

Anthropology (MA) – CAL

Director/Chair: Dr. Matt Lauer

Assessment Lead: Dr. Matt Lauer

Step 1: Student Learning Outcome

DLO 2: Research: Create a research design and execute a project that deals with an anthropological problem or research area.

Step 2: Assessment Methods and Measures

Assessment of ANTH 797 and 799A based on evaluation by the chair of student's master's committee. The evaluations involved three questions:

Q1: Research Design and Theoretical Framework:

Exemplary: The thesis presents a highly sophisticated research design, underpinned by a robust theoretical framework. It shows deep understanding and integration of relevant anthropological theories and concepts.

Proficient: Research design is well-developed and theory is appropriately used, though it may lack some depth or originality.

Satisfactory: Research design is adequate but may be somewhat generic or simplistic. Theoretical application is present but lacks development.

Needs Improvement: Research design is underdeveloped or flawed. Theoretical framework is weak, missing, or inappropriately applied.

Q2: Methodology:

Exemplary: Demonstrates exceptional skill in selecting and applying appropriate qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods. The methodology is well-justified and aligns seamlessly with research questions.

Proficient: Good selection of methods which are generally well-applied. Justification for choices is clear but may lack some depth.

Satisfactory: Adequate methodological choices, though they may not fully align with the research questions or lack in execution.

Needs Improvement: Methodological choices are poorly justified or executed. Significant misalignment with research objectives.

Q3: Data Collection and Analysis:

Exemplary: Data collection is thorough, ethical, and well-organized. Analysis is insightful, demonstrating deep engagement with the data and its implications.

Proficient: Competent data collection and analysis, but may lack some depth, insight, or originality.

Satisfactory: Data collection and analysis are adequate but may be somewhat superficial or lacking in rigor.

Needs Improvement: Data is poorly collected or analyzed. Ethical concerns or significant errors in analysis are evident.

Step 3: Criteria for Success

This is the first time this assessment has been conducted, and the goal for this assessment was to set a baseline of 80%. This is a suggested baseline based on graduate students needing to achieve a B or higher for passing the class in our program.

Step 4: Summary of Results

In Spring 2024 Anth 797 and 799a were assessed for DLO #2. Eleven (n=11) students total were assessed. Seven 797s and four 799As.

Q1: Research Design and Theoretical Framework:

50% exemplary 33.3% proficient 8.3% satisfactory and 8.3% needs improvement

Q2: Methodology:

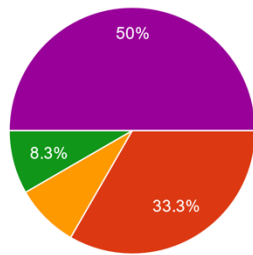
25% exemplary 66.7% proficient 8.3% satisfactory

Q3: Data Collection and Analysis:

41.7% exemplary, 41.7% proficient, 16.7% satisfactory.

Research Design and Theoretical Framework

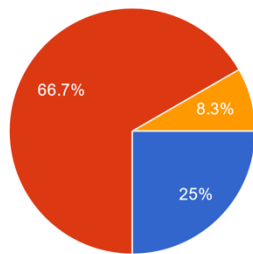
12 responses



- Exemplary: The thesis or project (for Anth 797s) presents a highly sophistic...
- Proficient: Research design is well-developed and theory is appropriately...
- Satisfactory: Research design is adequate but may be somewhat gener...
- Needs Improvement: Research design is underdeveloped or flawed. Theoretical f...
- Exemplary: The thesis presents a highly sophisticated research design, underpi...

Methodology

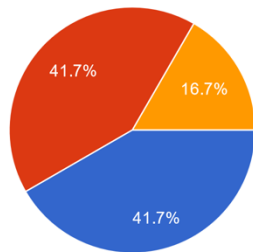
12 responses



- Exemplary: Demonstrates exceptional skill in selecting and applying appropriate qualitative, quantitative, or...
- Proficient: Good selection of methods which are generally well-applied. Justification for choices is clear but m...
- Satisfactory: Adequate methodological choices, though they may not fully alig...
- Needs Improvement: Methodological choices are poorly justified or execute...

Data Collection and Analysis

12 responses



- Exemplary: Data collection is thorough, ethical, and well-organized. Analysis is insightful, demonstrating deep engage...
- Proficient: Competent data collection and analysis, but may lack some depth, insight, or originality
- Satisfactory: Data collection and analysis are adequate but may be so...
- Needs Improvement: Data is poorly collected or analyzed. Ethical concern...

Step 5: Action Plan

This is the first time this assessment has been conducted, and the goal for this assessment was to set a baseline of 80% in the exemplary or proficient categories. This is a suggested baseline. These results will be shared with the department for further assessment.