

MAJORS and PROGRAMS

ANTHROPOLOGY

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The Anthropology major and minor are offered through the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, which also offers a major in Sociology. Minors are available in Sociology, Anthropology, and Comparative Religion.

Anthropology explores the diversity of humankind by asking what it means to be human. Anthropologists examine this diversity through the common thread of culture building on the premise that all cultural beliefs, values, and practices can be understood when examined in their own cultural context. By examining human behaviors comparatively, anthropologists learn to avoid ethnocentrism, the tendency to interpret practices as strange on the basis of preconceptions derived from one's own cultural background. Anthropologists learn how to make the strange familiar and the familiar strange and thereby provide frameworks for cross-cultural understanding at the micro and macro level.

Anthropology majors are trained in qualitative and ethnographic research skills along with tools for advanced critical thinking and theoretical application. The program contributes to a liberal arts education, prepares students for graduate training in anthropology, civic and community engagement, as well as careers in healthcare, government, business, law, journalism, social services, education, and human rights work—in local and international settings.

The anthropology curriculum provides graduates with knowledge and perspectives needed to participate as engaged citizens in a global society. Anthropology emphasizes tolerance and respect for other cultures' ways of living. Anthropological approaches oriented toward social and political engagement, collaborations with local communities, applied work, and public dissemination of research (through publishing, oral presentations, film, internet and museum exhibits, web-content) provide specific tools and opportunities for inspiring students to think, care, create, and pursue justice in our world.

Students interested in an Anthropology major should consult with a faculty member in the Anthropology Department before the end of the sophomore year. It is highly recommended that students study abroad, participate in a travel course, or engage in local immersion in the United States.

Program Learning Outcomes

Students who complete a major in anthropology will be able to:

- (1) exercise anthropological thinking - observing the relationship between individuals and historical, cultural, and social forces
- (2) appreciate the diversity of human cultures and the interconnectedness of people around the world
- (3) understand the major questions, concepts, ethical issues and methodologies of anthropology as a professional discipline
- (4) reflectively perceive how one's particular life experiences are shaped by social factors, including economic status, age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and religion
- (5) demonstrate a basic knowledge of how social inequalities operate at the macro and micro scale
- (6) demonstrate a basic understanding of academic anthropological literature as it relates to contemporary social issues
- (7) creatively apply anthropological understandings to public debates, social problems, and community programs
- (8) demonstrate an ability to gather, organize, and analyze data
- (9) use a variety of anthropological methods including interviews, participant observation, field notes
- (10) demonstrate an ability to work with peers
- (11) employ flexible methods of self-presentation across a variety media, including written, social, visual, and oral

Anthropology: Requirements for the Major

The Anthropology major must complete the following courses with a grade of C- or better and maintain a 2.0 average in the major.

ANTH 101	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	4 credits
One of the following:		4 credits
ANTH 140	Introduction to the Comparative Study of Religion	
ANTH 240	Topics in Comparative Religion	
One of the following:		4 Credits
ANTH 203	Contemporary Pacific Studies	
ANTH 206	Sex, Gender, and Culture	
ANTH 207	Good Food: Culture, Consumption, and Production	
Two of the following:		8 Credits
ANTH 31	Medicine, Body, Culture	
ANTH 313	Religion and Culture	
ANTH 317	Pop Culture: Cultural Studies	
ANTH 343	Food, Fat, Fitness	
All of the following:		10 credits
ANTH 302	Designing Ethnography	
ANTH 402	Writing Ethnography	
ANTH 412	Ethnography Lab: Senior Capstone	

Twelve additional credits in Anthropology, at least 8 of which must be 300+ level credits. Sociology courses may be used to fulfill to this requirement by Anthropology faculty approval.

TOTAL: 42 credits

Anthropology: Requirements for the Minor

The Anthropology minor must complete the following courses with a grade of C- or better and maintain a 2.0 average in the major.

ANTH 101	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	4 Credits
One of the following:		4 credits
ANTH 140	Introduction to the Comparative Study of Religion	
ANTH 203	Contemporary Pacific Studies	
One of the following:		4 credits
ANTH 206	Sex, Gender, and Culture	
ANTH 207	Good Food: Culture, Consumption, and Production	
ANTH 240	Topics in Comparative Religion	

Eight additional Anthropology credits at 300+ level. Sociology courses may be applied to this requirement by Anthropology faculty approval.

