

MOVING ON

PREPARING FOR YOUR SENIOR YEAR



CHECKLIST

1. Schedule a meeting with the Undergrad Advisor to make sure you are on target to fulfill all requirements.
2. Declare your intent to graduate on Banner within the 1st ten days of the term you plan to graduate.

WHY DOESN'T MY DARS SHOW SUPPORTING COURSEWORK & ANTH REQUIREMENT UPDATES?

Your anthropology coursework will not appear correctly on your DARS until the ANTH advisor sends in your Major Plan of Study to your LAS Records Officer (ARO).

WHY DOESN'T MY DARS SHOW SUPPORTING COURSEWORK & ANTH REQUIREMENT UPDATES?

Check your DARS, but don't dwell on it.



WHEN IS MY ANTH MAJOR PLAN OF STUDY (MPS) SENT TO MY LAS ARO?

When your requirements are near to completion. Most often at the beginning of the term your are graduating.



WHAT HAPPENS TO MY MPS NEXT?

Most often the UG Advisor sends your MPS to you & the ARO via email with a note of what you still need to graduate.

Your ARO will do the first audit of your record & respond to you with comments & their assessment of what credits are needed for graduation usually within the first 10 days of the term.

WHAT HAPPENS TO MY MPS NEXT?

A final audit is run by your ARO to verify that you have completed all requirements after graduation.

Hopefully, you're done!!



SENIOR CAPSTONE PROJECTS



The background features a white central area. A large orange triangle points from the top right towards the bottom left. A smaller red triangle points from the bottom left towards the top right, overlapping the orange triangle. The text is centered in the white area.

**WHAT'S A MEANINGFUL
PROJECT TO YOU?**

WHAT IS A SENIOR CAPSTONE PROJECT?

A Capstone Project is a requirement for all anthropology majors done their senior year. It involves developing and writing an independent research paper with an anthropology faculty member.

- Honors Senior Thesis- ANTH 391 and ANTH 495
- ANTH 399-Senior Capstone Course
Options include: Study Abroad, Internship, and Field School

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A CAPSTONE PROJECT?

Culminates your Anthropology studies

Challenges you to pursue questions, interests, passions...with more concentration or absorption in a topic

Provides hands on experience doing anthropological research & develops skills

Builds relationships with faculty

Explores goals, future research, fields & career paths or opens up new directions and creative insights



WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A CAPSTONE PROJECT?

You can learn and hone transferable skills that will last a lifetime in future jobs and research projects.

Some of these skills are: Problem solving, argumentation skills, organizing a lengthy piece of writing, and polishing presentation communication skills.

Makes you well-rounded beyond classes and involves application of book knowledge.



WHAT MAKES A GOOD CAPSTONE PROJECT?

Preparation for the future

Achievement of excellent work

Work toward social justice & to benefit the world...



WHAT ARE THE STEPS TO DOING A CAPSTONE?

A Senior Capstone Project course **cannot be duplicated with another required course such as Anthropology Advanced Courses or Supporting Courses** or with an independent study in another department.

WHAT ARE THE GENERAL CAPSTONE COMPONENTS?

1. An abstract or brief paragraph describing what you will be discussing. This includes aims/purposes, questions, issues, debates, and methods you will use.
2. Anthropological reading list that pertains to your topic. Your capstone should engage or dialogue with these writings and ideas.
3. Conclusion
4. Proper Formatting
5. Works Cited
6. Presentation of your research, eg Capstone Conference, AAA, Undergrad Research Symposium

CAPSTONE STEPS

1. **You should begin early! Don't procrastinate. Work with your faculty advisor to set reasonable deadlines that you keep!**
2. To develop a topic, think about all the things you've accomplished over the years. This may include class lectures and discussions, readings, field schools, internships, employment, labs, and/or study abroad.
3. To help generate ideas and ask smart research questions start with what challenges and stimulates your interests. Then address these questions: Is the topic doable? Does my topic make sense? Where does it fit in the field of anthropology? Does it matter? **Group Discussions**

WHAT ARE SOME TIPS IN PLANNING?

Working backward, how much time will each stage take?
The process need not be linear. Time management will help focus and organize scattered ideas, pieces of paper and mounds of data.

Move beyond the blank pages and the dread of drafting to revising to final touches and formatting!!



WHAT ARE WAYS TO MAXIMIZE THE WORK YOU'VE DONE?

Maximize your effort!

