

ANTHROPOLOGY

Anthropology

College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
Department of Anthropology
358 Trafton Science Center N • 507-389-6318
sbs.mnsu.edu/anthropology/

Chair: Kathleen Blue
Graduate Coordinator: Kathryn "Jay" Elliott

Faculty: J. Heath Anderson, Rhonda Dass, Chelsea Mead, Susan L. Schalge, Ronald Schirmer

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.

Academic Map/Degree Plan at www.mnsu.edu/programs/#All

POLICIES/INFORMATION

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.

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 Advising "U", 114 Armstrong Hall, telephone 507-389-6306, or by the department chair.

ANTHROPOLOGY BA

Degree completion = 120 credits

Prerequisites to the Major

ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology (4)

Major Common Core

ANTH 210 Introduction to Archaeology (4)
ANTH 220 Human Origins (4)
ANTH 230 Peoples and Cultures of the World (4)
ANTH 240 Language and Culture (4)
ANTH 300 Introduction of Anthropology Methods (3)
ANTH 438W Anthropological Theory (4)
ANTH 475 Senior Thesis (3)

ANTH 300 must be taken prior to ANTH 475. ANTH 475 Senior Thesis must be taken under the guidance of the student's advisor.

Major Restricted Electives

(Choose 9 credits from range of courses listed below with exclusion of courses listed in Major Common Core)

ANTH 102 - ANTH 499

Other Graduation Requirements

Required for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree ONLY: Language (8 credits)

Required Minor: Yes. Any.

ANTHROPOLOGY BS

Degree completion = 120 credits

Prerequisites to the Major

ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology (4)

Major Common Core

ANTH 210 Introduction to Archaeology (4)
ANTH 220 Human Origins (4)
ANTH 230 Peoples and Cultures of the World (4)
ANTH 240 Language and Culture (4)
ANTH 300 Introduction to Anthropology Methods (3)
ANTH 438W Anthropological Theory (4)
ANTH 475 Senior Thesis (3)

ANTH 300 must be taken prior to ANTH 475. ANTH 475 Senior Thesis must be taken under the guidance of the student's advisor.

Major Restricted Electives

(Choose 9 credits from range of courses listed below with exclusion of courses listed in Major Common Core)

ANTH 102 - ANTH 499

Required Minor: Yes. Any.

ANTHROPOLOGY MINOR

Required for Minor

ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology (4)

Required Core

(Choose a minimum of 8 credits from the following)

ANTH 210 Introduction to Archaeology (4)
ANTH 220 Human Origins (4)
ANTH 230 Peoples and Cultures of the World (4)
ANTH 240 Language and Culture (4)
ANTH 300 Introduction to Anthropology Methods (3)
ANTH 438W Anthropological Theory (4)

Required Electives for Minor

(Choose 6-10 credits from range of courses listed below with exclusion of courses taken in Required Core)

ANTH 102 - ANTH 499

GEOARCHEOLOGY CERTIFICATE

This certificate cross-trains students in archeology, geography, and geology to emphasize the necessity of understanding physical processes in places and regions as important vectors in shaping human habitation and resource use over time. The certificate prepares students to be highly competitive in either further education or the job market.

Major Common Core

Archeology Foundation

ANTH 210 Introduction to Archaeology (4)

Major Restricted Electives

Earth Science Foundation (choose 3-4 credits)

GEOG 101 Introductory Physical Geography (3)

GEOG 122 Earth History (4)

Archeology Electives (choose 3 credits)

ANTH 410 Archaeology of Minnesota (3)

ANTH 411 Archaeology of Native North America (3)

ANTH 412 Archaeology of Latin America (3)

ANTH 416 Archeological Methods (3)

Earth Science Electives (choose 6-8 credits)

GEOG 315 Geomorphology (3)

GEOG 411 Soils Geomorphology (3)

GEOG 415 Earth Surface Processes (4)

GEOG 416 Fluvial Geomorphology and Hydrology (4)

GEOG 201 Elements of Mineralogy (4)

GEOG 320W Sedimentology and Stratigraphy (4)

MUSEUM STUDIES CERTIFICATE

The aim of this program is to provide a perspective on the theory and practice of museums in an expanding global environment of technological, social and political change for current and future museum professionals. It emphasizes the role of technology as a pervasive aspect in today's museum, examines new models of education, exhibition, and business strategies, and explores the role of the museum as an agent of social change.