TOTAL: 20 credits

COURSES

ANTH-101 Introduction to Anthropology

An introduction to the methods, theories, and history of cultural anthropology investigating the comparative study of human societies in all their remarkable complexity and diversity. A special mandate of the field is to discover new and less harmful ways of perceiving and understanding the different experiences, practices, histories, and values of people and communities from all parts of the world. This course is designed to examine the ways people within a range of societies make sense of and order their lives. It emphasizes that other possibilities, beyond the ones with which we are most familiar, exist for solving problems and for achieving meaningful lives. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives. Offered annually. 4 credits.

ANTH-140 Introduction to Comparative Religions

Comparative study of major world and selected regional religions with an emphasis on the analysis of beliefs, rituals, symbolism and social organization. Also listed as REL 140. Counts toward core requirement: Comparative Cultural, Diverse Perspectives, and/or International Perspectives. 4 credits.

ANTH-155 Special Topics

See department for course description.

ANTH-195 Independent Study

See department for details. Independent study contract required.

ANTH-202 Film, Text, and Culture

This course examines the use of film, photography and text as data collection methods and representations for ethnographic research. Methodological and epistemological issues are explored in a comparison of ethnographic documentaries. As part of the course requirement students are expected to complete short observational and photographic projects. Prerequisite: ANTH 101, SOC 101, or SOC 102. 4 credits.

ANTH-203 Contemporary Pacific Studies

Oceania is a region of extraordinary cultural diversity, including Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. The Pacific has long been an object of European interest being imagined as a serene, exotic, and savage paradise. These images reflect Western desires and discourses, and counter everyday life in the Pacific Islands. This course will explore the relationship between western and local/indigenous representations of culture while also focusing on the dynamics of social life and transformations associated with de/colonization and globalization in the Pacific. Offered triennially. 4 credits.

ANTH-204 Prep Samoa: Well-Being & Culture

This two-credit course will prepare students for a two-week travel course to Samoa. The preparation course will focus on immersing students in the ethnography of Samoa and Samoan social issues. We will also develop research questions, methods, and IRB protocols if necessary before traveling. Students will demonstrate general knowledge about Samoa and the region. Corequisite: ANTH 205. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives. Offered alternate years. 2 credits.

ANTH-205 Travel Samoa: Well-being & Culture

This 2-week travel course immerses students in the culture of Samoa. Students can explore Samoa through ethnographic research on a variety of topics including, but not limited to, health, gender/sexuality, education, dance, sport, youth issues, music, religion, food, migration, globalization, or (eco)tourism. Students will conduct semi-independent research projects. Several excursions will complement students' research. Students will demonstrate general knowledge about Samoa and the region. Corequisites: ANTH 204. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives. Offered alternate years. 2 credits.

ANTH-206 Sex, Gender, Culture

In all societies, people organize social relationships and identities, ideologies and symbolic systems, in terms of gender and sexuality, but they do so in different ways. In this course, we will examine the ways in which individuals and societies imagine, experience, impose and challenge gender and sexuality systems in a diversity of cultural contexts, including those of the United States, Oceania, Africa, and Asia. One of the aims throughout the course will be to explore other societies as a means of better understanding and critiquing our own. Prerequisites: GSS 201, ANTH 101, SOC 110, SOC 120, or SOC 130. Offered triennially. 4 Credits.

ANTH-207 Good Food: Eating and Community

People give meaning to the consumption, distribution, and production of food and its effects on bodies in ways that define the appropriate social relationships in the world. This course explores how societies build connections between what we eat and who we are and between definitions of good food as linked to definitions of a good society and a good life. We will discuss how people define themselves and their cultures via food production, distribution, preparation, and consumption. This class will also critically examine food systems at local and global levels. Prerequisites: ANTH 101, PH 101, SOC 110, SOC 120, or SOC 130. Offered triennially. 4 credits.

ANTH-210 Mesoamerican Cultures

A survey of early Mayan and Aztec societies, how they fared under Spanish Colonial rule and their contemporary lives. The course focuses upon indigenous peoples, examining their articulation in contemporary states in relation to ethnic consciousness and cultural processes. Prerequisite: ANTH 101, SOC 101, or SOC 102. Counts toward core requirement: Comparative Cultural or International Perspectives. Biennially. 4 credits.

