

**UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA
AT LAFAYETTE**

STEP Committee

Technology Fee Application

Anthropology Enhancement

C. Ray Brassieur, Maranda A. Kles, and Mark A. Rees

Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Child and Family Studies
College of Liberal Arts, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Title: Anthropology STEP Lab Enhancement

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Name (Contact Person): Maranda A. Kles, Ph.D.

Address: P.O. Box 40198, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, UL Lafayette, 70504

Phone Number: 337-482-5371

Email: mak9135@louisiana.edu

Department/College/Org: Dept. of Sociology, Anthropology & CAFS, College of Liberal Arts

ABSTRACT (250 words or less):

STEP funding is sought for the technological enhancement of the Anthropology Program in the College of Liberal Arts, Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Child and Family Studies. Two years ago the Anthropology STEP Lab received funding to update the computers and purchase new software. These purchases allowed for student research and engagement both in and outside of the classroom. At this time the lab needs to update the software available and a new computer and projector are needed. The continued support of the enhancement of the Anthropology program will provide both undergraduate majors and non-majors with up to date technology for class participation, coursework, academic requirements, professional training, and career development.

Anthropology Technological Enhancement will upgrade and improve the accessibility of technology for students enrolled in 26 different anthropology courses at all levels and facilitate the development of new course offerings utilizing this technology. Audiovisual technology, and software applications will directly benefit approximately 400 students per semester. Technological improvements and support will have a significant long-term impact, serving an estimated 2,400 students within a three-year period. Future generations of students will continue to benefit from this enhancement. The exceptional quality and relevance of these technological improvements ensure significant advancements in the educational resources and capabilities of the Anthropology program at UL Lafayette and the continued use and utility of the Anthropology STEP Lab in Mouton Hall.

A. PURPOSE AND IMPACT OF GRANT

The purpose of this grant is to update and enhance the technological resources and capabilities of the Anthropology STEP Lab and program in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Child and Family Studies. The Anthropology STEP Lab in Mouton Hall serves undergraduate majors and non-major students enrolled in anthropology courses at UL Lafayette. Anthropology is a diverse discipline that encompasses the sub-fields of cultural and physical (or biological) anthropology, archaeology, and linguistic anthropology. Within each sub-field there are a number of specialized areas of study including ethnography, forensic anthropology, medical anthropology, cultural resource management (CRM), and ethnolinguistics. These specialties are directly relevant to fields outside of anthropology, including medicine, nursing, biology, architecture, urban development, history, and environmental studies. Students studying anthropology at UL Lafayette are in need of educational and instructional technology to support each of the sub-fields and will greatly benefit from the Anthropology STEP Lab Enhancement.

Students studying Anthropology at UL Lafayette previously benefitted from the creation of the Anthropology STEP Lab in Mouton Hall, Room 109, by a STEP grant in 2005. This grant provided a lab to serve the technological needs of students in education and instructional research. An earlier STEP grant in 2004 provided for the technological enhancement of the archaeology field school. A STEP grant in 2015 allowed the program to update the STEP lab and teaching technology across the board. All of these grants greatly enhanced the technological and educational opportunities that were available to student enrolled in Anthropology courses at UL Lafayette, however, now the software purchased through the 2015 STEP grant is now out of date rendering the program useless and drastically limiting their utility as teaching technology. The students who are now entering UL Lafayette demand and deserve up-to-date technology in support of their education. This is particularly true for the sub-fields of anthropology that require hands-on learning and benefit from applied, instructional research.

The Anthropology Enhancement will make essential audiovisual technology and software applications available and easily accessible to students. It will enhance their education by providing up-to-date and state of the art technology for class presentations and participation, required coursework, laboratory exercises, applied instruction, professional training, and career development. It will provide anthropology majors with technological applications and support that are essential to education in the anthropological sub-fields. In addition to the approximately 40 to 70 students majoring in anthropology, this grant will have a positive impact on 350 to 400 students enrolled in anthropology courses each semester at UL Lafayette. This grant is estimated to positively impact 2,100 to 2,400 students enrolled in anthropology courses over a three year period and continue to benefit students for many more years.