We welcome students interested in all types of museums including history, technology, science, art, special topic or themed museums, historic sites, national parks, and zoos, and those interested in exhibitions for corporations, government agencies, and

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private organizations.

Required for Certificate

ART	265VV	Art As Politics (3)
MUSE	200WV	Introduction to Museum Studies (3)
NPL	273	Introduction to the Nonprofit Sector (3)

Major Restricted Electives (choose 6 credits)

AIS	455	Museum Science and Representation (3)
ANTH	414	Museology (3)
ANTH	415	Cultural Resource Management (3)
ART	434	Arts Administration (3)
ART	464	Art Museum and Exhibition Studies (3)
MUSE	497	Internship (1-6)
MUSE	499	Individual Study (1-6)
NPL	473	Advanced Workshop in Nonprofit Leadership (3)
PHIL	460	Philosophy of the Arts (3)
RPLS	465	Event Management (3)
URBS	453	Grants Administration (3)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ANTH 101 (4) 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?"
Fall, Spring
GE-5, GE-8
Diverse Cultures - Purple

ANTH 102 (4) 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.
GE-5, GE-10

ANTH 120 (3) Forensic Science: An Anthropological Approach

This anthropology course explores the areas of anatomical forensic science. Students will learn the techniques and methodology involved in collection, preservation, and analysis of evidence pertaining to human remains. The course will include such subjects as analysis of skeletal trauma, victim identification, bite-mark analysis, and crime scene recovery methods. Ethics and standards in medico-legal investigations will also be stressed.
GE-3

ANTH 210 (4) 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. Lab included.
GE-3, GE-10,
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. Lab included.
Fall
GE-3

ANTH 230 (4) Peoples and Cultures of the World

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.
Fall, Spring
GE-8
Diverse Cultures - Purple

ANTH 240 (4) 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.
Spring
GE-5, GE-8
Diverse Cultures - Gold

ANTH 245 (3) The Social Life of Swearing

What qualifies a word as "bad"? How does profanity, cursing, and swearing evolve across time and vary across cultures? Where does the power of these "bad" words come from? What relationship do these words have to issues of gender, race, and class? This course examines the historical evolution and modern usage of obscenities to answer these questions.
GE-7, GE-9
Fall (On Demand), Spring (On Demand), Summer (On Demand)
Diverse Cultures - Purple

ANTH 250W (4) Portraits of Culture

Survey of human cultures through a variety of classic and contemporary anthropological writing and film. Students write weekly reflections. Written work is shared, discussed, and revised.
Spring, Summer
WI, GE-5
Diverse Cultures - Purple

ANTH 260 (3) Vampires, Werewolves, and Zombies: Folklore of Fear

Fear and how we depict it in popular culture. Course examines folklore traditions and how they translate in contemporary storytelling formats.
Variable
GE-5, GE-8
Diverse Cultures - Purple

ANTH 261 (3) Taboos, Tattoos, and T-shirts: Culture and Body Art

People all around the world use tattoos, piercing, makeup and dress codes as symbolic tools to represent their ideas of self, or as a means of gender, ethnicity, and class control and domination. This course looks at how people express connection to and disconnection from culture through body art practices.
Alt-Fall
GE 5, GE-8
Diverse Cultures - Purple

ANTH 269 (3) Anthropology of Sex

Sex and our relationship with it. This course examines the topics of sex, sexuality, and gender by exploring the diverse range of sexual cultures of the world in the past and the present. Attention is given to the role of language, biology, culture, and the archeological record of societies's fascination with sex.
Fall (On Demand), Spring (On Demand), Summer (On Demand)
GE-5, GE-7
Diverse Cultures - Purple

ANTH 280 (3) Engaged Anthropology

Engaged Anthropology is a multidimensional service-learning course designed to facilitate real-world learning experiences for students on broad social issues; practice a variety of anthropological concepts, theories, and methods; and provide service to the local community.
Prerequisite: ANTH 101, ANTH 230, or instructor Permission.
GE-7, GE-11
Diverse Cultures - Gold

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 first year-sophomore level rather than the more advanced level of the ANTH 499 individual study.
Prerequisite: Consent
Variable

