Anthropology
The School of Social Sciences

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:

Chair
Eugenia Georges

Professors
James D. Faubion
Susan Keech McIntosh
Stephen A. Tyler

Professors Emeriti
George E. Marcus
Roderick J. McIntosh
Julie M. Taylor

Assistant Professors
Tarek Elhaik
Jeffrey B. Fleisher
Amy Ninetto
Elizabeth F. Vann

Adjunct Professors
George E. Marcus
Patricia Seed

Adjunct Associate Professor
Deepa Reddy
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.