. Our students develop an appreciation for life-ways different from the normative American middle-class through cross-cultural comparison.

As scholars, Sociology and Anthropology students recognize and discuss enduring and timely issues using classic and contemporary frameworks from both disciplines. They are also familiar with, and are able to critique research methods and methodologies. Furthermore, they are able to discuss the ethics of doing research and to understand the responsibilities of a social scientist.

2. Program Goals:

Our program goals are fourfold:

- 1) to develop informed critical scholars who can communicate in the language of sociology and anthropology
- 2) to introduce students to timely and enduring issues in sociology and anthropology
- 3) to open students' eyes to structural injustices as well as develop an appreciation for diverse lifeways, and
- 4) to allow students the opportunity to think about creating a more just, equitable and sustainable society.

3. Learning Objectives:

Program Goal 1: to develop informed critical scholars who can communicate in the language of sociology and anthropology.

Learning Objective 1: Students will be able to engage in professional discourse both verbally and through writing.

Measurable Outcome:

- 1) Students will participate in class
 - a. **Assessment of Outcome:** Students will take classes where discussion is required as part of the grade. 70% of student will receive a passing grade on this requirement. **Where Can This Be Assessed:** *ANTH 345, SOC 277, SOC 331*
- 2) Students will be able to use ASA and AAA format in research papers or for essay exams
 - a. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of students in a given class that requires essay writing will demonstrate proper use of ASA and AAA format. **Where Assessed:** *SOC 151*
- 3) Students will be able to present a poster presentation of their thesis.
 - a. **Assessment of Outcome:** 100% of students will create a poster of their thesis work. 90% will be present to present it to the campus-wide community. **Where Assessed:** SOC 401, thesis presentation
- 4) Students will present their research at a professional conference (NYSSA, NEAA, NCUR, ESS, AAA, etc.)
 - a. **Assessment of Outcome:** Rarely assessed.

Learning Objective 2: Students will be aware of and be able to use theoretical frameworks and concepts.

Measurable Outcome:

- 1) Students will be gain mastery of sociological and anthropological concepts.
 - a) **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of students will receive passing grade on sections of exams where vocabulary is specifically tested. *ANTH 270, SOC 277, SOC 363*
 - b) **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of students will receive passing grade on sections of exams where they are asked to apply concepts in essay form. *ANTH 270, ANTH 345, SOC 331, SOC 277*

Learning Objective 3: Students will be able to conduct a research project and critique research methods and methodologies.

Measurable Outcome:

- 1) Students will be able to ask develop a research question pertinent to Sociology or Anthropology

- a. **Assessment of Outcome:** 50% of students in *SOC 151 and ANTH 161* will receive a passing grade on a short research paper relevant to the discipline.
 - b. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of students will receive a passing grade in *SOC 401*.
- 2) Students will be able to demonstrate ability to carry out specific methods successfully
 - a. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of students will be able to show competency in conducting specific research methods in *SOC 294 or ANTH 260*.
 - b. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of students will receive a passing grade in *SOC 401*.
- 3) Students will be able to articulate a research methodology
 - a. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of students will receive a passing grade in any assignments *in ANTH 260 or SOC 294* that requires them to articulate their use of specific methods.
 - b. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of students will receive a passing grade *in SOC 401*.

Learning Objective 4: Students will be able to synthesize information.

Measureable Outcome:

- 1) Student's performance on essay exams *in any given elective class* will show evidence of using several sources to make a cohesive argument.
 - a. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of students in a given class will show evidence of synthesizing sources on an essay exam. This will be assessed at various times through each elective.

Program Goal 2: to introduce students to timely and enduring issues in sociology and anthropology

Learning Objective 5: Students will be able to recognize and discuss enduring and timely social issues studied in the fields of Sociology and Anthropology.

Measurable Outcome:

- 1) Students will take several elective courses that cover timely and enduring issues in Sociology and anthropology.
 - a. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of student will pass elective classes, and their understanding and performance in discussing the issues raised will be assessed using a local rubric. *ANTH 345, SOC 277, SOC 363*
 - b. **Assessment of Outcome:** 100% of all student thesis project topics will be timely and enduring issues. *SOC 401*

Learning Objective 6: Students will be able to exercise their “sociological imagination.” That is, they will be able to analyze their personal lives and the lives of individuals in terms of larger social contexts.

Measurable Outcome:

- 1) Students are required to take at least one course in Sociology.
 - a. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of student will pass elective classes, and their understanding and performance on assignments relating to sociological imagination will be assessed using a local rubric. *Any SOC designated class.*
 - b. **Assessment of Outcome:** 100% of all student thesis projects topics will exhibit an understanding of individuals in a larger social context. *SOC 401*

Learning Objective 7: Student will be able to exercise the “anthropological perspective.” That is, students will be able to compare and contrast various life-ways and ideologies, express their values and disadvantages within a holistic context.