ANTH 300 (3) Introduction to Anthropology Methods

This course examines the methodologies of all four fields of Anthropology. Students will gain practical experience in various methods that professionals utilize on a regular basis within the discipline. Discussions of the issues surrounding various anthropological methods will be part of this course.
Prerequisite: ANTH 101
Fall

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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

ANTH 323 (3) Primate Behavior

An examination of the ecology, behavior, and biology of living primates.
Prerequisite: ANTH 101 or ANTH 220 or consent
Variable

ANTH 331 (3) Environmental Anthropology

This course focuses on studying the diversity of human societies using environmental approaches such as evolutionary/ecological perspectives and systems modeling. Case studies will be drawn from Native American cultures.

ANTH 332 (3) Anthropology of Religion

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

Fall
Diverse Cultures - Purple

ANTH 333 (3) Ethnographic Film

This course emphasizes the wealth of ethnographic information which may be captured by visual media. Students will learn how to interpret the final product and how to recognize the limitations of visual presentations.
Variable

ANTH 335 (3) People and Cultures of Sub-Saharan Africa

A survey of the people and cultures of Sub-Saharan Africa examining the rich sociocultural diversity of the continent over time.
Even Years: Fall; On Demand: Spring, Summer

ANTH 340 (4) Language and Power

Language is powerful. What we say, how we say it, where we say it, and to whom we say it matters. This course explores the connection between power, language, performance, and identity. The relationships between language, gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic class are explored by investigating historical and present day sources of language practices and events.
GE-5, GE-7
On Demand: Fall, Spring, Summer
Diverse Cultures - Purple

ANTH 398 (0) CPT: Co-Operative Experience

Curricular Practical Training: Co-Operative Experience is a zero-credit full-time practical training experience for one summer and on adjacent fall or spring term. Special rules apply to preserve full-time student status. Please contact an advisor in your program for complete information.
Prerequisite: At least 60 credits earned; in good standing; instructor permission; co-op contract; other prerequisites may also apply.
Fall, Spring, Summer

ANTH 410 (3) Archaeology of Minnesota

A detailed study of Minnesota archaeology from ca.12,000 years ago to ca.1900, with a focus on diverse and changing Native American populations.

ANTH 411 (3) Archaeology of Native North America

A survey of current knowledge about the prehistoric Native American inhabitants of North America from ca.15,000 years ago until ca.1900. Topics will focus on the processes of cultural development, change, and disruption by Euro-American influences.

ANTH 412 (3) Archaeology of Latin America

A detailed study of Latin American archaeology from ca.12,000 years ago to ca.1900, with a focus on diverse and changing Native American populations.

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.
Prerequisite: ANTH 101, ANTH 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.
Prerequisite: ANTH 101, ANTH 210 or consent
Variable

ANTH 416 (3) Archeological Methods

An intensive exploration of how to identify, catalogue, and curate archeological materials in a laboratory setting. Topics will include lithics, pottery, faunal, floral, metal, and other materials as well as data structure and recordation.
Fall (On Demand)

ANTH 420 (3) Human Osteology

An advanced examination of the human skeletal system and the application of this information in the fields of bioarchaeology, paleoanthropology, and forensic anthropology. This course features hands-on identification and analysis of human skeletal material, with an emphasis on laboratory techniques.

ANTH 421W (3) Health, Culture, and Disease

Cross-cultural examination of the healing traditions, health beliefs and the impact of social, economic and political factors on the health of peoples in different cultures around the world and among diverse ethnic groups within culturally plural societies, including the United States.
Variable
VI
Diverse Cultures - Purple

ANTH 422 (3) Forensic Anthropology

This course will acquaint students with the application of human osteological techniques in civil and criminal investigations, including assessment of the recovery scene, determination of identity, and analysis of evidence relating to cause and manner of death.
Prerequisite: ANTH 420

ANTH 423 (3) Evolution and Behavior

An examination of the biological basis of human behavior and organization from an evolutionary perspective.
Prerequisite: ANTH 101 or ANTH 220 or consent
Variable

ANTH 424 (3) Bioarchaeology

Bioarchaeology focuses on the diet, health, and occupations of past populations through the analysis of their skeletal remains. Readings and lab work will promote a practical understanding of the methods used in the discipline.
Variable

