

Anthropology

Anthropology

College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
Department of Anthropology
358 Trafton Science Center N • 507-389-6504
Chair: Paul F. Brown

Anthropology is the study of the origins and diversity of human biology and culture. Anthropologists study the evolution and adaptations of the human species through the four major subdivisions of the discipline: archaeology, biological anthropology, linguistics, and cultural anthropology. The major provides training in all areas of anthropology for the liberal arts major with an interest in global awareness, cultural diversity, human evolution and adaptation, prehistory, and an understanding of human behavior. For those interested in pursuing anthropology as a career the anthropology major is also designed to prepare students for graduate training.

Admission to Major. Admission to major is granted by the department. Minimum university admission requirements are:
- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.
- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 (C).
Contact the department for application procedures.

ANTHROPOLOGY BA, BS

Required for Major (35 credits):

Core (23 credits)

ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology (3)
ANTH 210 Introduction to Archaeology (3)
ANTH 220 Human Origins (4)
ANTH 230 People: An Anthropological Perspective (3)
ANTH 240 Language and Culture (3)
ANTH 438 Anthropological Theory (3)
ANTH 490* Senior Project (2)
ANTH 490* Senior Project (2)

*prerequisite required

Required Electives (12 credits):

Choose a minimum of 12 credits from the following:

All require prerequisites or permission of instructor.

ANTH 250 ANTH 311 ANTH 322 ANTH 323 ANTH 331
ANTH 332 ANTH 333 ANTH 334 ANTH 410 ANTH 411
ANTH 412 ANTH 414 ANTH 415 ANTH 420 ANTH 421
ANTH 430 ANTH 431 ANTH 432 ANTH 433 ANTH 435
ANTH 436 ANTH 437 ANTH 439 ANTH 480** ANTH 485
ANTH 486** ANTH 491** ANTH 492** ANTH 493** ANTH 495**
ANTH 497** ANTH 499**

**No more than 6 credits may be applied to major

Recommended Support Courses (Statistics, 3-4 credits):

Choose one of the following:

PSYC 201 Statistics for Psychology (4)
SOC 201 Social Research I (3)
MATH 354 Concepts of Probability and Statistics (3)

Required for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree ONLY:

Language (8)

Required Minor: Yes. Any.

ANTHROPOLOGY MINOR (20 credits)

Required General Education (3 credits):

ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology (3)

Required for Minor (Core, 9-10 credits):

Choose a minimum of 9 credits from the following:

ANTH 102 Ancient Peoples (3)
ANTH 210 Introduction to Archaeology (3)
ANTH 220 Human Origins (4)

ANTH 230 People: An Anthropological Perspective (3)
ANTH 240 Language and Culture (3)
ANTH 320* Biological Anthropology (3)
ANTH 322* Evolution and Behavior (3)
ANTH 438 Theory
*prerequisite required

Required Electives (7-8 credits):

Choose a minimum of 6 credits from the following:

(all require prerequisites or permission of instructor):

ANTH 250 ANTH 311 ANTH 320 ANTH 322 ANTH 323
ANTH 331 ANTH 332 ANTH 333 ANTH 334 ANTH 410
ANTH 411 ANTH 412 ANTH 414 ANTH 415 ANTH 420
ANTH 421 ANTH 430 ANTH 431 ANTH 432 ANTH 433
ANTH 434 ANTH 435 ANTH 436 ANTH 437 ANTH 438
ANTH 439 ANTH 490 ANTH 496 ANTH 480** ANTH 485
ANTH 486** ANTH 491** ANTH 492** ANTH 493** ANTH 495**
ANTH 497** ANTH 499**

** No more than three credits may be applied to minor

POLICIES/INFORMATION

P/N Grading Policy. Up to 1/4 of the credits for the major may be taken P/N, but caution in using this option in the major is urged.

GPA Policy. Anthropology majors are urged to maintain a 3.0 or better GPA to maximize their options for graduate study and professional employment.

Students majoring in anthropology have an advisor from their area of interest assigned to them. Questions and concerns pertaining to advising and the assignment of advisors can be answered by Clark Johnson, student relations coordinator, 111 Armstrong Hall, telephone 507-389-6306 or by the department chair.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ANTH 101 (3) Introduction to Anthropology

This course surveys human biological and cultural diversity through time and space. You will learn about questions like: "how did humans evolve?" and "how do anthropologists collect and interpret information about human beings and their ancestors?"

F, S

GE-5, 8 CD-Related

ANTH 102 (3) Ancient Peoples

A general survey of the evolution of human society from the earliest times to the development of written languages. Topics include the evolution of tools, the agricultural revolution, and the origins of urban life.

F

GE-5, 10 CD-Related

ANTH 210 (3) Introduction to Archaeology

A comprehensive examination of modern archaeological theory methods and activities, focusing on American archaeology. Emphasis will be given to data collection, data analysis, and museology.

