

# ANTHROPOLOGY

## THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

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### DEGREES OFFERED: BA, MA, PHD

The major in anthropology has three areas of concentration: cultural studies of science, technology, and medicine; culture, language, and media; and archaeology. The focus in the first two areas is on contemporary theoretical issues. By reading primary sources, students gain an exposure to the styles of argument and reasoning of a broad range of theorists. They can engage in the ongoing discussion and definition of central problems within the field. Fieldwork and ethnography are important in the doctoral research.

In archaeology, the focus is on research skills in the library, the field, and the laboratory. Most students also develop at least one analytical skill, such as remote sensing, archaeological statistics, osteology, or geomorphology, drawing on the university's extensive laboratory and computer facilities.

Students may organize a major in one or more fields or combine a major in anthropology with one in another discipline.

### DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA IN ANTHROPOLOGY

For general requirements, see Graduation Requirements (pages 16–19).

Students majoring in anthropology must:

- Complete a total of 30 semester hours of approved courses (10 hours), at least 24 of which should be anthropology courses and at least 18 hours of which should be taken at the 300-level or above.
- Pass 2 of the following 4 introductory courses:
  - ANTH 200 *Introduction to the Scientific Study of Language*
  - ANTH 201 *Introduction to Social–Cultural Anthropology*
  - ANTH 203 *Human Antiquity*
  - ANTH 205 *Introduction to Archaeology*
- Pass 3 courses in any one of the following three categories:

**Archaeological Studies**

- ANTH 210 *Anthropology of Death*  
 ANTH 312 *African Prehistory*  
 ANTH 345 *Politics of the Past*  
 ANTH 355 *Landscape Archaeology*  
 ANTH 362 *Archaeological Field Techniques*  
 ANTH 442 *Museums: Theory and Practice*  
 ANTH 456 *Heritage Management*  
 ANTH 458 *Human Osteology*

**Cultural Studies of Science, Technology, and Medicine**

- ANTH 235 *Nanotechnology: Content and Context*  
 ANTH 298 *Biotechnology, 1900 to Now*  
 ANTH 314 *Genetics: Science and Society*  
 ANTH 315 *Anthropology of Information and Networks*  
 ANTH 345 *Politics of the Past*  
 ANTH 352 *Interscientific Collaboration*  
 ANTH 366 *Science, Local and Global*  
 ANTH 375 *Abracadabra*  
 ANTH 381 *Medical Anthropology*  
 ANTH 386 *Medicine, Food, and Health*  
 ANTH 440 *Biology and Culture*

- ANTH 442 *Museums: Theory and Practice*  
 ANTH 446 *Advanced Seminar in Medical Anthropology*  
 ANTH 455 *Introduction to Science and Technology Studies*

**Culture, Language and Media**

- ANTH 210 *Anthropology of Death*  
 ANTH 302 *Anthropological Theory*  
 ANTH 309 *Global Cultures*  
 ANTH 319 *Symbolism and Power*  
 ANTH 320 *Public Spheres and Public Cultures*  
 ANTH 321 *Text as Property, Property as Text*  
 ANTH 329 *Bodies, Sensualities, and Art*  
 ANTH 347 *The U.S. as a Foreign Country*  
 ANTH 351 *Cultures of Nationalism*  
 ANTH 352 *Interscientific Collaboration*  
 ANTH 366 *Science, Local and Global*  
 ANTH 372 *Cultures of Capitalism*  
 ANTH 375 *Abracadabra*  
 ANTH 413 *Postsocialism*  
 ANTH 430 *Experimental Writing*  
 ANTH 483 *Documentary and Ethnographic Film*

- Pass the appropriate research course(s):

**For students specializing in Cultural Studies of Science, Technology, and Medicine or Culture, Language, and Media:**

- ANTH 495 *Anthropology Capstone*, or  
 ANTH 490 and 491 *Directed Honors Research*

**For students specializing in Archaeological Studies:**

- ANTH 562 *Archaeological Field Techniques*

With the approval of the undergraduate advisor, students may substitute for departmental courses at most 6 hours of courses from outside the major that are related to their plan of study. The department recommends that students intending to pursue graduate study acquire a reading knowledge of one or two European languages.

**Honors Program**—Majors considering a career in anthropology should apply to the honors program, as should those who wish to include advanced training and an intensive, individual research project in their undergraduate education. Anthropology faculty determine acceptance into the program. More information is available from the department office; see also Honors Programs (page 28).

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL ON GORÉE ISLAND, SENEGAL

The Department of Anthropology offers a 6-week field school in June and July on the island of Gorée, located off the coast of Senegal, just a short ferry ride away from the capital city of Dakar. The field school excavations are part of ongoing investigations into the growth and development of Gorée as a supply port for the Atlantic trade, occupied and serviced by a polycultural population of slaves, Europeans, mainland Africans, and mixed-race female landowners, known as *signares*. Two courses, ANTH 364 and 370, are offered for a total of 6 hours credit. The courses are offered without specific prerequisites, but there is a general requirement that students have some prior coursework in archaeology or African history. Program fees apply.

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR MA AND PHD IN ANTHROPOLOGY

Because each field of specialization offers different opportunities for training and different research orientations, the department seeks applicants with a defined interest in either cultural anthropology or archaeology; an undergraduate background in anthropology is desirable but not required. Entering students devise a detailed 1st-year plan of study and provisional plans for succeeding years in consultation with an advisor. The plan should emphasize broad training in the selected field before the eventual definition of a project for dissertation research. For general university requirements, see Graduate Degrees (pages 61–62).

**MA Program**—Graduate students may earn the MA after obtaining approval of their candidacy for the PhD. For the MA as a terminal degree, students must complete:

- 30 semester hours of approved course work
- 1 of the 3 special papers required for the PhD
- A thesis

**PhD Program**—For the PhD degree, students must accomplish the following:

- Complete 3 substantial papers, each emphasizing an analytical, research, and writing skill appropriate to their field of specialization (should be completed during the first 2 years of study)
- Demonstrate reading competency in 1 foreign language
- Prepare a satisfactory proposal for dissertation research, based in substantial part on field research
- Complete and defend the dissertation

**Special Options**—The department will arrange seminars and tutorials on any topic relevant to a student's training; these seminars may be conducted in supervisory consultation with scholars in other disciplines as well as with adjunct faculty. Students interested in the specialized field of medical anthropology may take advantage of the extensive resources of the Texas Medical Center through ties established with the University of Texas School of Public Health and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences; students may earn degree credit for formal courses taken at both schools.

**Financial Support**—All 1st-year students receive the same level of support: a combination of graduate fellowships and tuition scholarships. These awards are renewed for a further 3 years of study.

**See ANTH in the Courses of Instruction section.**