Audiovisual Technology

The uses of audiovisual media are now common place in classrooms throughout campus. The Anthropology program has a dedicated lab space in Burke-Hawthorne Hall that is used for teaching and student research. With the recent addition of new anthropology courses this lab is being more intensively used for seminars, hands-on lab exercises, student research projects, and invited guest presentations. There is no designated projector or computer for this lab, limiting its use for these activities. Currently we bring a portable projector from Mouton Hall and use personal laptops present material. The Anthropology STEP Enhancement will remedy this problem by providing a dedicated projector and computer for this space, to be used by both instructors and students.

Computer Workstations

The instructional capabilities of the Anthropology program are presently constrained by out of date software applications in the Anthropology STEP Lab. This software is an essential tool in anthropological education of the twenty-first century. The Anthropology STEP Lab is majors and non-majors who take anthropology courses. A STEP grant awarded in 2015 allowed for the purchase of Geographic Information System (GIS), Adobe Creative Suite, EndNote, and SPSS on the seven computers purchased. The licensing on these are now out of date, rendering them unusable.

The computer workstations in the Anthropology STEP Lab support applications, exercises, and assignments used in all anthropology courses. Students make frequent use of the computer workstations for upper-level courses and for independent studies and fieldwork. Computer workstations are used by students to process and manage digitized field materials pertaining to ethnography, ethnoecology, archaeology, ethnohistory, and forensics. These materials include audiovisual and sound recordings, informant interviews, and photographic, documentary, and spatial data, the latter involving Global Positioning System (GPS), Geographic Information System (GIS), and computerized mapping applications. These software are used in conjunction with other items purchased with previous STEP grants including digital cameras, audio recording equipment, and GPS equipment. This enhancement grant would allow up-to-date versions of these packages to be acquired for the Anthropology STEP Lab workstations.

Due to the volume of data that is stored on some of these workstations due to on-going research projects the systems are becoming slow and have minimal space for storage. The addition of two external hard drives for data storage would free up the storage space on these computers allowing them to operate more efficiently and allow for continued research. These hard drives would be used by faculty and students working on in-class and independent research projects. The drives would be stored in a secure cabinet in the Anthropology STEP Lab in Mouton 109 and would be accessible to students when the lab is open. These drives are essential upgrade to the enhancements that were put in place with the 2015 STEP Lab Enhancement grant.

The 2015 Anthropology STEP Lab grant supplied a new printer, which students use regularly to print materials for class assignments, research projects, and field work. This enhancement grant would allow us to purchase toner and paper to keep this printer in working order for the students' benefit.

Impact on Student Body

There are approximately 40 students presently majoring in anthropology at UL Lafayette, a number that has varied to just over 70 during the past ten years. An unknown number of students are minoring in anthropology. The Anthropology Enhancement will have a profound and lasting impact on students majoring and minoring in anthropology by offering indispensable technological advancements directly related to their topic of study. Students stand to benefit from the addition and upgrading of technology pertinent to sub-fields and specializations such as forensic anthropology, archaeology, and ethnography. This technological enhancement will be essential to the continued success of students majoring in anthropology by providing them with the advantages of state-of-the-art technology. This grant will substantially expand and enhance previous STEP awards in 2004, 2005, and 2015 by making additional technological enhancements available to a larger number of students.

A significantly larger number of students who take anthropology courses each semester will greatly benefit from the Anthropology Enhancement. Based on the number of students enrolled in anthropology courses each semester and the potential use of computer applications

and software this grant will have a positive impact on 350 to 400 students each semester. The addition of designated audiovisual technology, projector and computer, to the Burke-Hawthorne Lab will have the next greatest impact, reaching approximately 100 students per semester. This technology enhancement will also have an effect beyond the UL Lafayette student body; Anthropology frequently holds seminars, student presentations, and invited guest presentations. These presentations are attended by many students, both anthropology majors and non-majors, and the general public, resulting in an impact that cannot be adequately stated with numbers. The advantages of this enhancement will have an even more significant impact on students pursuing upper-level coursework or engaged in independent studies, directed research, and fieldwork. Easy access to up to date software applications for anthropological instruction will greatly contribute to academic advancement, professional education and training, and career placement. These technological enhancements are essential tools in career guidance and preparation for post-baccalaureate studies. All told, this technology enhancement will positively impacting an estimated 2,400 students enrolled in anthropology courses over a three year period and will continue to benefit future generations of students.

