

Hi,

I have attached a document of Evaluation of Anthropology 404 by the Evolutionary Biologists in the Biology Department. I have also attached an annotated copy of the syllabus of Anthropology 404.

I have discussed my concerns with the chair of Biology and he in turn has discussed with this with Dean Oechel. Both will be preparing a letter to be sent to the GE committee indicating that the College of Sciences does not support this course as a GE course.

In short our analysis indicates that this course clearly falls within the guidelines of a Social and Behavioral Sciences.

More importantly perhaps is the long list of deficiencies in this course as a course in the Natural Sciences.

While it may be true that Evolutionary Anthropologists consider themselves scientists and use the terms evolution and evolutionary, the "Evolutionary Biology" represented in this course does not reflect or represent modern Evolutionary Biology as defined by Evolutionary Biologists.

In our meeting with the Instructor, who I know is an Assistant Professor, I thought it was not collegial to point out that his views on "evolutionary anthropology" are not considered accurate by those of us trained in Evolutionary Biology.

I had hoped that given our objections CAL would agree to move this class out of the Natural Sciences.

Unfortunately, they did not, and I and the other evolutionary biologist must then be honest about how this course fails as a Natural Science course.

It is deeply concerning that students could leave this campus with such an erroneous understanding of such a fundamental scientific process.