Variable

ANTH 220 (4) Human Origins

An introduction to the study of human biological evolution and variation. This course focuses on evolutionary theory, mechanisms of evolutionary change, and the fossil record of human evolution.

F

GE-3 CD-Related

ANTH 230 (3) People: An Anthropological Perspective

This introduction to cultural anthropology covers cultural diversity and organization by examining several examples in detail. Both anthropological

methodology and theory will be important parts of this course.

F, S

GE-8 CD-Related

ANTH 240 (3) Language and Culture

Language provides not only communication but identification of oneself and one's group. Humans are extremely sensitive to language, dialect, jargon, and slang. An understanding of language and its relationship to culture is basic to any understanding of human beings.

S

GE-5, 8 CD-Related

ANTH 250 (4) Portraits of Culture

Students learn about human cultures through classic anthropological writing and film, and write weekly or biweekly short essays about this colorful subject matter. Written work is shared, discussed and revised, graded and revised again so that students can select their most polished work for submission for their final course grade. Note: class satisfies writing intensive general education requirement.

S, SS

GE-1C, 5 CD-Related

ANTH 285 (1-3) Special Topics

Courses to be offered just one time or on an irregular basis according to topic demand for a general interest, sophomore level course.

Variable

ANTH 290 (1-3) Exploratory Studies

Individual study at an introductory level on the topic of student's choice. Designed for students who wish to pursue independent study at the freshman-sophomore level rather than the more advanced level of the 499 individual study.

Pre: Consent Variable

ANTH 311 (3) Ancient Egypt

An in-depth study of ancient Egypt, focusing on the relationship between cultural development and the unique Egyptian environment of the time. Emphasis will be placed on the interpretation of archaeological discoveries in the area.

Variable

CD-Related

ANTH 322 (3) Evolution and Behavior

An examination of the biological basis of human behavior and organization from an evolutionary perspective.

Pre: ANTH 101 or 220 or consent Variable

ANTH 323 (3) Primate Behavior

An examination of the ecology, behavior and biology of living primates.

Pre: ANTH 101 or 220 or consent Variable

ANTH 331 (3) Human Adaptation Systems

An examination of the dynamics of human cultural adaptation and change. Cultural systems are analyzed from an evolutionary/ecological perspective tracing development of cultural systems from prehistoric times to the present. Systems modeling will be used to understand cultural systems. A minimum of 10 hours of computer lab time is required.

Variable

CD-Core

ANTH 332 (3) Anthropology of Religion

The variability and universality of human religious expression are explored in specific cross-cultural contexts.

F

CD-Core

ANTH 333 (3) Ethnographic Film

This course emphasizes the wealth of ethnographic information which may

be captured by visual media. You will learn how to interpret the final product and how to recognize the limitations of visual presentations.

Variable

CD-Core

ANTH 334 (3) Native American Cultures of North America

American Indians adapted to environmental systems in North America with cultures ranging from small groups of forager to cities supported by intensive agriculture. This course presents a variety of perspectives of this cultural diversity from the Ice Age to the 20th century.

Variable

CD-Core

ANTH 410 (3) Prehistory of Minnesota

An analysis of the prehistoric societies in Minnesota from the retreat of the last glacier to European contact. Emphasis will be placed on, but not limited to, archaeological results generated in Southern Minnesota.

Pre: ANTH 102 or consent Variable

CD-Related

ANTH 411 (3) Prehistory of North America

An overview of human society in North America north of Mexico from the arrival of the first humans until European contact. Some emphasis will be placed on the north central part of the continent.

Pre: ANTH 101, 102, or consent Variable

ANTH 412 (3) Prehistory of Latin America

An overview of South America and Middle America from the earliest human occupation until European contact. Some emphasis is placed on the development of agriculture and prehistoric state systems.

Pre: ANTH 101, 102, or consent Variable

ANTH 414 (3) Museology

A review of the history and philosophy of museums, the legal and ethical issues impacting museums, the nature and treatment of collections, creation, exhibition and exhibit design, the role of museums in education, museum personnel and financial management, and museums in the technological/electronic age.

Pre: ANTH 101, 210, or consent Variable

ANTH 415 (3) Cultural Resource Management

Review of how cultural resources are being preserved and managed under current laws and regulations. Emphasis on examination of conservation, preservation and rescue methods in modern archaeology, and problems and issues in historic preservation and resource management.

Pre: ANTH 101, 210 or consent Variable

ANTH 420 (3) Osteology/Forensic Anthropology

An advanced examination of the human skeletal system and the application of this information in forensic (legal, criminal, and epidemiologic) cases. Emphasis on laboratory techniques in osteological/forensic studies.

Pre: ANTH 220 or consent Variable

ANTH 421 (3) Health, Culture, and Disease

Cross-cultural examination of the response of peoples in non-Western societies to the human universal of illness. Non-Western concepts of disease, health, and treatment.

