PROGRAM IN ANTHROPOLOGY

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The study of anthropology encourages students to develop a breadth of knowledge about human cultures and their physical and social environments, and an understanding of the diversity of human historical and contemporary experience.

The minor in anthropology provides an introduction to the four fields of anthropology and an overview of the research methodologies and the theoretical paradigms of the discipline. Required elective courses enable students to pursue their particular interests.

TEACHER PREPARATION

Courses in Anthropology contribute to the Education minor and licensing areas for English as a Second Language (ESL) and Bilingual/Bicultural Education (BBE). ANTH 141 People and Nature or ANTH 253 Survey I: Culture and Language may be used to fulfill the requirements focused on culture for ESL/BBE.

Minor in Anthropology—ANTH (15–17 hours)

All of the following:

ANTH 253 Survey I: Culture and Language (3)
ANTH 254 Survey II: Human Prehistory (3)
GLST 364 Global Research and Discovery (3)

Two of the following:

ANTH 230 Anthropology of Race and Racism (3)
ANTH 346 Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective (3)
ANTH 390 Topics in Cultural Anthropology (selected topics) (3)
ANTH 391 Topics in Archaeology (selected topics) (3)
ANTH 455 Politics of Multiculturalism (3)
ANTH 497 Independent Study in Anthropology (1–3)
ANTH 499 Anthropological Internship (3)
BIO 270* Environments of Ecuador (3)
BIO 312* Evolution (3)
BIO 313* Economic Botany (3)
BIO 316* Conservation Biology (4)
BIO 320* Parasitology (4)
BIO 323* Ecology (4)
ENVS 171 Introduction to Environmental Science (3)
RLST 307 Leviticus and Numbers: Cultural Interpretations (3)

NOTE: Courses noted with an asterisk (*) carry prerequisites. Consult the departmental listing in the Bulletin for more details.

ANTHROPOLOGY COURSES (ANTH)

141 People and Nature (3)

This Critical Thinking Seminar introduces students to the depth and breadth of human diversity and to the methods anthropologists use to study human diversity. Organized around the material, ecological, and ideological interplay between cultures, this course focuses on the divergent ways that peoples of the world have adapted to their environments, created communities, moderated conflicts, developed cosmologies, and expressed creativity.

253 Survey I: Culture and Language (3)

A survey of sociocultural anthropology and anthropological linguistics. The course takes a comparative approach to the study of culture. Topics include: family, kinship, and marriage; cultural ecology and economics; political organization; gender roles and socialization; religion and ritual; and culture change. Basic concepts, methods of research, and analytic perspectives are introduced.

254 Survey II: Human Prehistory (3)

A survey of physical anthropology and archaeology. The course follows an evolutionary approach to the development of human life and culture. Topics include: human genetics; comparative primatology; the fossil record; the emergence of human culture; and prehistoric and historic archaeology. Basic concepts, methods of research, and analytic perspectives are introduced.

320 Anthropology of Race and Racism (3)

An introduction to anthropological approaches to race and racism, this course explores why race persists as a powerful social force and cultural idea despite its fallacy as a biological concept. Topics covered include: biological diversity, racial hierarchies around the world; historical and contemporary intersections of race and sexuality; and racism in everyday language use.

346 Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective (3)

This course introduces students to anthropological theories and methods for the critical analysis of gendered structures of inequality globally. By comparing culture-specific ideas and practices, anthropology provides a unique lens for understanding the cultural construction of gender identity. As we explore gender identity cross-culturally, students will also discover their own culturally formed, taken for granted, notions of the role of gender. Topics explored include: the saliency of the categories man and woman; the relationships between race and gender; the role of colonialism and neocolonialism in the representation of gender, sex and sexuality; and the role of gender in the family and the household, the realm of religion and the world of work.

390 Topics in Cultural Anthropology (3)

The presentation of selected subjects in cultural anthropology not included in regular departmental offerings. The course content and format will be determined by student and faculty interest. Materials may be organized variously according to culture area, theme, or issue. Prerequisites established by the instructor. May be repeated with a different topic.

390 Topics in Archaeology (3)

The presentation of selected subjects in archaeology not included in regular departmental offerings. The course content and format will be determined by student and faculty interest. Materials may be organized variously according to culture area, theme, or issue. Prerequisite established by the instructor. May be repeated with a different topic.

435 Politics of Multiculturalism (3)

An advanced seminar that engages the critical study of multiculturalism around the world, this course explores debates for and against multicultural policies in liberal democracies. An extensive study of multicultural practices and ideologies will explore issues that include indigenous rights, group rights, democratic representation, cultural identity, neoliberalism, and language ideologies.

497 Independent Study in Anthropology (1–3)

Independent readings, individualized seminars, or field projects in selected areas designed to meet the special interests of advanced students. Prerequisites: 6 hours in ANTH, junior or senior status, and permission of the instructor.

499 Anthropological Internship (3)

Work in an approved anthropological setting such as a museum or research center under professional supervision. Graded S/U. Prerequisites: 9 hours in ANTH and permission of the department chair.