

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Academic and Student Affairs**  
**Consent**

**AGENDA ITEM: 4 – F (2)**

**DATE: May 8-10, 2018**

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**SUBJECT**

**New Undergraduate Certificate: USD Certificate in Forensic Anthropology**

**CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

[BOR Policy 2:23](#) – Program and Curriculum Approval

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION**

The University of South Dakota (USD) requests authorization to offer an undergraduate certificate in Forensic Anthropology. The certificate would provide skills useful in improving the quality of police and forensic work, including analyzing crime scenes, processing large amounts of relevant forensic data and preventing the misidentification of human remains. The certificate will provide a beneficial credential for those interested in careers as Forensic Science Technicians, a position with projected national growth of 17% and South Dakota growth of 26% through 2026. The certificate should appeal to students majoring in Anthropology, Criminal Justice, and Sociology.

**IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION**

USD currently has 21 undergraduate certificates and 21 graduate certificates available. USD does not request any new resources. The certificate consists of 12 credit hours using existing courses.

Board office staff recommend approval of the certificate.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment I – New Certificate Request Form: USD – Forensic Anthropology (Undergraduate)

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**DRAFT MOTION 20180508\_4-F(2):**

I move to approve USD's new program proposal for a certificate in Forensic Anthropology as presented.



## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS New Certificate

<b>UNIVERSITY:</b>	<b>University of South Dakota</b>
<b>TITLE OF PROPOSED CERTIFICATE:</b>	<b>Forensic Anthropology</b>
<b>INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:</b>	<b>Fall 2018</b>
<b>PROPOSED CIP CODE:</b>	<b>43.0106</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:</b>	<b>Anthropology</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DIVISION:</b>	<b>College of Arts and Science</b>

### University Approval

*To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.*

*Elizabeth M. Freeburg*

*3/29/2018*

Institutional Approval Signature

Date

*President or Chief Academic Officer of the University*

### 1. Is this a graduate-level certificate or undergraduate-level certificate?

Undergraduate Certificate ☒

Graduate Certificate ☐

### 2. What is the nature/purpose of the proposed certificate?

The proposed certificate consists of approved courses already available to all students on-campus and online. The primary enrollees are Anthropology and Criminal Justice majors who take these courses to enhance their knowledge base and employability in public safety and policing professions. The certificate will be identified on their academic transcript and make the expertise in Forensic Anthropology more evident. Skills unique to this certificate include the ability to use analytical methods to analyze a crime scene, process large amounts of relevant forensic data and prevent the misidentification of human remains, etc. The overall goal is to improve the quality of police and forensic work. The name of the program reflects its disciplinary focus. Forensic Science programs generally include some Chemistry or other natural science requirements; this certificate will be comprised exclusively of courses taught by Anthropology faculty, and will be based within the Department of Anthropology and Sociology.

### 3. Provide a justification for the certificate program, including the potential benefits to students and potential workforce demand for those who graduate with the credential.<sup>1</sup>

This program will benefit students in a variety of majors, including Anthropology, Criminal Justice, and Sociology. Forensic Anthropology is a subject of broad interest to many undergraduate students and there is currently no formal manner in which they can gain certification in the subject matter. This certificate targets students already enrolled at the university but will offer credits toward the Anthropology major for those students who wish to complete further ANTH courses. In particular, this certificate will provide a beneficial credential for Criminal Justice Studies majors who wish to pursue careers in law enforcement or criminal investigation. There is a growing demand for expertise in these fields and graduates will be employable in the state. As an example, Forensic Science Technicians have a job growth

<sup>1</sup> For workforce related information, please provide data and examples; data sources may include but are not limited to the South Dakota Department of Labor, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Regental system dashboards, etc.

projection of 17% nationally through 2026 (much faster than average) according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Within South Dakota, Forensic Science Technician positions are expected to grow by 26% from 2014-24 with ten more positions available within the state than currently exist.<sup>2</sup>

**4. Who is the intended audience for the certificate program (including but not limited to the majors/degree programs from which students are expected)?**

The primary intended audience for this certificate includes on-campus, off-campus (UCSF), and online Anthropology and Criminal Justice majors who desire to enhance their knowledge, skills, and abilities while increasing their chances of being hired ahead of less qualified candidates. The certificate is open to any student in any major, but likely will be most attractive to a student choosing a discipline focused on police work.

**5. List the courses required for completion of the certificate in the table below (if any new courses are proposed for the certificate, please attach the new course requests to this form):<sup>3</sup>**

Prefix	Number	Course Title	Credit Hours	New (yes, no)
ANTH	220	Introduction to Physical Anthropology	3	No
ANTH/CJUS	335	Introduction: Forensic Science (online)	3	No
ANTH	310	Introduction to Forensic Anthropology (online)	3	No
ANTH/CJUS	435	Human and Animal Osteology	3	No
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>12</b>	

\*A 2.0 minimum grade point average is required to receive the certificate.

**6. Student Outcome and Demonstration of Individual Achievement.<sup>4</sup>**

**A. What specific knowledge and competencies, including technology competencies, will all students demonstrate before graduation? *The knowledge and competencies should be specific to the program and not routinely expected of all university graduates.***

The students learn to:

1. Identify and explain basic concepts, terminology and theories of forensic science from different spatial, temporal, cultural and/or institutional contexts.
2. Apply selected forensic and scientific concepts and theories to contemporary issues.
3. Learn how to identify human and animal remains and interpret their taphonomic condition.
4. Identify and explain the social or aesthetic values of different cultures.

In addition, as a result of taking courses meeting this goal, students will be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of the following Learning Outcome: 6. The impact of diverse philosophical, ethical or religious views These learning outcomes are part of the social science learning outcomes.

<sup>2</sup> Sources: <http://www.projectionscentral.com/Projections/LongTerm>; <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/forensic-science-technicians.htm>

<sup>3</sup> Regental system certificate programs typically are a subset of the curriculum offered in degree programs, include existing courses, and involve 9-12 credits for completion. Deviations from these guidelines require justification and approval.

<sup>4</sup> Board Policy 2:23 requires certificate programs to “have specifically defined student learning outcomes.”

**B. Complete Appendix A – Outcomes using the system form.**

Individual Student Outcome	Program Courses that Address the Outcomes	
	Prefix & Number	Prefix & Number
Students learn the basics of human biology and evolutionary theory	ANTH	220
Students learn the fundamentals of forensic scientific analysis	ANTH/CJUS	335
Students learn the basics of forensic science and anatomy.	ANTH	310
Students learn to identify human and animal bone remains	ANTH/CJUS	435

**7. Delivery Location.<sup>5</sup>**

- A. Complete the following charts to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver the entire program on campus, at any off campus location (e.g., UC Sioux Falls, Capital University Center, Black Hills State University-Rapid City, etc.) or deliver the entire program through distance technology (e.g., as an on-line program)?**

	Yes/No	Intended Start Date
<b>On campus</b>	Yes	8/20/2018

	Yes/No	If Yes, list location(s)	Intended Start Date
<b>Off campus</b>	No		

	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods <sup>6</sup>	Intended Start Date
<b>Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)</b>	No		

- B. Complete the following chart to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver more than 50% but less than 100% of the certificate through distance learning (e.g., as an on-line program)?<sup>7</sup>**

	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods	Intended Start Date
<b>Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)</b>	Yes	Internet	8/20/2018

<sup>5</sup> The accreditation requirements of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) require Board approval for a university to offer programs off-campus and through distance delivery.

<sup>6</sup> Delivery methods are defined in [AAC Guideline 5.5](#).

<sup>7</sup> This question responds to HLC definitions for distance delivery.