Pre: ANTH 101, 220, or consent Variable

CD-Core

ANTH 430 (3) Ethnography of Latin America

The contemporary peoples and cultures of Mexico and Central and South America. Emphasis is on cultural patterns and contemporary issues of the region.

Pre: ANTH 101, or 230, or consent S

CD-Core

ANTH 431 (3) Applied Cultural Research

This course introduces concepts and methods of applying socio-cultural

Anthropology

understanding to contemporary problems to bring about the empowerment of affected people. Case/field studies and other research methods in social sciences will change with special attention to its affect on disadvantaged groups of people. Students will also design their own applied projects.
Pre: ANTH 101, 230, or consent; ETHN 100, 101, or 150 or consent. Variable
CD-Related

ANTH 432 (3) Social Organization

Family and kinship are the basis for all human organization. This course explores the role of systems of relationship in both simple and complex cultures. It presents modern analysis of kinship systems including sociobiological, evolutionary, and feminist perspectives as well as traditional kin terminology and marriage and residence patterns.
Pre: ANTH 101, or 230, or consent Variable
CD-Core

ANTH 433 (3) Anthropology of Gender

Major anthropological theories of gender relations are read, discussed, and applied to a variety of contemporary ethnographic case studies.
Pre: ANTH 101, or 230, or consent S
CD-Core

ANTH 435 (3) Origins of Civilization

The conditions which led to the evolution of complex societies and the ramifications of the continuing processes are the focus of this course.
Pre: ANTH 101, or 230, or consent Variable

ANTH 436 (3) Anthropology of Aging

An evolutionary and cross-cultural examination of the aging process, status, and treatment of the elderly.
Pre: ANTH 101, 230, or 220, or consent Variable
CD-Related

ANTH 437 (3) Applied Anthropology

Examines the practical applications of anthropological knowledge to problem-oriented research and the problems of directed sociocultural change among contemporary populations. Selected projects and case studies are used to illustrate the complexity of applied sociocultural change.
Pre: ANTH 101, 230 or consent Variable

ANTH 438 (3) Anthropological Theory

Examination of the intellectual history of anthropology from its nineteenth century roots to today's current theoretical trends. Students will learn about the major schools of thought in anthropological theory and practice critical examination of their applications.
Pre: ANTH 101, 220 or consent F

ANTH 439 (3) Qualitative Research Methods

The aim of this course is to make students methodologically literate. Students will learn how to develop research designs that rely on qualitative research methods such as participant observation. They will learn how to apply these methods by participating in small scale studies of human behavior. Some quantitative methods will also be discussed. Students will learn critical examination of published data and conclusions.
Pre: 101, 220 or consent Variable

ANTH 480 (3-6) Fieldwork: Archaeology/Ethnology

Field experience in which method and theory are learned through participation in an ongoing field project.
Pre: Consent, or one of: ANTH 101, 102, or 220 Variable

ANTH 485 (1-3) Topics in Anthropology

This course allows faculty the flexibility to consider the challenges of new developments in anthropology. Content will vary from one course to the next. Students may take the course, with the permission of the instructor, more than one time.
Variable
CD-Related

ANTH 486 (1-3) Workshop

A brief intensive hands-on introduction to an anthropological topic usually as it applies to a particular issue or skill. Topics vary but might include: Understanding that race is not a scientific concept; combating racism and ethnocentrism; participant observation methods; culture shock; cultural diversity and communication; forensics; cultural resource conservation.
Pre: Depends on topic and instructor Variable
CD-Related

ANTH 490 (2) Senior Project

Nature and topic of the senior project is jointly determined by the student and faculty members. It may involve writing, laboratory work, fieldwork or various combinations. Planning for this project should begin early in the senior year. Students will present completed projects in a public forum. Must be taken twice/different semesters.
Pre: ANTH core courses and consent F, S

ANTH 491 (1-3) Archaeology Laboratory

An introduction to archaeological laboratory techniques and museological practice, through participation in the various processes involved.
Variable

ANTH 492 (1-3) Biological Anthropology Lab

Guided advanced laboratory work in biological/physical anthropology.
Pre: Consent Variable

ANTH 493 (1-3) Ethnology Lab

Individual projects are done in close coordination with faculty member.
Pre: Consent Variable
CD-Related

ANTH 495 (1-3) Honors Reading

Guided reading in topics of students and instructors interests. For students enrolled in Honors Program only.
Pre: Consent Variable

ANTH 496 (1-3) Senior Seminar

A special capstone course on current anthropological theory and method to be offered on demand to interested groups of senior majors and minors. The course will emphasize the integration synthesis and summary of the core course material and students' electives.
Pre: ANTH core courses and/or consent Variable

ANTH 497 (1-12) Internship

Positions may vary considerably, but all involve actual working conditions in various field positions such as museums, state parks, archaeological excavations and agencies.
Pre: Consent F, S

ANTH 499 (1-6) Individual Study

A specialized topic of the students' choices. Coordination with a faculty member is necessary.
Pre: Consent F, S
