

**From:** [Neff, Jennifer](#)  
**To:** [McGraw, Scott](#); [Moritz, Mark](#); [Palazzo, Sarah](#)  
**Cc:** [Nathanson, Amy](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#)  
**Subject:** Revision to Anthropology PhD and MA  
**Date:** Monday, April 21, 2025 1:22:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Good afternoon,

On Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a proposal to revise the Anthropology PhD and MA.

The Subcommittee approved the request with the following feedback:

- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the proposal clarify the requirements for the MA degree, as key elements such as credit hour expectations and required coursework for the program are not clearly outlined, making it difficult to assess how the MA program is changing. While some inferences can be made, the requirements should be explicitly detailed for ease of evaluation.
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the table listing the requested changes on page 3 of the proposal be revised to include the removal of the additional methods elective, as this change is mentioned in the curriculum comparison.
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee notes that Anthropology 8193.08 is being used for both candidacy preparation and independent study. While the Subcommittee understands that Anthropology does not have an 8998 course (which is the Registrar's designation for pre-candidacy research courses across disciplines), the use of varying titles to describe the course in the proposal is somewhat confusing to readers. Instead, the Subcommittee requests that the course be consistently referred to as "Independent Study" throughout the proposal to maintain clarity. [Proposal p. 7]
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee notes that Anthropology 7007 is referred to by different titles throughout the proposal to reflect the purpose it will serve for second and third year versus first year students. However, the Subcommittee requests that the course be referenced consistently as its official title, "Academic Workshop", throughout the proposal so as not to cause confusion for reviewers. Additionally, given that the course will serve different functions for different students, it may be worth *considering* whether these goals would be better achieved through two courses under separate course numbers. The latter is up to the department to decide. [Proposal pp. 7, 11-12, 14]
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the following inconsistencies and omissions in Section 11.2 of the proposal (p. 8) be addressed:
  - The section states that the credit hours allocated to methods courses are changing from 11 to 6, while the curriculum comparison table indicates a change from 14 to 6.
  - The term "methods workshop" should be revised to "data collection workshop" to

remain consistent with the official course title and curriculum comparison table.  
(Point No. 4)

- The section does not mention the removal of the additional methods elective, which should be stated to provide a complete account of the changes.

When the revisions are completed, please email me and Bernadette Vankeerbergen, Assistant Dean for Curriculum, a copy of the revised program. We will ensure the proposal receives the appropriate review.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Subcommittee, please feel free to contact Amy Nathanson (faculty Chair of the SBS Subcommittee; cc'd on this e-mail) or me.

Best,  
Jennifer



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Pronouns: she/her/hers