I. Communication Skills. Students will show proficiency in critical thinking and academic writing.

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to think critically, including the ability to view problems from multiple points of view.
2. Students will demonstrate proficiency in a language other than their natal language. (THIS GOAL IS MET BY THE BA/BS LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT.)
3. Students will be able to write an essay or paper that conforms to the basic rules of English grammar, syntax, and spelling.
4. Essays and/or papers will show an understanding of the difference between scholarly, peer-reviewed literature versus written works for general audiences and lay public (e.g., National Geographic, Discover, Wikipedia). This will be shown through in-text citation and bibliographies included with student papers/essays. As well, students will understand and apply the principles of academic honesty codified in the Anthropology Department’s “Statement on Academic Honesty”.

II. Applications of Anthropology. Students will understand how to apply anthropological methods in an ethical and effective fashion to research questions, issues, and debates.

1. Students will understand and apply the research methods appropriate to at least one subfield of anthropology.
2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how the interplay among theory, research questions, methods, and data shapes our knowledge and/or interpretations of the human past and present.
3. Students will understand the relevance of anthropology in and to contemporary public issues.
4. Students will understand the ethical codes appropriate to each subfield of anthropology.

III. Anthropological Theories. Students will show mastery of theories fundamental to the subfields of Anthropology.

1. Students will understand that “culture” is a central concept in Anthropology, and also will understand that its use and meaning can and do vary across the subfields.
2. Students will understand how and why the subfields of anthropology (i.e. sociocultural anthropology, anthropological archaeology, and biological anthropology) interrelate.
A. Sociocultural Anthropology

1. Students will understand the concept of culture, defined as the social construction of meaning. Students will also understand that the culture concept has changed over time. Students will be able to identify the specific theories of culture that shape ethnographic interpretation and be able to assess these theories critically.

2. Students will understand the interconnection between social structure (kinship, gender, class, nation, race) and culture, and how social power is a dimension of all cultural phenomena.

B. Anthropological Archaeology

1. Students should demonstrate an understanding that archaeology is the materialist study of long term culture change, and that culture change is mediated by biological, ecological, and cultural processes. Culture is minimally defined as shared, learned behavior that is transmitted through time and across space.

2. Students should demonstrate an understanding of the conservation ethic in archaeology.

3. Students should demonstrate an appreciation for and understanding of archaeology’s many, potentially conflicting, constituencies, and their varying claims to “own the past”.

C. Biological Anthropology

1. Students will understand the biological history of the human species, including the mechanisms responsible for biological variation and adaptation in contemporary human populations, their living relatives, and their fossil ancestors.

2. Students will understand the varied meanings of the term “race” with respect to history, biology, and anthropology. They will understand that the historical, socially constructed lay-usage of this term is entirely incompatible with modern understanding of the mechanisms responsible for biological variation in human populations.