This grant will provide students with the necessary tools for data collection and processing, allowing them to fulfill the academic requirements of anthropological fieldwork and internships. The updating of software will advance the technological capabilities of the Anthropology program at UL Lafayette and offer students educational opportunities currently available at other major universities. Technological enhancement will allow UL Lafayette to maintain a competitive and high-quality Anthropology program. Without such technologies unique learning opportunities will be missed.

B. PROJECTED LIFETIME OF ENHANCEMENT

The projected lifetime of this enhancement exceeds the proposed three years of implementation, impacting an estimated 700 to 800 students each academic year, or approximately 2,100 to 2,400 students within a three-year period. Software licenses are requested in order to support the 2015 Anthropology STEP Lab Enhancement for this next three-year period. After this time additional support will be sought for any necessary software updates, maintenance, or supplies.

The audiovisual equipment and storage devices will be securely stored and maintained in the Anthropology STEP Lab in order to benefit students at UL Lafayette. It is expected that future generations of UL Lafayette students will experience the beneficial results of this enhancement.

C. PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROJECT

- i. Implementation:
 - C. Ray Brassieur, Ph.D.
 - Mark A. Rees, Ph.D.
 - Maranda A. Kles, Ph.D.
- ii. Installation:
 - C. Ray Brassieur, Ph.D.
 - Mark A. Rees, Ph.D.
 - Maranda A. Kles, Ph.D.
- iii. Maintenance:
 - C. Ray Brassieur, Ph.D.
 - Mark A. Rees, Ph.D.

- Maranda A. Kles, Ph.D.
- iv. Operation:
C. Ray Brassieur, Ph.D.
Mark A. Rees, Ph.D.
Maranda A. Kles, Ph.D.
- v. Training:
C. Ray Brassieur, Ph.D.
Mark A. Rees, Ph.D.
Maranda A. Kles, Ph.D.

Qualifications:

C. Ray Brassieur is a cultural anthropologist and Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Child and Family Studies at UL Lafayette. He received a Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Missouri in 1999 and an M.A. in anthropology from Louisiana State University in 1980. He teaches Cultural Anthropology (ANTH 201), Anthropology of Religion (ANTH 305), North American Indians (ANTH 386), Indians of Louisiana (ANTH 450), and several popular upper-level seminars (ANTH 493). The past President of the Louisiana Folklore Society, his research interests include Louisiana and French North American folk life, wetlands cultural ecology, Louisiana Indians, cultural tourism and heritage conservation, the applied anthropology of indigenous peoples, and religion in folk societies.

Maranda A. Kles is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Child and Family Studies at UL Lafayette. She received a Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Florida in 2013 with an emphasis in biological anthropology. She received an M.A. in anthropology from the University of Florida in 2004 and is a Fellow in the Anthropology section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Dr. Kles teaches Biological Anthropology (ANTH 202), Human Ecology (ANTH 310), Introduction to Forensic Anthropology (ANTH 330), and several upper-level seminars. She is a practicing bioarchaeologist and forensic anthropologist with active research in biological and cultural variation and methods validation.

Mark A. Rees is a Professor in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Child and Family Studies at UL Lafayette. He received a Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Oklahoma in 2001 with an emphasis in archaeology. He received an M.A. in historical archaeology from the University of Massachusetts at Boston in 1991 and is a Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA). Dr. Rees teaches World Archaeology (ANTH 203), Archaeology (ANTH 303), North American Prehistory (ANTH 385), Cultural Resource Management (ANTH 480), and several upper-level seminars. He has taught or participated in nearly a dozen archaeology field schools. The recipient of a National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement grant, he more recently received funding from the Louisiana Board of Regents Support Fund Research Competitiveness Subprogram.

