

ANTHROPOLOGY

THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

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DEGREES OFFERED: BA, MA, PHD

The major in anthropology has three areas of concentration: culture, language, and media; knowledge, power, and institutions; and archaeological studies. 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

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 two of the following four introductory courses:
 - ANTH 200 *Introduction to the Scientific Study of Language*
 - ANTH 201 *Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology*
 - ANTH 203 *Human Antiquity*
 - ANTH 205 *Introduction to Archaeology*
- Pass three courses in one of the following 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*

Culture, Language, and Media

ANTH 210 *Anthropology of Death*
ANTH 212 *Perspectives on Modern Asia*
ANTH 302 *Anthropological Theory*
ANTH 320 *Public Spheres and Public Cultures*
ANTH 329 *Bodies, Sensualities, and Art*
ANTH 333 *The Material World*
ANTH 351 *Cultures of Nationalism*
ANTH 361 *Latin American Topics*
ANTH 372 *Cultures of Capitalism*
ANTH 385 *Media, Culture, and Society*
ANTH 398 *Ethnographic Research Methods*

ANTH 413 *Postsocialism*

ANTH 483 *Documentary and Ethnographic Film*

Knowledge, Power, and Institutions

ANTH 302 *Anthropological Theory*
ANTH 319 *Symbolism and Power*
ANTH 320 *Public Spheres and Public Cultures*
ANTH 329 *Bodies, Sensualities, and Art*
ANTH 345 *Politics of the Past*
ANTH 347 *The U.S. as a Foreign Country*
ANTH 349 *The Anthropology of Ethics*
ANTH 352 *Interscientific Collaboration*
ANTH 361 *Latin America Topics*
ANTH 366 *Science, Local and Global*
ANTH 372 *Cultures of Capitalism*
ANTH 381 *Medical Anthropology*
ANTH 398 *Ethnographic Research Methods*
ANTH 442 *Museums: Theory and Practice*
ANTH 445 *Experts and Expertise*
ANTH 446 *Advanced Seminar in Medical Anthropology*

- Pass the appropriate research course(s):

For students specializing in Knowledge, Power and Institutions 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*

Students may petition the undergraduate advisor to apply up to six semester hours of relevant work completed outside anthropology toward satisfaction of the major.

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 (Undergraduate Students section, pages 14–15).

A minor in anthropology requires the successful completion of six courses:

- Any two of the following:

ANTH 200 *Introduction to the Scientific Study of Language*

ANTH 201 *Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology*

ANTH 203 *Human Antiquity*

ANTH 205 *Introduction to Archaeology*

- Four other ANTH courses, three of which must be at the 300 level or above

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

The Department of Anthropology offers a six-week field school in June and July in sub-Saharan Africa, alternating between eastern and western locales. Past field schools have been on the island of Gorée, located off the coast of Senegal, where research focused on the development of Gorée as a supply port for the Atlantic trade, and at Songo Mnara, a 15th-century Swahili urban center on the southern Tanzanian coast. This course, ANTH 374, is offered for a total of six hours of credit. The course is offered without specific prerequisites, but there is a general requirement that students have some prior course work 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 first-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 (Graduate Students section, pages 3–4).

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
- One of the three special papers required for the PhD
- A thesis

PhD Program—For the PhD degree, students must accomplish the following (in addition to the university requirements):

- Required course work for social-cultural students: 90 semester hours of graduate study (undergraduate courses, including language courses, do not satisfy this requirement)
- Seven Required courses

ANTH 506 *History of Anthropological Ideas*

ANTH 507 *Anthropological Directions from Second World War to the Present*

ANTH 552 *Interscientific Collaboration: A Research Practicum*

or

ANTH 598 *Ethnographic Research Methods*

ANTH 601 *Graduate Proseminar in Anthropology*

ANTH 602 *Anthropology Proposal Writing Seminar*

ANTH 615 *Theories of Modernity/Postmodernity*

or

ANTH 616 *Classical Social Theory and Its Ecologies*

ANTH 650 *Pedagogy* (one semester; a minimum of 18 hours of graduate credit is required in order to be eligible to take this course)

4 DEPARTMENTS / Anthropology

- Advance to candidacy
- Complete and defend the dissertation

Requirements for candidacy (and thus eligibility for an automatic MA), to be completed no later than the end of the eighth semester of enrollment in the program:

- Successful completion of all required courses. Students must receive at least a B (3.0) in a course for the department to deem it successfully completed.
- The approval by a faculty committee (chosen among the regular [i.e. tenured or tenure-track] faculty at Rice) of three major papers:
 - * one concerning some issue of research design;
 - * one concerning an issue of theory or theorization;
 - * one an annotated bibliography of the substantive research relevant to the PhD project.

One of the first two of these papers should be written in the format and in conformity with the requirements of one of the major journals in the field.

- The committee's approval of the proposal for the PhD.
- For students not bilingual, the passing of an examination (requiring the translation of at least 1,000 words into English in a period of 90 minutes, with the help of a dictionary) either of the language relevant to the field or of a major scholarly language, such as French, German, or Spanish.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN ANTHROPOLOGY

Six classes total (18 credits)

Required classes:

Any two of the following:

- ANTH 200 *Introduction to the Scientific Study of Language*
- ANTH 201 *Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology*
- ANTH 203 *Human Antiquity*
- ANTH 205 *Introduction to Archaeology*

Elective classes:

- Four other ANTH courses, three of which must be at the 300 level or above

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 first-year students receive the same level of support: a combination of graduate fellowships and tuition scholarships. These awards are renewed for a further three years of study contingent on satisfactory performance.

See ANTH in the Courses of Instruction section.