Measurable Outcome:

- 1) Students are required to take at least course in Anthropology.
 - a. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of student will pass elective classes, and their understanding and performance on assignments using the anthropological perspective will be assessed using a local rubric. *Any ANTH designed class.*
 - b. **Assessment of Outcome:** 100% of all students will be able to discuss their thesis project in terms of the anthropological perspective. *Thesis presentation and defense*

Program Goal 3: to open students’ eyes to structural injustices and develop an appreciation for diverse lifeways

Learning Objective 8: Students will be able to recognize and understand how social systems and systems of meaning that perpetuate social inequalities.

Measureable Outcome:

- 1) Students are required to take several elective courses that cover some aspect of this objective. Measurable outcomes will be determined for each class by the faculty instructor. They might include such things as:
 - *identify ideologies that perpetuate social inequalities*
 - *describe how oppression and privilege work*
 - *discuss the consequences of social inequalities*
 - *identify historical conditions that have led to current social condition and meaning systems*
 - *point to examples in various social institutions of oppression and privilege*
 - *compare and contrast conditions of oppression and privilege*

- c. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of student will pass elective classes, and their understanding and performance on assignments using the anthropological perspective will be assessed using a local rubric. *Any ANTH designated class*
- d. **Assessment of Outcome:** 100% of all students will be able to discuss their thesis project in terms of the anthropological perspective. *SOC 410, thesis presentation and defense*

Learning Objective 9: Student will be able to compare and contrast various lifeways, discuss the historical context giving rise to these lifeways, and recognize and critique value-laden language and representations that devalue these lifeways.

Measureable Outcome:

- 1) compare and contrast various lifeways
- 2) discuss the historical context giving rise to these lifeways,
- 3) recognize and critique value-laden language and representations that devalue these lifeways.

NOTE: Students are required to take several elective courses that cover some aspect of this objective. **Measurable outcomes** will be determined for each class by the faculty instructor. They might include such things as:

- *compare and contrast benefits and limitations of various social systems in terms of social justice*
- *recognize who benefits and who is hindered by various social systems and ideologies*
- *discuss the limits and strengths of cultural relativism*

- e. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of student will pass elective classes, and their understanding and performance on assignments using the anthropological perspective will be assessed using a local rubric.
- f. **Assessment of Outcome:** 100% of all students will be able to discuss their thesis project in terms of the anthropological perspective.

Program Goal 4: to allow students the opportunity to think about creating a more just, equitable and sustainable society.

1) Students are required to take several elective courses that cover some aspect of this objective. **Measurable outcomes** will be determined for each class by the faculty instructor. They might include such things as:

Learning Objective 10: Students will be able to articulate the need for social justice and suggest paths to improve social inequalities

- *identify and explain the consequences of social injustices*
- *predict how changes in social institutions and meaning systems would affect social conditions*
- *compare and contrast solutions to complex social problems*

- g. **Assessment of Outcome:** 70% of student will pass elective classes, and their understanding and performance on assignments using the anthropological perspective will be assessed using a local rubric.
- h. **Assessment of Outcome:** 100% of all students will be able to discuss their thesis project in terms of the anthropological perspective.

Program Goal 5: This is a newly added goal: To provide students with experience using technology.

Learning Objective: Students will use on-line data bases to search for sources.

Learning Objective: Students will create a poster using Power Point and equipment housed I the library to print that poster. *Thesis presentation*

Learning Objective: Students will use Power Point to create an in-class presentation.

Learning Objective: Students will use digital photography to as a research method. *ANTH 260*

How Assessment Data Will Be Utilized:

During 2016-2017 faculty began examining their individual course goals in an attempt to provide more detail and accuracy to our assessment plan. Primarily, we looked at our course goals to find places where assessment might take place which allowed us to add that which is in bold italic above, that is where the measurable outcomes could be assessed.

We must still work on defining Measurable Outcomes for our individual classes.

Assessment data collected in 2017-2018 will help us to refine our assessment plan to more accurately assess student learning. Our assessment report for 2016-2017 will provide both top-down (from faculty perspective – as we examine the goals of our individual courses) and bottom-up (from student perspective – as we examine information students provided in their

comprehensive exams) data to help us further develop where we might best assess our goals and objectives.

As we refine our assessment plan, we will also move forward in assessing student learning. When Professor Olson return from sabbatical we will be able to focus on assessing a specific learning objective.

See Assessment Report for more details.