ANTH-220 Introduction to International Studies

This course is designed to familiarize students with some of the many interpretive and methodological approaches used by scholars in the growing field of International Studies. The course uses an interdisciplinary approach to understand the global flow of people and commodities as well as some key events and institutions that shape contemporary power relations. Also listed as IS 220. 4 credits.

ANTH-239 Introduction to Indigenous Studies

This course is an introduction into the cultural and social practices of the indigenous peoples of North America, Hawaii and Polynesia, and Caribbean cultures. The course is designed to introduce students to the place of indigenous cultures in the context of the broad inquiry of the nature of political power, colonial settlement and global contact. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above (30 or more completed credits). Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. 4 credits.

ANTH-240 Topics in Comparative Religion

A class on topics of current interest in comparative religions. See department for current course description. Also listed as REL 240. Counts toward core requirement: Comparative Cultural, Diverse Perspectives, and/or International Perspectives. May be repeated for credit. 4 credits.

ANTH-241 Introduction to World Music

Through lecture, discussion, structured listening and participation, students will explore various music cultures throughout the world including those in Japan, Eastern Europe, Latin America, Africa, Indonesia and India. In addition, the course includes an examination of Afro-American and Native American music as well as other less commonly known North American forms and genres. Also listed as MUS 241. Counts toward core requirement: Comparative Cultural or International Perspectives. 4 credits.

ANTH-255 Special Topics

See department for course description.

ANTH-268 Trinidad Culture & Society

Designed to prepare students for travel to Trinidad and Tobago in the Winter Term (ANTH/SOCWK 368). The course covers various features of Trinidad and Tobago's history from its early imperial encounter to its present post-colonial condition. Additionally, the class covers contemporary culture and local and global political economy. Perhaps most importantly, the course requires students to create a research project to be implemented as field research in Trinidad and Tobago. In this sense, the course is preparation for what anthropologists and social workers would refer to as a 'field methods' class. For this element of the class, students must create a research project, conduct preliminary textual and internet research, and begin making contacts in Trinidad and Tobago. Students therefore must be fully prepared at the end of this course to conduct self-directed, ethnographic research in Trinidad and Tobago. Also listed as SOCKW 268. Offered alternate years during Fall. 4 credits.

ANTH-275 Internship

See department for details. Internship contract required. 1-4 credits.

ANTH-295 Independent Study

See department for details. Independent study contract required. 1-6 credits.

ANTH-299 Field Experience

A course for students who wish to combine anthropology and their service learning experiences through the Humanitarian Center. May be repeated for credit. 1-2 credits.

ANTH-301 Research Methods in Anthropology

Helps students critically evaluate anthropological methods and their own fieldwork strategies. Explores ethnographic fieldwork and methods through an analysis of the nature of social practice as it is reflected in the anthropological literature. Ethnographic methods include participant observation, survey skills, interviewing skills, careful attention to language and the ethical dimensions of research. Students have the opportunity to apply these methods in research projects in the local community. Prerequisite: 8 credits of ANTH or SOC. Biennially. 4 credits.

ANTH-302 Designing Ethnography

One of the aims of anthropology is "to grasp the native's point of view, his relation to life, to realize his vision of his world." Anthropologists employ many strategies, methods, and approaches to understand this point of view and related cultural context. This class is designed to give students hands-on experience with research design and qualitative methods as well as build awareness around the benefits and limitations of such methods. The course begins with an introduction to ethnography as a way of collecting empirical data and as a way of thinking. We then explore specific methods, while students develop their own research proposals and IRBs. Prerequisites: ANTH 101, SOC 110, 120, or 130 and Sophomore Standing. Offered annually. 4 credits.

ANTH-304 Prep Samoa: Well-being & Culture

This two-credit course will prepare students for a two-week travel course to Samoa. The preparation course will focus on immersing students in the ethnography of Samoa and Samoan social issues. We will also develop research questions, methods, and IRB protocols if necessary before traveling. Students will develop an argument/stance on particular aspects of Samoan culture. Corequisite: ANTH 305. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives. Offered alternate years. 2 credits.

