

Academic Senate Executive Committee Meeting

March 16th, 2020

RE: Department of Anthropology Request to Change Emphasis title from “Human Ecology” to “Evolutionary Anthropology”

The Department of Anthropology is requesting that the title of our current emphasis in Human Ecology be changed to an emphasis in Evolutionary Anthropology. This change in title was first requested by the biological anthropologists within our Department as they undertook a streamlining of the Departments class catalog and major structure at the request of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences to more accurately reflect current USHE standards relative to class difficulty and catalog number.

The new title, "Evolutionary Anthropology", still encompasses "human ecology", but also includes closely-related classes and subjects that are more relevant to current faculty expertise.

We expect that this title change, if approved, would benefit both current students as well as the College and USHE as the title is a more accurate reflection of the subject matter now included within this particular emphasis, and further, by more closely aligning the required courses to our current faculties' expertise and work load, we expect that the modified emphasis will allow us to move students through the emphasis in a quicker, more efficient manner.