

Area: Behavioral & Social Sciences
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Degree: A.S. - Anthropology

Anthropology Degree

Anthropology is the study of humankind around the world and throughout time, with the goal of understanding our evolutionary origins, our biological distinction as a species, and our diverse manifestations of culture. A degree in anthropology provides the student with basic skills in critical analysis, application of the scientific method, and cross-cultural understanding.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:

- Apply the science of anthropology towards a holistic understanding of human nature.
- Synthesize the principles that form the foundation of anthropology.
- Analyze social and ethical issues related to the field of anthropology and its practical applications.
- Analyze the cultural, physical and linguistic diversity expressed in our species.

Career Opportunities

The anthropology major may enter many vocations varying from archaeological excavation, exploration, and museum management to the analysis of cultures, linguistics, forensics, primatology, teaching, and consulting with governmental and educational institutions.

Requirements for Degree	18 Units
ANTH 300 Physical Anthropology (3)	3
or ANTH 480 Honors Physical Anthropology (3)	
ANTH 301 Physical Anthropology Laboratory.....	1
ANTH 310 Cultural Anthropology.....	3
ANTH 320 Introduction to Archaeology and World Preshistory	3
And a minimum of 8 units from the following:	8
ANTH 303 Introduction to Forensic Anthropology (3)	
ANTH 311 Cultural Anthropology Discussion (1)	
ANTH 312 Anthropology of Gender (1)	
ANTH 315 Cultures in Focus (3)	
ANTH 330 Magic, Witchcraft, and Religion (3)	
ANTH 333 American Indians of California (3)	
ANTH 334 Native Peoples of North American (3)	
ANTH 335 Research Methods in Anthropology (3)	
ANTH 341 Introduction to Linguistics (3)	
ANTH 370 Primatology (3)	
ANTH 372 Primatology Field Studies (2)	
ANTH 494 Topics in Anthropology (1-4) ¹	

¹A maximum of 2 units only from ANTH 494 may be taken.

Associate Degree Requirements: The Anthropology Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree may be obtained by completion of the required program, plus general education requirements, plus sufficient electives to meet a 60-unit total. See ARC graduation requirements.

ANTH 300 Physical Anthropology 3 Units

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320; OR placement through assessment process.

General Education: AA/AS Area IV; CSU Area B2; IGETC Area 5B

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course covers the concepts, methods and theory of biological evolution and its application to the human species. There is a specific focus on molecular, Mendelian and population genetics mechanisms of evolution, primatology, paleoanthropology, biocultural adaptations, human variation, and current bioethical issues. The philosophy of science and the scientific method serve as foundations to the course.

ANTH 301 Physical Anthropology Laboratory 1 Unit

Corequisite: ANTH 300

General Education: AA/AS Area IV; CSU Area B2; CSU Area B3; IGETC Area 5B

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LAB

This course is an introductory laboratory designed to provide opportunities to become familiar with the methods of the science of biological anthropology while investigating topics in laboratory and field situations. Topics covered in the course are: the scientific method, sources of biological variation and forces of evolution, human osteology, human variation, taxonomy and comparative osteology of the primates, and the fossil evidence for human evolution. Field trip may be required.

ANTH 303 Introduction to Forensic Anthropology 3 Units

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320; OR placement through assessment process. ANTH 300 and 301; OR BIOL 102; OR BIOL 115 and 117; OR BIOL 430.

General Education: AA/AS Area IV; CSU Area B2; IGETC Area 5B

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is an overview of forensic anthropology which is an applied field of physical anthropology. Forensic anthropology uses the analysis of human skeletal remains to answer medico-legal questions. This course emphasizes current techniques used in analysis of human skeletal remains, medico-legal procedures, and the role of the anthropologist in the investigative process. It examines the basics of bone biology, methods of skeletal analysis, and recognition of bone pathology and trauma.

ANTH 310 Cultural Anthropology 3 Units

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320; OR placement through assessment process.

General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); AA/AS Area VI; CSU Area D1; IGETC Area 4A

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to the various customs, traditions, and forms of social organizations in both Western and non-Western societies. Multicultural perspectives are examined for such topics including subsistence methods, belief and religious system, linguistics, trade and economic systems, arts, kinship systems, marriage and family systems, technology, and changes due to internal and external forces.

ANTH 311 Cultural Anthropology Discussion 1 Unit

Advisory: ANTH 310.

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 18 hours LEC

This course provides opportunities to discuss issues relevant to cultural anthropology and explore non-western cultures using the anthropological literature. The applicability of terms such as “ethnocentrism” and “cultural relativity” is examined.

ANTH 312 Anthropology of Gender 1 Unit

Advisory: ANTH 310.

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 18 hours LEC

This course examines the contributions of anthropologists to the field of gender studies. The course deals with topics relevant to gender issues from a cross-cultural perspective. Gender issues are studied as they relate to family, social groups, and the concept of “self”.

