

BA in Anthropology

Degree Program Description

Anthropology is the study of the entire human experience, from our primate roots to our globalized present. Anthropology at MU emphasizes scientific approaches to the study of human biology, behavior, culture, and evolution. Anthropology majors are required to take core courses in all three focal areas of the discipline (archaeology, biological anthropology, and cultural anthropology) but may concentrate in one or more of these fields. The degree offers three specialized tracks of study for students who want a closer fit between the major and future employment or post-baccalaureate training: Health & Human Biology, Archaeology & Heritage, and Culture & Human Ecology. Students are *not* required to choose a track and these do *not* appear on diplomas or transcripts. Students have opportunities to become involved in research, helping them develop creativity, enhance critical thinking skills, solve problems and improve their writing. Undergraduate training in anthropology also prepares students for work in government (both in the United States and abroad), museum positions, and field positions in archaeology, ethnography, human paleontology, and public health. A degree in anthropology also provides students with the background to pursue careers in business, journalism, health care, law, and many other fields. It may also provide students with the opportunity to enter graduate school leading towards an academic career teaching and conducting anthropological research at a university.

Major Program Requirements

In addition to University (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/universityrequirements/>), general education (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/generaleducationrequirements/>), and College of Arts and Science (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/#undergraduatetext>) requirements, students must also meet the following major program requirements. All major requirements in the College of Arts and Science must be completed with grades of C- or higher unless otherwise indicated. All anthropology students are required to complete the following core courses.

Core Courses		15
ANTHRO 2020	Fundamentals of Archaeology with Laboratory	4
or ANTHRO 2021 & ANTHRO 2022	Fundamentals of Archaeology and Fundamentals of Archaeology Lab	
ANTHRO 2030	Cultural Anthropology	3
ANTHRO 2050	Introduction to Biological Anthropology with Laboratory	5
or ANTHRO 2051 & ANTHRO 2052	Introduction to Biological Anthropology and Biological Anthropology Laboratory	
ANTHRO 4990	Capstone Seminar in Anthropology	3

ANTHRO 4990 Capstone Seminar in Anthropology must be completed even if a student completes an additional major in another department. Some departments waive this requirement for students completing a double major. Students with second majors should check with the other department to see if they are required to complete both capstone courses.

Electives and Specialized Tracks

A minimum of 15 additional Anthropology credits (usually 5 courses) are required for the major. No specific courses are required but a minimum of 8 credits must be at the 3000-level or above (excluding capstone ANTHRO 4990). Students are encouraged to follow one of the three tracks described below to specialize their elective courses. Tracks do not appear on diplomas or transcripts.

HHB Track: Health & Human Biology

Coursework in this track encourages students to develop skills for careers devoted to understanding human health and biological variation from cross-cultural and evolutionary perspectives. Students are encouraged to become involved in research (see below) or internships (<https://career.missouri.edu/jobs-and-internships/internships/>) that will advance their training. Appropriate field schools can also be valuable (e.g., paleoanthropology, primatology, bioarchaeology). The department keeps an updated list of these field schools operated by other universities. Students adopting this track are also encouraged to consider declaring a Paleobiology minor to support their coursework.

ANTHRO 1000	Introduction to Anthropology: Human Biology, Prehistory, and Culture	3
or ANTHRO 1000H	Introduction to Anthropology: Human Biology, Prehistory, and Culture - Honors	
ANTHRO 1500	Monkeys, Apes and Humans	3
or ANTHRO 1500W	Monkeys, Apes and Humans - Writing Intensive	
ANTHRO 2002	Topics in Anthropology-Biological Science	1-3
ANTHRO 2500	Primate Anatomy and Evolution	3
ANTHRO 2530	Human Evolution through Film and Literature	1-3
ANTHRO 2570	Parents and Offspring	3
ANTHRO 2580	Evolution of Human Sexuality	3
or ANTHRO 2580W	Evolution of Human Sexuality - Writing Intensive	
ANTHRO 3002	Topics in Anthropology-Biological Sciences	3
ANTHRO 3540	Human Biology and Life History	3
ANTHRO 3560	Plagues and Peoples	3
or ANTHRO 3560W	Plagues and Peoples - Writing Intensive	
ANTHRO 4360	Medical Anthropology	3
ANTHRO 4500	Human Origins	5
ANTHRO 4520	Functional Morphology of the Human Skeleton	3
ANTHRO 4540	Human Biological Variation	3
ANTHRO 4580	Evolutionary Medicine	3
ANTHRO 4880	Demographic Anthropology	3
ANTHRO 4885	Human Evolutionary Genetics	3
ANTHRO 4890	Human Skeletal Identification and Analysis	5
ANTHRO 4950	Undergraduate Research in Anthropology	2-8
or ANTHRO 4950H	Honors Research in Anthropology	
or ANTHRO 4950HW	Undergraduate Research in Anthropology - Honors/ Writing Intensive	
ANTHRO 4960	Undergraduate Readings in Anthropology	1-99