ANTH 425W (3) Anthropology of Death

The biological and cultural aspects of death, as seen anthropologically, are the focus of this course. Mortuary behavior, ritual, and treatment of the human body will be addressed both temporally and cross-culturally.
Variable
VI

ANTH 430 (3) Peoples and Cultures 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.
Prerequisite: ANTH 101, ANTH 230, or consent
Spring

ANTH 431 (3) Applied Cultural Research

This course introduces concepts and methods of applying socio-cultural 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.
Prerequisite: ANTH 101, ANTH 230, or consent; ETHN 100, ETHN 101, or ETHN 150 or consent.
Variable

ANTH 432 (3) Kinship, Marriage and Family

Kinship is the most basic principle of organization for all human societies. This course analyzes the main theories and methods of studying social organization, and explores cross-cultural variations in kinship, marriage and family systems.

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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.

Prerequisite: ANTH 101, ANTH 230, or consent

Spring

ANTH 435 (3) The Rise of City-States and Nations

A pivotal moment in cultural development is when city-states and nations arrive to change the structure of a cultural group. This course has varying topics to present each cultural area in its unique context. May be repeated with different topic.

Variable

ANTH 436W (3) Anthropology of Aging

A cross-cultural examination of the aging process, status, and treatment of elders around the world.

Prerequisite: ANTH 101, ANTH 230, or ANTH 220, or consent

Variable

WI

Diverse Cultures - Purple

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.

Prerequisite: ANTH 101, ANTH 230 or consent

Variable

ANTH 438W (4) 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.

Fall

WI

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.

Prerequisite: ANTH 101, ANTH 220 or consent

Variable

ANTH 440 (3) Native American Cultures of North America

American Indians adapted to environmental systems in North America with cultures ranging from small groups of foragers 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

ANTH 443W (3) People and Cultures of East Asia

Survey of East Asian cultural region. Cultural diversity, change, and continuity examined in China, Japan and Korea through institutions and cultural settings. Focus includes how modern East Asian societies face internal social changes and their changing international status.

Variable

WI

Diverse Cultures - Purple

ANTH 470 (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.

Prerequisite: ANTH 491 or ANTH 492 or ANTH 493 or ANTH 494

Fall, Spring

ANTH 475 (3) Senior Thesis

A faculty-supervised, student-designed capstone project for the major. Students will take ANTH 475 after completing ANTH 300. The nature of the student's thesis will be determined jointly by the student and their advisor. The capstone project is a written thesis involving writing, laboratory work, fieldwork or various combinations. Students must present completed thesis in a public forum.

Prerequisite: ANTH 300

Fall Spring

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

Field experience in which method and theory are learned through participation in an ongoing field project.

Prerequisite: Consent, or one of: ANTH 101, ANTH 102, or ANTH 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

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.

Prerequisite: Depends on topic and instructor

Variable

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

Prerequisite: Consent

Variable

ANTH 493 (1-3) Ethnology Lab

Individual projects are done in close coordination with faculty member.

Prerequisite: Consent

Variable

ANTH 494 (1-3) Linguistic Lab

Individual projects are done in close coordination with faculty member.

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.

Prerequisite: 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.

Prerequisite: Consent

Fall, Spring

ANTH 498 (1-3) Internship: Teaching Anthropology

Students will work with faculty in the preparation and delivery of course materials in lower division undergraduate courses. Lecture/lab prep, delivery, use of multimedia, leading discussions and exercises. Open to senior majors and minors in good standing.

On Demand

ANTH 499 (1-6) Individual Study

A specialized topic of the students' choices. Coordination with a faculty member is necessary.

Prerequisite: Consent

Fall, Spring

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MUSE 200W (3) Introduction to Museum Studies

Introduces history of museums and philosophical nature of museums, covering types and definitions of museums, discusses contemporary practice in museums, and examines current issues in the profession as we face the future of museums in the twenty-first century.

Variable

WI, GE-5, GE-8

MUSE 497 (1-6) Internship

Arranged internship allows students to have a hands on experience applying theories and methodology from course work in the field to area of interest. Requires coordination with a faculty member.

On Demand

MUSE 499 (1-6) Individual Study

This course allows pursuit of individual avenues of study that may not be offered in the curriculum and for advanced level pursuit of special projects of research on an independent basis. Requires coordination with a faculty member.

On Demand