

Anthropology

Department of Sociology & Anthropology

Students earning a B.S. in anthropology obtain a broad, anthropological perspective on the study of humankind. As part of the curriculum, students are expected to become familiar with and understand the interrelationships among the diverse aspects of our humanity – both present and past. These include the biological evolution of our species, the adaptive advantage of human symbolic capacities and technological abilities, and the development of culture from earliest recognizable traces through the emergence of complex civilizations. Historical concerns include investigations of the diversity of human languages, the relationship between language and world view, the ethnography of speech practices, the cultural construction of the social and physical world, and the social and structural relationships that people use to make sense out of their daily activities. These concepts are introduced and applied through course offerings in the four sub-fields of anthropology: social/cultural anthropology, archaeology, evolutionary/biological anthropology, and linguistic anthropology. Students work closely with faculty to gain a well-grounded knowledge of anthropological theories and methods that allows them to pursue research in one or more sub-fields of study.

Anthropology is a diverse field that provides students with a solidly-grounded liberal arts education. At the same time it is a cornerstone for understanding issues of diversity in an increasingly global world. In order to gain the skills needed to pursue research, students will learn how to think critically, read in a discerning manner, formulate logical arguments, and write in a coherent fashion. The B.S. degree in Anthropology prepares students for graduate work in this discipline. Graduate degrees are typically required for professional participation in this field. In addition to professional employment as research scientists or college-level professors, anthropologists often find positions as consultants, teachers, museum curators, or as specialists in historic preservation. Equally, domestic and foreign assignments with international, federal, or state agencies and institutions, and jobs in private industry, are available. Anthropologists are also found in public service organizations, medical and public health programs, environmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and in positions that require community organizing abilities or ethnographic and social survey research skills.

While students are not required to apply for formal admission to the anthropology program, students must obtain a grade of C- or better in all Anthropology courses in order to receive credit toward graduation. Before enrolling in 300 and 400 level ANTY courses, Anthropology majors must have completed the following university core courses: WRIT 101W, University Seminar, and Math Core. Students who enroll in anthropology courses without the required core or anthropology prerequisite(s) must obtain the permission of the instructor. Otherwise, those students will be required to withdraw from the course.

Academic advisors in anthropology work closely with each student to establish a viable educational plan. Ongoing interactions between students and advisors ensure that a student's educational objectives are being met as she or he moves toward a degree.

Undergraduate Programs

- B.S. in Anthropology (<http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/anthropology/bs-anthropology>)
- Anthropology Minor (non-teaching) (<http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/anthropology/anthropology-minor-nonteaching>)