A&H Track: Archaeology & Heritage

Students choosing this track develop skills for collection, interpretation, and curation of material culture from archaeological or contemporary human groups. A field school experience is strongly recommended. The department keeps an updated list of these field schools operated by other universities. MU-hosted field schools include AMS 2940 and varying summer study abroad courses (<https://international.missouri.edu/>). Additional research or internships opportunities, particularly with MURR (<https://www.murr.missouri.edu/>) and the Museum of Anthropology (<https://anthromuseum.missouri.edu/>), are also encouraged. Students adopting this track are also encouraged to consider declaring an Archaeology minor to support their coursework.

ANTHRO 1000	Introduction to Anthropology: Human Biology, Prehistory, and Culture	3
or ANTHRO 1000H	Introduction to Anthropology: Human Biology, Prehistory, and Culture - Honors	
ANTHRO 1003	Topics in Anthropology - Behavioral	1-3
ANTHRO 1200	Significant Discoveries of Archaeology	3
ANTHRO 2003	Topics in Anthropology - Behavioral	1-3
ANTHRO 2215	World Archaeology	3
ANTHRO 2800	Introduction to Field Methods in Archaeology	1-6
ANTHRO 2825	Analyzing Artifacts	3
ANTHRO 2950	Research Skills in Anthropology	1-3
ANTHRO 3003	Topics in Anthropology - Behavioral Science	3
ANTHRO 4200	Environment and Archaeology	3
ANTHRO 4240	History of Archaeology	3
ANTHRO 4280	Archaeology of Magic and Ritual	3
ANTHRO 4300	Comparative Social Organization	3
ANTHRO 4340	Cultural Evolution and Change	3
ANTHRO 4500	Human Origins	5
ANTHRO 4620	North American Archaeology	3
ANTHRO 4640	Prehistory of the Greater Southwest	3
ANTHRO 4650	Prehistory of Mesoamerica	3
ANTHRO 4700	Old World Prehistory	3
ANTHRO 4800	Field Methods in Archaeology	1-8
ANTHRO 4820	Zooarchaeology	3
ANTHRO 4826	Stone Artifact Analysis	3
ANTHRO 4828	Archaeological Analysis of Ceramics	3
ANTHRO 4840	The Comparative Method in Anthropology	3
ANTHRO 4880	Demographic Anthropology	3
ANTHRO 4890	Human Skeletal Identification and Analysis	5
ANTHRO 4950	Undergraduate Research in Anthropology	2-8
or ANTHRO 4950H	Honors Research in Anthropology	
or ANTHRO 4950HW	Undergraduate Research in Anthropology - Honors/ Writing Intensive	
ANTHRO 4960	Undergraduate Readings in Anthropology	1-99

CHE Track: Culture & Human Ecology

This track provides training in the skills of cultural anthropologists for collecting, analyzing, interpreting, and communicating information about cultural processes and cultural variation. Completion of the multicultural

certificate (<https://multicultural.missouri.edu/>) and a minor, especially in a foreign language, are strongly recommended. Students are encouraged to become involved in research (see below) or internships (<https://career.missouri.edu/jobs-and-internships/internships/>) that will advance their training. Appropriate field schools can also be valuable (e.g., language or cultural immersion, ethnographic field work). The department keeps an updated list of these field schools operated by other universities.

