

ANTHROPOLOGY — 2015-2016

Description: Top Code 2202.00 – Anthropology The origins, physical and cultural development, technologies, social customs, and beliefs of mankind. Anthropology is the study of humanity in all times and places. As such, it has the broadest scope of any of the social sciences. The program offers course work in the four subspecialties of anthropology and other areas related to art, religion and indigenous populations. With the goal of understanding people in all parts of the world, anthropology is useful to anyone living or working in a multicultural environment and provides students with survival skills for the global community.

Assessment: FTES continued to increase – although much less so than between 13-14 and 15-16, demonstrating the Anthropology program has been in growth mode but may be reaching a plateau. Related, FTEF increased, now with load for 3 full-time instructors up from 2. WSCH remains above average although the decrease points to a pattern of growth in course offerings that may have reached its max. Success and retention remain constant despite implementation of tutoring (SI and Student Success Center) and increase in online sections offered. Considering that Basic Skills students enroll in Anthropology courses (which have no prerequisites), the retention and success rates seem to be on par for the District.

Department Goals:

- Improve success rates.
- Grow the program in specific directions.
- Develop and/or participate in Learning Communities.
- Continue to assess equipment and supply needs.
- Keep faculty in the program informed of professional development related to technology and student success.
- Implement lab course.

Challenges & Opportunities:

- NH 336, where most Anthropology classes are held is not designed for a lab course. Instruction and class size need to be examined. Possible requests could improve the lab's implementation.
- Textbook costs impact student success, but no open access Anthropology texts exist to the knowledge of faculty in this program.

Action Plan:

- Continue to send Anthro bulletins to faculty and communicate about needs.
- Assess NH 336 for lab activities.
- Update the website.
- Research and strategize specific directions to grow if possible.
- Seek opportunities to participate in Learning Communities.
- Seek and develop strategies to lower costs of and increase access to reading materials.
- Continue to mentor and utilize tutors.