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Bernadette Vankeerbergen, Program Director

Curriculum and Assessment

Arts and Sciences

October 13, 2015

Dear Bernadette,

We are requesting that two courses offered by the Department of Anthropology be added to (1) the list of potential **Core Courses** and (2) the list of **Elective Courses** for fulfillment of the Forensic Science Minor (see FORSCI-MN sheet). The two courses and their brief descriptors are:

ANTHROP 3504 – *Introduction to Human Anatomy*. This course introduces students to the foundations of human gross, or macroscopic, anatomy. A systems approach is used to explore the location, function and organization of the major structures comprising the integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, urinary and reproductive systems.

ANTHROP 5610 – *Bioarchaeology*: The study of human remains from archaeological settings with emphasis on the relationship between biology, culture, health and behavior.

Both courses would provide foundational knowledge for students interested in the gross (macro) anatomical aspects of the forensic discipline, especially as they pertain to the science of the human skeleton. ANTHROP 3504 provides a thorough introduction to all aspects of human anatomy, with emphasis on the musculo-skeletal system and its function. ANTHROP 5610 focuses explicitly on the science of interpreting human remains – especially skeletal ones – from archaeological sites. In so doing, students learn to apply forensic method and theory to various archaeological contexts. These courses were not previously included in the minor because (1) prior to AU 2015, *Introduction to Anatomy* had not been offered by our department in over 20 years and, (2) strong student input over the last two years requesting the course be included as an Forensic Science minor option prompted us to consider making the course more available and offering it more frequently. We are happy to do so.

Thus, the changes to the minor are summarized as follows: to complete the **core component** of the minor, students currently choose at least two courses from a list of five options. The addition of the two anthropology courses would therefore expand the number of choices to seven core courses, thus affording students greater flexibility. Students not completing their core requirement with these courses could use one or both to satisfy their minor electives. We therefore ask that they be included on the list of potential **electives.**

Thank you for your consideration and please let me know if you have any questions

Yours sincerely,



W. Scott McGraw

Director of Undergraduate Studies