ANTHRO 1000	Introduction to Anthropology: Human Biology, Prehistory, and Culture	3
or ANTHRO 1000H	Introduction to Anthropology: Human Biology, Prehistory, and Culture - Honors	
ANTHRO 1003	Topics in Anthropology - Behavioral	1-3
ANTHRO 1060	Human Language	3
ANTHRO 1150	Introduction to Folklore Genres	3
ANTHRO 1300	Multiculturalism: An Introduction	3
ANTHRO 1350	Deviance: A Cross-Cultural Perspective	3
ANTHRO 2003	Topics in Anthropology - Behavioral	1-3
ANTHRO 2005	Topics in Anthropology - Humanities	1-3
ANTHRO 2100	Indigenous Religions	3
or ANTHRO 2100H	Indigenous Religions - Honors	
ANTHRO 2150	Introduction to Folklore Field Research	3
ANTHRO 2300	Anthropology of War	3
ANTHRO 2340	Hunters and Gatherers of the World	3
ANTHRO 2950	Research Skills in Anthropology	1-3
ANTHRO 3003	Topics in Anthropology - Behavioral Science	3
ANTHRO 3004	Topics in Anthropology - Social Science	3
ANTHRO 3005	Topics in Anthropology - Humanities	3
ANTHRO 3150	American Folklore	3
ANTHRO 3340H	The Evolution of Human Nature - Honors	3
or ANTHRO 3340HW	The Evolution of Human Nature - Honors/Writing Intensive	
ANTHRO 3380	Native American Religions	3
ANTHRO 3470	Culture as Communication	3
ANTHRO 3490	Indian Cinema	3
ANTHRO 3560	Plagues and Peoples	3
or ANTHRO 3560W	Plagues and Peoples - Writing Intensive	
ANTHRO 3600	North American Indian Culture	3
ANTHRO 3780	Cultures of Southeast Asia	3
ANTHRO 4005	Topics in Anthropology - Humanities	1-3
ANTHRO 4001	Topics in Anthropology-General	1-3
ANTHRO 4150	Special Themes in Folklore	3
ANTHRO 4300	Comparative Social Organization	3
ANTHRO 4320	Ecological and Environmental Anthropology	3
ANTHRO 4340	Cultural Evolution and Change	3
ANTHRO 4350	Psychological Anthropology	3
ANTHRO 4360	Medical Anthropology	3
ANTHRO 4370	Anthropology of Gender	3
ANTHRO 4380	Magic, Witchcraft, and Religion	3
ANTHRO 4385	Anthropology of Shamanism	3
ANTHRO 4412	Gender, Language, and Communication	3
ANTHRO 4420	Historical Linguistics	3
ANTHRO 4600	Ethnographic Studies of Selected Cultures	3

ANTHRO 4680	Cultures and Peoples of the Amazon	3
ANTHRO 4790	Culture and Society in South Asia	3
ANTHRO 4830	Ethnographic Methods	3
ANTHRO 4840	The Comparative Method in Anthropology	3
ANTHRO 4870	Field Methods in Linguistics	4
or ANTHRO 4870W	Field Methods in Linguistics - Writing Intensive	
ANTHRO 4880	Demographic Anthropology	3
ANTHRO 4950	Undergraduate Research in Anthropology	2-8
or ANTHRO 4950H	Honors Research in Anthropology	
or ANTHRO 4950HW	Undergraduate Research in Anthropology - Honors/ Writing Intensive	
ANTHRO 4960	Undergraduate Readings in Anthropology	1-99

Student Research

Students can gain hands-on experience doing anthropological research in their coursework. This experience will normally begin with ANTHRO 2950 Research Skills in Anthropology, an introduction to the methods used by one or more faculty members. This course will satisfy the methods requirement if a student enrolls in it for at least 3 credits. A student may independently choose a faculty mentor and arrange for course credit or can work with the department's Director of Undergraduate Studies, who will match the student's interests with those of one or more faculty members.

Students wishing to continue doing research of an independent nature may register for ANTHRO 4950 Undergraduate Research in Anthropology. Prior approval by the director of undergraduate studies is required to use these courses to satisfy the departmental methods requirement. ANTHRO 4950H Honors Research in Anthropology may be used to satisfy the requirements for an Honors BA with a major in Anthropology, but the course is not required for that degree. Specific requirements for the Honors BA are described below.

Related Courses

Because of the interdisciplinary nature of anthropology, the Department of Anthropology strongly recommends that all students complete a cluster of at least two or three courses that complement chosen courses within the major.