ANTH 315 Cultures in Focus 3 Units

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320; OR placement through assessment process.

General Education: AA/AS Area V(b) and VI; CSU Area D1; IGETC Area 4A

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course provides information regarding development issues in emerging countries of the world. The course examines the historical and cultural context of development and diversity in pluralistic societies. Globalization and technological changes are examined as they influence ideological aspects of culture. Problems such as overpopulation, underemployment, famine, and women’s issues, are discussed within their cultural context.

ANTH 320 Introduction to Archaeology and World Prehistory 3 Units

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320; OR placement through assessment process.

General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D1; IGETC Area 4A

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to the theories, concepts, and methods employed by the archaeologist in the study of human history and pre-history. The development and diverse evolution of social and cultural systems is emphasized. The challenges and achievements of non-literate and traditional cultures, diverse communities, and social classes over time are also explored.

ANTH 330 Magic, Witchcraft, and Religion 3 Units

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320; OR placement through assessment process.

General Education: AA/AS Area V(b) and Area VI; CSU Area D1; IGETC Area 4A

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is a cross-cultural study of the forms and functions of supernatural beliefs and associated rituals in traditional societies of Africa, Asia, aboriginal Australia, Oceania, South America, Native North America and elsewhere. Attention is also given to world religions. Emphasis is on understanding the role of beliefs and rituals within their given social contexts, as well as on a broader comparison to derive insight into the general functions of beliefs and rituals in human life.

ANTH 333 American Indians of California 3 Units

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320; OR placement through assessment process.

General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); AA/AS Area VI; CSU Area D1;

CSU Area D3; IGETC Area 4A

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course surveys the sociocultural systems of California Indians from the prehistoric period to the present. In addition to offering an overview of the diversity and complexity of aboriginal California, it includes environmental adaptations, material culture, social structure, ideology, and response to change. Field trips may be required.

ANTH 334 Native Peoples of North America 3 Units

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320; OR placement through assessment process.

General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); AA/AS Area VI; CSU Area D1; IGETC Area 4A

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is an introductory survey of traditional Native American societies. It describes the peoples and cultures of North America and emphasizes native ecological adaptations, languages, social organizations, religions, mythologies and world views, and artistic representations. It also explores the interrelatedness of Indigenous Native American groups through trade, intermarriage, and other forms of cultural exchange. Field trips may be required.

ANTH 335 Research Methods in Anthropology 3 Units

Prerequisite: ANTH 300 or 310 with a grade of “C” or better.

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course introduces research methods for the field of anthropology. Familiarization with specific observational research methods and the practical application of these methods in a contemporary setting is emphasized. Field trips will be required.

ANTH 341 Introduction to Linguistics 3 Units

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320; OR placement through assessment process.

General Education: AA/AS Area II(b) and Area V(b) and Area VI; CSU Area D1; IGETC Area 4A

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course explores the role of language in social interaction and world view construction. In addition, it examines minority languages and dialects, bilingualism, literacy, and the social motivation of language change. Analytical techniques of socio-cultural linguistics are examined.

ANTH 370 Primatology 3 Units

Advisory: ANTH 300

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course provides an analysis of non-human primate comparative morphology, behavior, and ecology. Areas of study include general primate morphology, diet and ecology, behavior including reproduction and social systems, cognition and intelligence, and primate conservation issues. Primates in both captive and free-ranging settings are examined. Field trips for primate observations may be required.

ANTH 372 Primatology Field Studies 2 Units

Advisory: ANTH 300.

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 36 hours LEC

This course provides practical experience in non-human primate observational studies. The Sacramento Zoo serves as the "field site" where observations on non-human primates are conducted. Focus is on training in research methodology and observational techniques. Field studies may focus on the ChimpanZoo Program under the Jane Goodall Institute. Field trips will be required.

ANTH 480 Honors Physical Anthropology 3 Units

Prerequisite: Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above; ENGWR 300 or 480 with a grade of "C" or better.

General Education: AA/AS Area IV; CSU Area B2; IGETC Area 5B

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is an in depth introduction to the science of physical anthropology. This seminar style honors course approaches the topical material through class discussion which encourages problem solving techniques focusing on current anthropological issues. Weekly topical issues will be presented in a case study format. Critical thinking skills are emphasized in responding to these issues. The following topics are included in the course: evolutionary theory, heredity, human variation, taxonomy and behavior of the living primate and the fossil evidence of human evolution.

ANTH 494 Topics in Anthropology 1-3 Units

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320; OR placement through assessment process.

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 18-54 hours LEC

This course is a concentrated study of current anthropological issues. Topics reflect contemporary issues and problems in the four traditional fields as well as an applied approach where appropriate. Issues in the area of physical anthropology are approached from a biological and ecological perspective; issues in cultural anthropology, linguistics, and archaeology are approached from a multi-cultural and international platform. This course may be taken four times on a different topic.