

Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

April 30, 2025

Dear Chair and Members of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee:

On April 14, 2025, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee reviewed a request from the Department of Anthropology to approve a revision to their graduate program, to be effective in Autumn 2025.

According to the department, the revision is designed to reduce the workload for students and to provide more opportunities for specialization. These concerns have been highlighted through both feedback from students as well as an external review of the department that was concluded in Spring 2025

The proposed revisions involve a change to how the theory component of the program can be satisfied – the new program will offer a wider range of theory courses and will permit 3 credit hours from an outside department to count toward the requirement. In addition, the revision will reduce the number of credit hours required from methods courses, from 14 to 6. Finally, the revised program will alter the professional development component of the graduate program, allowing for increased flexibility for students as well as reorganizing their academic workshop into two complementary workshops.

The SBS Subcommittee voted unanimously to approve this request, with five contingencies. Those contingencies have been addressed, and the proposal is now advanced to the ASCC with a motion to approve.

Sincerely,

Amy Nathanson

Professor of Communication

Chair, ASCC Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee