

**From:** [Steele, Rachel](#)  
**To:** [Johnson, Norman](#); [Hamilton, Ian](#); [Snow, Allison](#); [Guatelli-Steinberg, Debra](#); [Healy, Elizabeth A.](#); [Moritz, Mark](#); [Coleman, Mathew](#); [Panero, Wendy](#)  
**Cc:** [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Cody, Emily](#); [Hilty, Michael](#); [Steele, Rachel](#)  
**Subject:** Anthropology/EEOB 5505 and 5510  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2021 12:39:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
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[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)

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Good morning,

On Thursday, November 4 and Wednesday November 10, the Social and Behavioral Sciences and Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panels (respectively) of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed the new course proposals for Anthropology/EEOB 5505 and 5510. Please find below the Panels' feedback for these courses.

1. Anthropology 5505 new course, cross-listed with EEOB 5505; approved by both Panels with a combined **2 contingencies**, *6 recommendations* and 4 comments
  - Feedback from the Social and Behavioral Sciences Panel:
    - **Contingency: The Panel requests a detailed explanation articulating how students at various levels – junior/senior-level undergraduates vs. MA/PhD graduate students – will move through this course from beginning to end. Are there differential requirements, reading lists, and assignments? What are the descriptions for these assignments in the course? This rationale should demonstrate how a group of students at different levels might successfully navigate a class like this together – that there is a viable path through the course for both undergraduates and graduates.**
    - **Contingency: The Panel asks that the curriculum map be revised to include Anthropology 5505; the version submitted to curriculum.osu.edu highlights a different course.**
    - *Recommendation: The Panel strongly recommends that the course schedule be broken down by day rather than by week, thereby facilitating clearer delivery of readings and assignments to students.*
    - *Recommendation: The Panel questioned why the course was not integrated into the Medical Anthropology curriculum map like with other subfield groups. The Panel recommends including the course in the Medical Anthropology major.*
    - *Recommendation: The Panel suggests reviewing the syllabus for extraneous DL language, as this course will be taught in-person (ex., page 12 of the syllabus implies that class discussion will take place entirely online).*
    - *Recommendation: The Panel recommends removing any reference to an "OSU standard grading scheme," as Ohio State does not have a standardized grading scheme.*
  - Feedback from the Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel:
    - Comment: The Panel is enthusiastic about this course, and requests that the department widely advertise the course throughout the college and university when it is offered.
    - Comment: The NMS Panel discussed concerns about the Addenda (syllabus, pg. 3 under "How this Course is Organized-Pace of course activities) and their due date of midnight on Friday after having class on Thursday afternoon. The concerns weighed were whether or not the time delay between class and the

due date constituted too much between the material and the reflection (thereby not prompting immediate impressions) or too little time to allow students to balance their weekly workload.

- Comment: The Panel noted some difficulty in differentiating which assignments/topics corresponded with Weeks 2-14 in the course schedule (syllabus, pg. 7-9 under "Course Schedule"). They kindly suggest that the department continue the visual layout (lines of delineation) from Week 1 throughout the course schedule to provide more clarity for students.
- Comment: The Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel concurs with the contingencies, recommendations, and comments of the SBS Panel and entrusts the review of the course after the department has addressed the contingencies to SBS Panel Chair
- *Recommendation: The Panel noticed that the reading load does not seem to be balanced throughout the course. For example, in weeks 6-9 (syllabus, pg. 7-8 under "Course Schedule") there are 3-4 articles assigned per week, while in weeks 10-12 there are only 1-2 articles assigned per week. The Panel asks that the department consider distributing the student workload more evenly across the schedule.*
- *Recommendation: The Panel commends the department on their flexibility regarding accepting late assignments but recommends that the department consider including a final deadline to turn in all assignments, such as the end of the semester.*

2. Anthropology 5510 new course, cross-listed with EEOB 5510; was approved by the Social and Behavioral Sciences Panel with **6 contingencies** and 2 *recommendations*. The Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel declined to vote on the proposal but looks forward to reviewing the course again once the contingencies of the SBS Panel have been met. Their feedback is also listed below.

- Comments from the Social and Behavioral Sciences Panel:
  - **Contingency: The Panel requests a detailed explanation articulating how students at various levels – junior/senior-level undergraduates vs. MA/PhD graduate students – will move through this course from beginning to end. Are there differential requirements, reading lists, and assignments? What are the descriptions for these assignments in the course? This rationale should demonstrate how a group of students at different levels might successfully navigate a class like this together – that there is a viable path through the course for both undergraduates and graduates.**
  - **Contingency: The Panel asks that the department clarify the number of contact hours for this course. 55 minutes twice a week does not meet the minimum required for 3 credit hours; a class that meets biweekly would need to do so for sessions of 1 hour and 20 minutes in length.**
  - **Contingency: Since this course is not under consideration for DL status, the Panel requests that any language referring to the course as DL/delivered online be removed (ex., on the first page of the syllabus: "class will be taught in person if possible").**
  - **Contingency: The Panel understands that the nature of this course makes it such that readings might vary from term to term, especially when taught by different instructors. However, in order to assess if the proposed workload is suitable to a 3-credit-hour class, the Panel asks that an exemplar list of readings, with page numbers, be included in the course schedule.**
  - **Contingency: The Panel asks that the department include the most up-to-date version of the University's disability services statement, which can be found here: <https://ascas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>**
  - **Contingency: The Mental Health Statement on the last page of the syllabus is**

**not appropriate for ASC students. They should not be referred to the College of Pharmacy for mental health issues. This is a statement appropriate for courses taught in the College of Pharmacy. Please see <https://ascas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>**

- *Recommendation: The Panel recommends that the department include the most up-to-date version of the Title IX statement, which can be found here: <https://ascas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>*
- *Recommendation: The Panel questioned why the course was not integrated into the Medical Anthropology curriculum map like with other subfield groups. The Panel recommends including the course in the Medical Anthropology major.*
- Comments from the Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel:
  - The Panel is enthusiastic about this course, and requests that the department widely advertise the course throughout the college and university when it is offered.
  - The Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel concurs with the contingencies, recommendations, and comments of the SBS Panel.
  - The Panel suggests re-visiting the absence policy (syllabus pg. 6 under “Absence Policy”) and including language about excused vs. unexcused absences. The Panel also recommends referring students to Student Advocacy or providing other guidance regarding what a student should do if they have a legitimate reason for more than two absences.
  - The Panel requests that the department be mindful about making the course materials and assignments relevant and accessible to all students, particularly given the nature of the course design in which speakers may vary from one offering to another. They note that, by design, this course will likely have a diverse student population of undergraduate and graduate students from many different disciplines, each of whom will have different areas and levels of expertise.
  - The Panel asks that department clarify the following regarding the team/group project (syllabus pg. 6 under “Collaboration Plan”):
    1. How will teams be assigned?
    2. How will the work of the team be evaluated?
    3. Will all members of the same team receive the same grade, or will there be individual grades within the group project?
  - The Panel expressed confusion about the nature of the teams, the assignments and how students will be assessed. The Panel believes that these concerns are linked to the concerns of the SBS Panel, and as such, they would like to review the course again after the contingencies of the SBS Panel have been met.

I will return Anthropology/EEOB 5505 and 5510 to the departments’ queues via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Panels’ requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Panels, please feel free to contact Mat Coleman (faculty Chair of the SBS Panel; cc’d on this e-mail), Wendy Panero (faculty Chair of the NMS Panel; cc’d on this e-mail), or me.

Best,  
Rachel



**Rachel Steele, MA**

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