

Learning Outcomes

The Department of Sociology & Anthropology has identified the following six student learning outcomes for majors:

1. Articulate the complexity of contemporary socio-cultural phenomenon in their many dimensions (e.g. temporal, structural, spatial and symbolic).
2. Formulate appropriate sociological and/or anthropological research questions about socio-cultural phenomena.
3. Select appropriate sociological and/or anthropological research methods to study socio-cultural phenomena.
4. Apply sociological and anthropological theory to analyze socio-cultural phenomena.
5. Describe how sociology and anthropology interact with one another and contribute to various interdisciplinary conversations.
6. Engage the world by drawing upon your understanding of historical and contemporary socio-cultural phenomena.

Assessment Tools

- Survey for Incoming Majors
- Senior Exit interviews
- Evaluation of each comp for achievement of outcomes 1-4, assigning scores of “insufficient,” “novice,” “competent,” and “expert” (see SOAN Comps Grading Rubric)

Survey for Incoming Majors

Survey questions:

1. What drew you to major in SOAN?
2. Were there specific classes and/or experiences with the department that helped you decide to major in SOAN?
3. What are you most excited about as a new SOAN major?
4. Do you have any concerns about the major, moving through the coursework, or comps?
5. Other comments welcome.

Senior Exit Interviews

Interview questions:

1. Did the SOAN major teach you how to discuss current social and cultural issues? Can you provide some examples of courses in which this learning experience happened?
2. Can you give an example of a course in the major where you felt that you learned to formulate appropriate sociological and/or anthropological research questions about socio-cultural phenomena?

3. Did the SOAN major teach you how to select an appropriate research method? Can you provide some examples of courses and subjects where this learning experience happened?
4. Did the SOAN major teach you how to apply sociological and anthropological theory to analyze social/cultural subjects such as criminality, ethnic identity, or conceptions of the family? Can you provide some examples of courses in which this learning experience happened?
5. Can you tell me about a time when you realized how the disciplines of sociology and anthropology are connected? Can you provide some examples of subjects, topics, or contemporary debates where this learning experience happened?
6. Can you tell me about a time when the SOAN major showed you how to engage the world? Can you provide some examples of where in the curriculum this learning experience happened?