D. BUDGET CATEGORY DESCRIPTION

Equipment:

Equipment (# to purchase)	Total Cost	Justification
Desktop computer-standard (1)	\$940.00	Add machine to Burke-Hawthorne teaching lab to allow for more use of the space for teaching and research purposes.
Projector (1)	\$659.00	To allow for the use of Burke-Hawthorne teaching lab as a teaching and research presentation space.
External Hard Drive- 5TB (2)	\$255.96	To allow for the storage of data generated by in class and independent study research projects that utilize the equipment and programs purchased with previous STEP grants.

Software:

Software (# to purchase)	Total Cost	Justification
Arc GIS (7)	\$700.00	Update current software to allow continued use in the Anthropology STEP Lab.
Adobe Creative Suite (4)	\$1200.00	Update current software to allow continued use in the Anthropology STEP Lab.
SPSS (2)	\$200.00	Update current software and add to an additional station.
EndNote (2)	\$499.90	For compiling archival sources and data.
Liscence renewal for an additional 2 years	\$2,400.00	To maintain the programs that need license renewals.

Supplies:

Supplies (# to purchase)	Total Cost	Justification
Ink Cartridges (2 per year for 3 years)	\$1,85.94	To maintain printing activities in the Anthropology STEP Lab.
Paper (4 cases per year for 3 years)	\$599.88	To maintain printing activities in the Anthropology STEP Lab.

BUDGET PROPOSAL

Length of implementation (in years)				1	2	3
Digital technology	Cost	#	Shipping			
Desktop computer-standard	\$940.00	1		\$940.00		
Projector	\$659.00	1		\$659.00		
External hard drive	\$127.98	2		\$255.96		
Software						
Arc GIS software	\$100.00	7		\$700.00	700.00	700.00
SPSS	\$100.00	2		\$200.00	200.00	200.00
EndNote	\$249.95	2		\$499.90		
Adobe Creative Suite	\$300.00	4		\$1200.00	1200.00	1200.00
Supplies						
Paper	\$49.99	4		\$199.96	199.96	199.96
Ink	\$180.99	2		\$361.98	361.98	361.98
Total				\$5,016.80	\$2,661.94	\$2,661.94

TIMELINE (3 YEARS)

Year 1:

- Implementation of proposed enhancement:
 - Order all hardware and software.
 - Install hardware and software.
- Establish regular hours for student access to the Anthropology Lab; 20 hours per week, plus additional time during scheduled office hours.
- Instruct students in the use of computer workstations and software, as part of regularly-offered courses.
- Maintenance, operation and general upkeep of equipment.

Year 2:

- Continued implementation of proposed enhancement:
 - Renew software licenses.
- Continue training and instruction in the use of computer workstations and software, as part of regularly-offered courses.
- Continued maintenance, operation and general upkeep of equipment.

Year 3:

- Continued implementation of proposed enhancement:
 - Renew software licenses.
- Continue training and instruction in the use of computer workstations and software, as part of regularly-offered courses.
- Continued maintenance, operation and general upkeep of equipment.

Previously Funded STEP Projects

Dr. Rees received STEP funding in the Fall 2004 for the Archaeology Field School (\$18,068). In response to a proposal submitted by C. Ray Brassieur, F. Daniel Cring, Jacques Henry, and Mark A. Rees, the Anthropology program was awarded STEP funding totaling \$47,285 in the Fall of 2005 for equipment, software, and supplies in order to establish the Anthropology STEP Lab. In 2015, the Anthropology STEP Lab was awarded \$33,122 to update the lab with new equipment and software and teaching collections were purchased. All of the items listed in these grants were ordered and implemented. The computers, equipment, and software have been successfully used in anthropology courses, but most notably in Cultural Anthropology (ANTH 201), Biological Anthropology (ANTH 202), World Archaeology (ANTH 203), Archaeology (ANTH 303), Human Evolution (ANTH350), the Archaeology Field School (ANTH 490), Forensic Anthropology (ANTH 430), Archaeological Records (ANTH 499), and several seminar courses. The purpose of the present proposal is to keep the STEP Lab up to date allowing the technological enhancements to continue to be utilized by a large number of students.