

Anthropology Major

www.pitt.edu/~pittanth/undergrad

Revised: 09/2017

Anthropology is concerned with how humans and human societies evolve, with the differences and similarities among human cultures, and with the cultural and biological basis for human behavior. It integrates a wide range of perspectives on human behavior, culture, and society. Students will become familiar with the basic concerns of four sub-fields of anthropology: archaeology, physical anthropology, cultural anthropology, and anthropological linguistics.

The archaeology program offers courses covering many geographic regions (Latin America, North America, China, and Europe, among others), techniques of analysis, and issues in prehistory. Opportunities for student involvement in archaeological work are provided through museum collections, participation in research with faculty and graduate students, and a periodic summer field school.

The physical anthropology program offers classes on evolutionary theory, human genetics, osteoarchaeology, forensic anthropology, and human and nonhuman primate evolution, anatomy and morphology.

Cultural anthropology is represented by a wide variety of courses on culture areas including the Pacific, Latin America, China, Japan and South Asia, Eastern Europe and the United States. Classes provide cross-cultural studies of topics such as medical anthropology, food, social and political organization, sex roles, kinship, ethnicity, folklore, and religion.

Linguistic Anthropology examines language, and other semiotic systems, as forms of practice through which social relations, cultural forms, and beliefs are constituted. Courses are offered on language and the emotions; ritual performance; language shifts and code-switching; connections between language, ethnicity, cognition, nationalism, and political systems; orality and literacy; and analysis of changing media forms. Courses examine dominant, minority, and endangered languages with particular regional reference to Asia, The Pacific, and Europe.

Required courses for the Anthropology major

The anthropology major requires the completion of 33 credits distributed as follows. Students must complete two of the three primary introductory courses in Anthropology (ANTH 0582, ANTH 0680, and ANTH 0780) with a grade of C or better prior to declaring this major. This major has been revised recently. Students who declared the major in Anthropology prior to fall 2017 can fulfill the former requirements for 30 credits with no required history and methods courses.

Core courses

ANTH 0582 Archaeology
ANTH 0680 Physical Anthropology
ANTH 0780 Cultural Anthropology

History of Anthropology course

ANTH 1552 History of Anthropological Thought

One Methods course; these are offered in each sub-discipline

ANTH 1534 Archaeological Data Analysis
ANTH 1537 Basic Laboratory Analysis
ANTH 1556 Zooarchaeology
ANTH 1601 Structure and Function
ANTH 1602 Human Skeletal Analysis
ANTH 1605 Primate Anatomy
ANTH 1609 Advanced Skeletal Analysis
ANTH 1617 Paleopathology
ANTH 1763 Field Methods in Cultural Anthropology

One Undergraduate Seminar course

ANTH 1750 or other Undergraduate Seminar

Elective courses

Students are required to complete a minimum of five courses in ANTH courses; three of these courses must be at the 1000 level.

Grade requirements: A minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses is required for graduation.

Satisfactory/No Credit option: No course that counts toward the major can be taken on an S/NC basis.

Writing (W) requirement: Students must complete at least one (1) W course in the major.

Related area: A minimum of 12 credits is required in any one (1) Arts and Sciences department or in a thematic cluster chosen in consultation with the major advisor. The completion of an official Arts and Sciences minor or an Arts and Sciences or CIS certificate also satisfies this requirement.

Recommended: We highly recommend a field school course for undergraduate majors.

Honors major requirements: Students with a minimum overall GPA of 3.25 and a minimum GPA of 3.5 in their Anthropology courses will be graduated from the department with honors, pending the submission and acceptance of a paper representing substantial student research. The honors paper may be the expanded version of a paper from a current or previous course, or may result from independent research.

Undergraduate Anthropology Club

This organization offers workshops, hosts informal discussions, shows films, and organizes field trips for Anthropology majors and those interested in Anthropology. For additional information, contact the Undergraduate Anthropology Club via mailbox in WWPH 3302.

Advising: Majors are entered into the anthropology advising organization on Courseweb where current information on opportunities for research, funding, and experiential opportunities can be found.

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Checklist for the Anthropology major

Required courses

_____ ANTH 0582
_____ ANTH 0680
_____ ANTH 0780
_____ ANTH 1552
_____ ANTH Methods course
_____ ANTH 1750 **or** other Undergraduate Seminar

Elective courses

_____ ANTH _____
_____ ANTH _____
_____ ANTH 1000 level _____
_____ ANTH 1000 level _____
_____ ANTH 1000 level _____