New Global Health Concentration in the Anthropology Major

Submitted by: College of Arts and Sciences (CAS)

The Anthropology Department has long offered a variety of courses related to global health, biological anthropology, and medical anthropology. Students in the major have expressed interest in global health, and many graduates have pursued careers and graduate studies in related areas. Due to the breadth of anthropology as a discipline, students, through their choice of elective courses, frequently complete the major without a particular area of specialization. During the Department’s recent Academic Program Review, the external reviewers recommended developing foci in specific topic areas. In response to the recommendation and to better guide students through the major, the Department developed three informal foci in the major and the minor – Global Health, Social Action, and Archaeology and Heritage Management. Since establishing the Global Health focus in Spring 2015, ten majors and eight minors have selected the focus, indicating significant student interest.

Completion of the new Global Health Concentration will require four approved courses (12 credits), with at least two at the 100-level or above, and at least one 200-level course. The list of approved courses includes five zero-level, five 100-level, and three 200-level, thus there are many options for students who choose to complete the concentration. All approved courses are currently being taught; no new courses are anticipated. Credits earned in appropriate internships, special topics or Honors College courses, as well as courses taught by other departments could also be used to fulfill the concentration requirements with approval. Dr. Jeanne Shea will act as the advisor for the concentration with Dr. Deborah Bloom assuming responsibilities during Dr. Shea’s sabbatical.

The new concentration was approved by the Department of Anthropology, the CAS Curriculum Committee, and the CAS faculty.