These courses may be offered by a single department or may be a related set of courses from several departments (e.g., courses in ancient history from both the Ancient & Mediterranean Studies and the History departments). The courses should be chosen with their mentor and are intended to provide background in the content of other disciplines related to the student's anthropological focus. Fulfillment of a formal minor (15 credits in another department as approved by that department) or a second major (at least 30 credits in another department as approved by that department) can also be an effective way to gain expertise in related areas. Certificates can provide further credentials as evidence of specialized training and experience (e.g. multicultural certificate) and anthropology courses can be counted toward those certificate requirements.

Semester Plan

Below is a sample plan of study, semester by semester. A student's actual plan may vary based on course choices where options are available.

First Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
ANTHRO 2030 ()		3 ANTHRO 2020	4
ENGLISH 1000		3 Math and Quantitative Reasoning	3
Second Language Requirement		4 Second Language Requirement	4
Missouri State Law Requirement, Social Science from Arts and Science		3 Second major, minor, or elective	3
Humanities from Arts and Science		3	
			14
16			
Second Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
ANTHRO 2050		5 Anthropology elective or specialized track	3
Behavioral Science from Arts and Science		3 Biological or Physical Science lab	3
Second Language Requirement		4 Behavioral Science, 2000+ level	3
Second major, minor, or elective		3 Humanities, First Writing Intensive	3
		Second major, minor, or elective	3
			15
			15
Third Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
Anthropology elective or specialized track		3 Anthropology elective or specialized track, 3000+ level	3
Biological, Physical, or Mathematical Science		3 Biological, Physical, or Mathematical Science	3
Humanities, 2000+ level		3 Humanities, 2000+ level	3
Social Science		3 Undergraduate Research, Internship, or Related Field Work	3
Second major, minor, or elective		3 Second major, minor, or elective	3
			15
			15
Fourth Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
Anthropology elective or Specialized track, 3000+ level		3 ANTHRO 4990 (Writing Intensive)	3
Social Science		3 Anthropology elective or specialized track, 3000+ level	3
Undergraduate Research, Internship, or Related Field Work		3 Undergraduate Research, Internship, or Related Field Work	3
Second major, minor, or elective		3 Second major, minor, or elective	3
Second major, minor, or elective		3 Second major, minor, or elective	3
			15
			15

Total Credits: 120

Departmental Honors

The Honors Program is organized under the Honors College (<https://honors.missouri.edu/>) of the College of Arts and Science within the University of Missouri. To be accepted in the Honors Program, the student must achieve and maintain a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.3 in all course work. In addition, to be accepted, and remain eligible for the honors program in the Department of Anthropology, the student must maintain a GPA of 3.5 in all anthropology courses.

The University of Missouri grants three types of Honors degrees to students in the College of Arts and Science:

1. General Honors, which is administered by the Honors College and which is obtained by completion of a suitable number of honors courses (see the Honors College for details),
2. Latin Honors (e.g., cum laude), which are conferred on students whose GPAs meet specified minimum requirements, and
3. Departmental Honors, which is administered by the Department of Anthropology.

The departmental program leading to the BA degree with Honors in Anthropology is designed for students who desire a more intensive experience in anthropology and who wish to work closely with a particular faculty member in the anthropology department on an independent research or scholarly project. A student wishing to graduate with departmental honors must fulfill the basic course requirements for the BA in Anthropology. In addition, the student, with the assistance of his/her honors advisor, is expected to develop, plan, and conduct research on an independent project. It is recommended that students in the honors program enroll in ANTHRO 4950H Honors Research in Anthropology, although projects initiated in other courses or through independent, noncredit research experiences may also be honors eligible. To complete the Honors degree, a student must submit the results of the research project as a formal honors thesis that the student defends during an oral examination conducted by an examining committee. The committee consists of three faculty members: the advisor, another faculty member, and the departmental Honors Director. The examination is scheduled no later than the thirteenth week of the term during which the student expects to graduate. Each member of the committee is furnished with a copy of the student's thesis or evidence of scholarly activity at least ten days before the examination. After the oral defense the student furnishes the department with one final copy of the thesis or evidence of scholarly achievement (e.g., photographs) suitable for preservation by the Department. Upon completion of the program, the examining committee recommends to the Dean of the College of Arts and Science that the student be awarded a BA with Honors in Anthropology.