

From: [Steele, Rachel](#)
To: [Guatelli-Steinberg, Debra](#); [Healy, Elizabeth A.](#)
Cc: [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#); [Cody, Emily](#); [Fletcher, Richard](#)
Subject: Anthropology 1101
Date: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 12:01:15 PM
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Good afternoon!

On Tuesday, Dec. 14th, the Race, Ethnicity and Gender Diversity Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a course proposal for Anthropology 1101

The Panel did not vote on the proposal as they would like the following points addressed:

- The Panel found the framing of the course quite compelling and commends the department for foregrounding REGD issues. However, they are not sure that the course schedule is consistently (daily/weekly) presenting enough concrete material to grapple with issues of diversity in both the ancient and the modern worlds.
- The Panel requests that the department consider what prior knowledge (if any) of REGD issues students are likely to bring to the course, and how the instructor will address basic definitions and principles related to REGD topics, as well as how these issues have historically been related to archeology, in the first few weeks of the course.
- Similarly, the Panel expressed concerns about how the Indiana Jones film franchise will be utilized, especially so early in the course. They note that careful framing of the films as historical cinema will be necessary, and they request that the syllabus be more explicit about how students will engage with the very problematic elements of the film franchise.
- The Panel asks that the department include some critical self-reflection about how REGD topics have traditionally been addressed by both the broader field of anthropology and the sub-field of archeology throughout the course. They encourage the department to expose students to the ways in which professional organizations are engaging in ongoing discussions about these topics.
- The Panel asks that the department consider the following issues related to the course readings and the required textbook:
 1. The Panel respectfully requests that the department include more substantial and more modern scholarly readings on REGD topics, so as to provide students with more rigorous reference points for discussion and critical thought.
 2. The Panel notes that the textbook was published over 30 years ago and encourages the department to consider how a more modern text might serve as a better foundation for engaging students with issues of race, ethnicity, and gender.
 3. The Panel asks for more information about the readings that will be assigned, particularly in Week 10, (syllabus, pg. 4) so that they can assess the ways in

which the various topics and ancient sites are being viewed through an REGD lens. They point out that “Tutankhamun, Tombs, Temples, and Texts in Ancient Egypt (syllabus, pg. 4 under “Week 9”) seems to be a topic that is more thoroughly explained on the syllabus, and they encourage the department to use this as a model.

- The Panel requests that the instructor and/or designer of the course reach out to Dr. Richard Fletcher.161, Panel chair, to discuss the course and the ways in which the Panel’s concerns could be addressed.

I will return Anthropology 1101 to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Panel’s requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Panel, please feel free to contact Richard Fletcher (faculty Chair of the REGD Panel; cc’d on this e-mail), or me.

Best,
Rachel



Rachel Steele, MA

(Pronouns: she/her/hers / Honorific: Ms.)

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