ANTH-305 Travel Samoa: Well-being & Culture

This 2-week travel course immerses students in the culture of Samoa. Students can explore Samoa through ethnographic research on a variety of topics including, but not limited to, health, gender/sexuality, education, dance, sport, youth issues, music, religion, food, migration, globalization, or (eco)tourism. Students will conduct semi-independent research projects. Several excursions will complement students' research. Students will develop an argument/stance on particular aspects of Samoan culture. Corequisite: ANTH 304. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives. Offered alternate years. 2 credits.

ANTH-310 Doing Ethnography

This course involves the study and practice of the complex craft of ethnography. Students will read, analyze, and critique ethnographies in conjunction with the critical review and analysis of influential social, literary, and ethnographic theories. The production of an ethnography, involving primary field research, a literature review, and social/cultural analysis is a crucial component of the course. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above (30 or more completed credits). 4 credits.

ANTH-311 Medicine, Body and Culture

This course is an introduction to critical areas of inquiry in medical anthropology. By examining the socio-cultural dimensions of sickness and healing cross-culturally, we will explore how anthropologists have approached historical and contemporary problems in the global field of medicine. While our course trajectory will lead us to treat Western biomedicine as only one among many systems of meaning and authority, we will also spend some time deconstructing the often unspoken assumptions that govern this field, thereby complicating the notion that the latter is somehow insulated from the reach of culture. We will also focus on issues of power, inequality, and gender and health. Pre-requisite: ANTH-101, GSS-201, SOC-101, ANTH-140, SOC-217 or PH-101. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives, Diverse Perspectives, Civic Engagement. 4 credits.

ANTH-313 Religion & Culture

An anthropological and sociological analysis of religious practice, including belief, ritual, experience, organization, and knowledge. Using interpretive strategies from anthropology, sociology, and religious studies this course investigates the origins and development of religious practice as unique social contexts and their relation to other forms of social life. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above. 4 credits.

ANTH-317 Pop Culture: Cultural Studies

Using theories drawn from the school of Cultural Studies as well as what has come to be known as "critical theory", this course takes an intensive analysis of the many artifacts of popular culture. A central goal of the course is to understand how the artifacts we analyze reflect, respond to, shape, and are shaped by the broader social/cultural forces around them. Also listed as SOC 317. Prerequisite: ANTH 101, SOC 110, SOC 120, or SOC 130. Offered annually. 4 credits.

ANTH-320 South American Traditional Societies

Ethnographic studies of the social, economic and political forms of small-scale non industrial societies. This class looks at a variety of cultural systems from the Amazon Basin to the Andes, during historical and contemporary times. Prerequisite: 8 credits of ANTH or SOC. Counts toward core requirement: Comparative Cultural or International Perspectives. Biennially. 4 credits.

ANTH-323 Junior Seminar

Students will practice reading and evaluating primary research works in progress. Attention will be given to articulating the research process and to preparing students for their own independent research projects. Students will be instructed in pathways beyond Pacific; for example, how to find and apply to graduate programs, develop a resume, and set up a job-shadowing experience. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits) and declared Sociology, Anthropology-Sociology, or Social Work major or minor. Pass/No Pass. 2 credits.

ANTH-340 Symbolism, Myth and Ritual

Anthropological approaches to the study of myth, ritual and symbols which focus upon cultural meaning. Examines the nature of myth and ritual in a variety of cultures. Prerequisite: Two 200-level courses in ANTH or SOC. Counts toward core requirement: Comparative Cultural. Biennially. 4 credits.

ANTH-343 Food, Fat, and Fitness

The United States is a culture obsessed with food, fat, and fitness. As efforts to reduce obesity increase, rates of obesity actually increase. Why is that? This anthropology course depends heavily on interdisciplinary perspectives to explore the connections between body size and culture, examining food, fat, and fitness not just as public health issues but as culturally and historically constructed categories related to gender, race, sexuality, and class. While we will explore biocultural approaches to obesity, this course is not a biomedical study of the "obesity epidemic." Instead we examine the discourses and vocabulary used to describe this current "crisis." Also listed as GSS 343 and PH 343. Prerequisites: ANTH 101, GSS 201, SOC 101, ANTH 140, SOC 217, or PH 101. Offered alternate years. 4 credits.