Capstone Conference

Undergrad Research Symposium

Patricia O'Brien Award for the Best Paper



WHAT IS AN HONORS THESIS & AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for Department Honors Thesis distinction, you must have and maintain an Anthropology GPA of 3.6 and overall UI GPA of 3.0.

You must also have 30 hours of anthropology courses at the onset of the thesis.

The level of distinction conferred will incorporate both GPAs.

5 categories: Highest, High, Distinction & No Distinction



WHAT ARE THE HONORS THESIS DISTINCTION CATEGORIES?

Highest Distinction:

GPA of 3.6 in Anthropology

GPA of 3.5 overall

High Distinction:

GPA of 3.6 in Anthropology

GPA of 3.3 overall

Distinction:

GPA of 3.6 in Anthropology

GPA of 3.0 overall

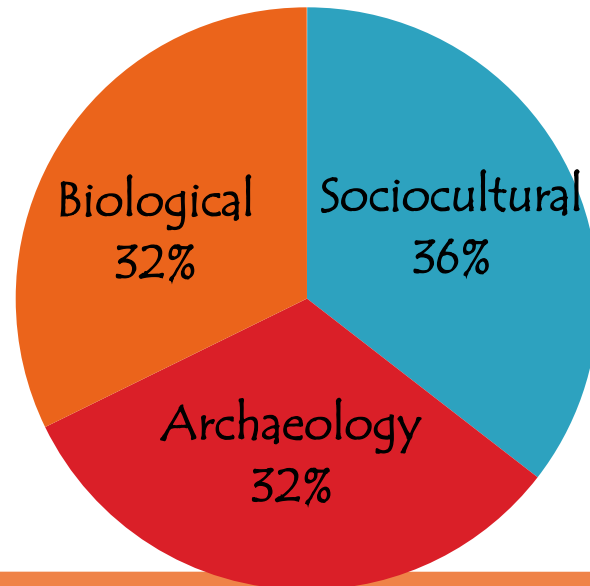
No Distinction:

Does not meet the standards for a thesis

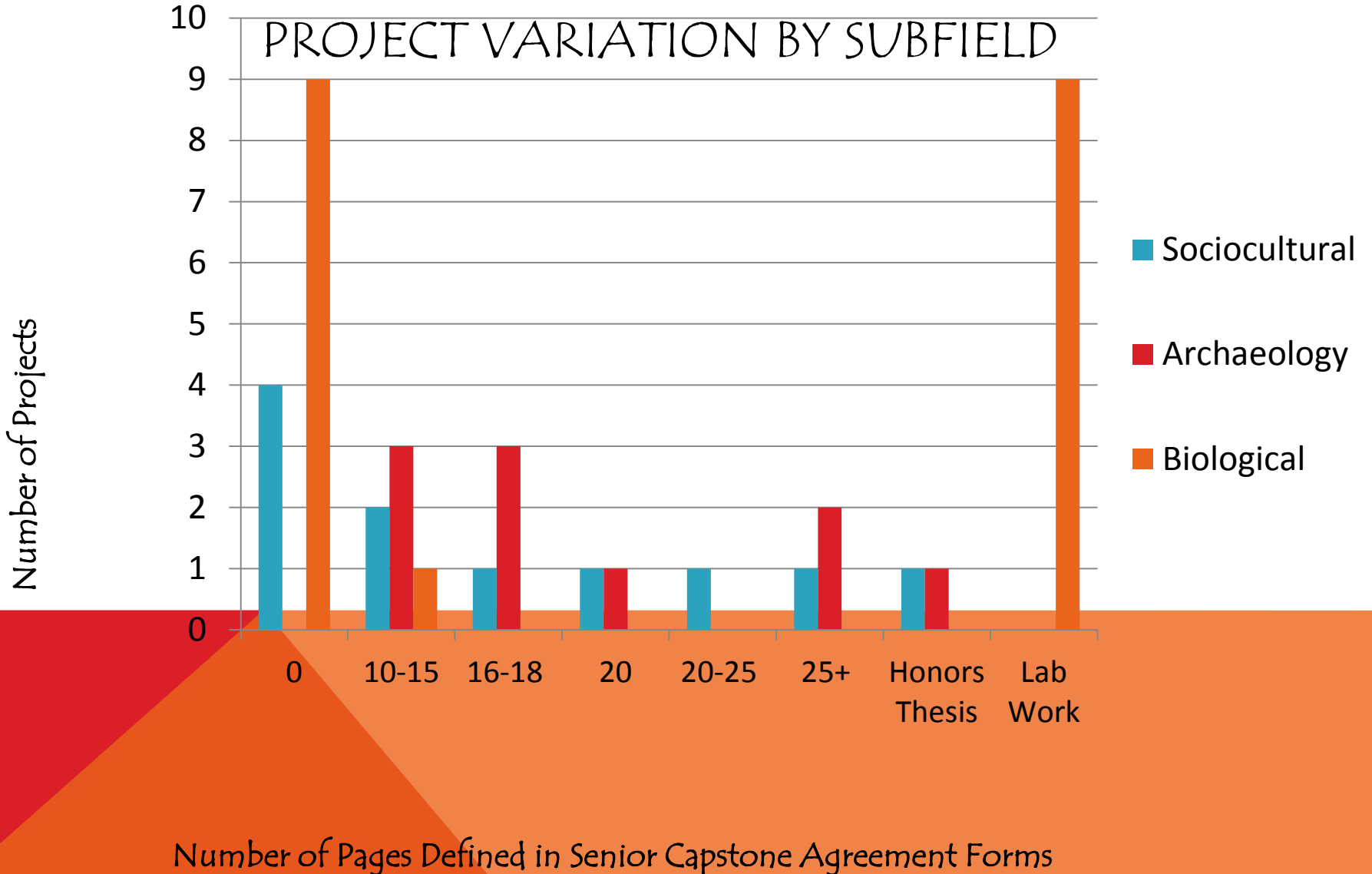
GOOD LUCK



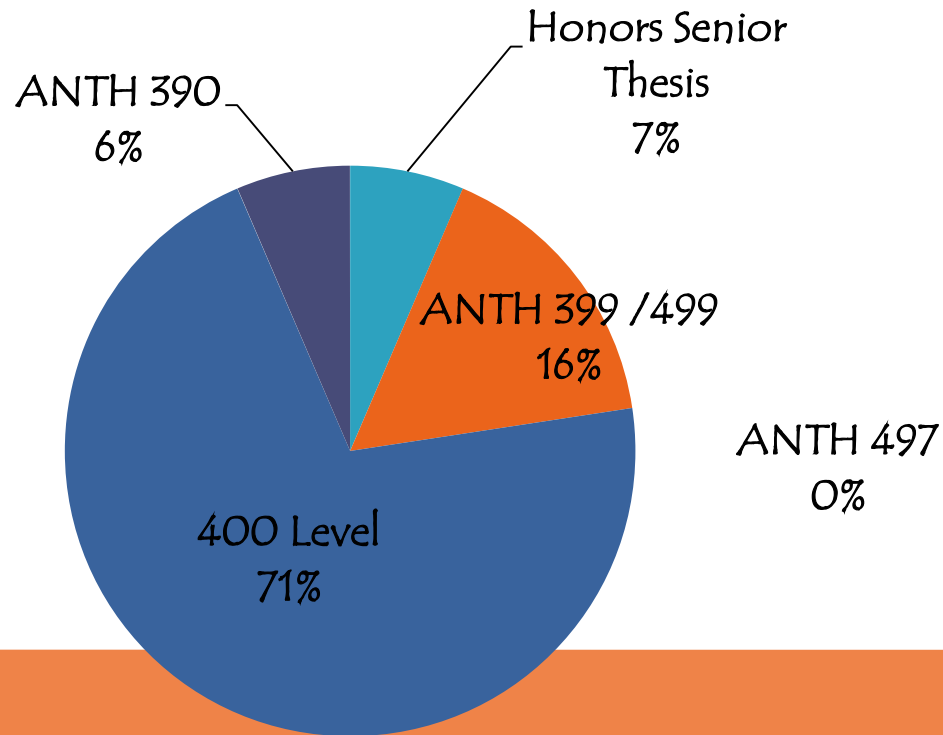
PERCENTAGE OF SENIOR CAPSTONE PROJECTS BY SUBFIELD—SPRING 2010



31 students filed Senior Capstone Agreement Forms
43 Anthropology students appear on the LAS
Tentative Graduation List for Spring 2010



SENIOR CAPSTONE BREAKDOWN BY OPTIONS



Honors Senior Thesis	ANTH 497	ANTH 399/499	400 Level	ANTH 390
2	0	5	22	2

SENIOR CAPSTONE PROJECTS BY 400-LEVEL CLASS

