Learning Objectives

Students who complete the M.S. Degree in Anthropology with an emphasis in Cultural Resource Management in Archaeology will be able to:

1. Identify core methods and theories as practiced in contemporary archaeology and applied to cultural resource management in the western U.S.
2. Evaluate, apply and critique research designs in a variety of archaeological contexts.
3. Apply methods and theories with the goal of creating new knowledge through hypothesis testing and problem solving and presentation of research and scholarship in professional venues, including professional conferences and publications.

Assessment Plan

The Assessment Plan involves collecting data on the following: Learning objective specific measures:

1. Students’ grades in all master’s level courses (core and elective classes).
2. Pre- and post-semester learning assessments in courses.
3. Student participation in research activities.
4. Student participation in presenting original research at local, regional and national conferences.
5. Student completion of a master’s thesis of original work in six or fewer semesters.

In addition to these objective-specific measures, the M.S. Degree in Anthropology uses the following tools to measure progress towards our broad learning objectives.

1. Course evaluations: The SSWA Department Head reviews course evaluations to assess the effectiveness of faculty in the classroom, with special attention both to the overall quality of each class and to student feedback in relation to program learning objectives. Special attention will be given to the analysis of items 21-30 on each class-specific IDEA diagnostic form report.
2. Post-graduate employment in archaeology.
3. Continuation to Ph.D. level program in the field.