ANTH-344 Preparation for Culinary Travel

This course explores the relationship between cuisine and culture with an emphasis on cultures outside the United States. Students complete a series of orientation sessions as well as a full semester of class work. Students read a collection of essays that will prepare the student to tour a particular food and wine producing area and to connect local and regional cultures with food preparation and cuisine. Specific travel destinations and focus of the course will vary from year to year. Course may not be repeated for credit, even when travel destination varies. Also listed as SOC 344. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above (30 or more completed credits) and 4 credits from ANTH or SOC at 200-level or above. Appropriate language classes are encouraged. IS 201 is encouraged. Instructor's consent is required. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives core requirement. 2 credits.

ANTH-345 Culinary Travel

This travel course explores the relationship between cuisine and culture. Students tour a variety of food and wine producing areas and connect local and regional cultures with food preparation and cuisine. Specific travel destination will vary from year to year. Course may not be repeated for credit, even when travel destination varies. Also listed as SOC 345. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above, 4 credits from ANTH or SOC at 200-level or above. Appropriate language classes are encouraged. IS-201 is encouraged. Instructor's consent required. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives. 2 credits.

ANTH-350 Landscape and Memory

This class brings together work across the disciplines of anthropology, sociology, social history and geography in order that we might consider the cultural consequences of landscape, with regard to the anthropological notion of place and senses of place. In the course we investigate how environments create and are created and understood by local cultures. Prerequisite: 4 credits from 200-level ANTH or SOC. 4 credits.

ANTH-355 Special Topics

See department for course description. Prerequisite: SOC 101, SOC 102, ANTH 101, ANTH 140, or REL 140.

ANTH-356 Culture, Cuisine and Class

Explores people's relationship to food with regard to the environment, gender, class structure and the increasing globalization and homogenization of food. Of particular importance are the cultural influences on cuisine as food plays a social, symbolic and political-economic role across cultures. Also listed as SOC 356. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits). 4 credits.

ANTH-368 Trinidad Culture & Society: Travel

Travel course to Trinidad and Tobago. The class is designed so that students are, in many ways, the primary architects of their travel experience. They design their own research projects, set goals for conducting and completing their projects, meet with Trinidadians they contacted themselves, and analyze the data they collected. In essence then, this course serves as a field methods class in Social Science, though open to all majors. The course blends scientific methods, critical philosophical inquiry, and literary writing practices to help students become creative and critical thinkers as well as internationally engaged and aware citizens. Also listed as SOCWK 368. Prerequisites: ANTH 268 or SOCKW 268. Counts towards core requirement: International Perspectives. Offered alternate years during Winter. 2 credits.

ANTH-395 Independent Study

See department for details. Independent study contract required.

ANTH-402 Writing Ethnography

This course involves the study and practice of the complex craft of writing and evaluating ethnography. Students will read, analyze, and critique ethnographies in conjunction with the critical review and analysis of influential social, literary, and ethnographic theories while writing their own ethnographies. The production of an ethnography, involving primary field research, a literature review, and social/cultural analysis is a crucial component of the course. Prerequisites: ANTH 302 and Junior Standing. Offered Annually. 4 credits.

ANTH-412 Ethnography Lab: Senior Capstone

Students will complete their senior thesis projects in Ethnography Lab. The course will focus on presenting findings and projects in multiple formats including through social media, journalism, as well as ethnography. Emphasis will be placed on peer-feedback and discussion. Prerequisite: ANTH 402. Offered Annually. 2 Credits.

ANTH-450 Directed Research in Anthropology

Directed Research in Anthropology allows students of advanced standing to participate in a research project with an anthropology faculty member in order to gain practical experience in the conduct of ongoing professional-level sociological research. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits). Instructor's consent required. May be repeated for credit, up to 6 credits total. 1-4 credits.

ANTH-455 Special Topics

See department for course description.

ANTH-475 Internship

See department for details. Internship contract required.

ANTH-494 Senior Thesis I

The focus is to assist students in selecting an area of interest from which to draw an independent research project, to do an initial literature review, to develop a theoretical framework, and to develop a research methodology for the senior research project. Prerequisite: 16 credits of ANTH or SOC including ANTH 301 or SOC 300. Offered Fall semester. 2 credits.

ANTH-495 Senior Thesis II

Student-conducted individual research/theoretical project. Faculty supervised. Prerequisite: ANTH 494. 4 credits.