
ANTHROPOLOGY (ANTH)

ANTH 100 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (3 credits)

This course introduces basic anthropological concepts and methods of cultural analysis. The problems of ethnocentricity and human cultural variability in human societies of different times and places will be studied. Satisfies the GER in Behavioral Sciences. *Either semester*

ANTH 101 Introduction to Physical Anthropology (3 credits)

This course covers the following areas: divisions of anthropology, theories and principles of evolution, primate and hominid evolution and behavior, origins of hominid physical and cultural development and concepts of racial variation. Satisfies the GER in Behavioral Sciences. *Either semester*

ANTH 103 Introduction to Archaeology (3 credits)

This course examines research methods, systems of data recording, and analysis and reconstruction of cultural lifeways of past cultures. The conceptual bases of the study of the past are explored through material culture. Satisfies the GER in Behavioral Sciences. *Either semester*

ANTH 110 Introduction to Folklore (3 credits)

This course explores the meanings and subdivisions of folklore: myth, folktale, proverb, riddles and folklife. It covers the analysis of story elements, major folklore areas and the role of folklore and folklife in society and culture. Satisfies the GER in Behavioral Sciences. *Either semester*

ANTH 111 Myth and Culture (3 credits)

This course introduces the cross-cultural approach to world mythology. Myths of our own and other cultures will be analyzed using several theoretical approaches. Myth will be examined as a fundamental human function, necessary for the well-being of cultures. Satisfies the GER in Behavioral Sciences. *Fall semester*

ANTH 115 Anthropology of Race, Class, and Gender (3 credits)

This course will introduce students to how concepts of race, class, and gender have been constructed cross-culturally. Students will use cross-cultural ethnographic examples from egalitarian, ranked, and stratified societies to examine how systems of social inequality based on race, class, and gender are created and maintained; how these social categories are used to promote group loyalties and allegiances; and how global community building can occur across social divides of gender, social class, race, ethnicity and/or nationhood. Satisfies the GER in Behavioral Sciences. *Either semester*

ANTH 120 First Nations: Global Indigenous People (3 credits)

This course will introduce students to First Nations or indigenous people globally. Students will investigate pre-historic and contemporary native indigenous ways of life, using examples from Native North and South America, Australia, Africa, and the Pacific Islands, among others. Students will investigate issues of indigenous cultural survival, the current political and economic status of indigenous communities, issues of self-determination, global human rights, and pan-tribalism. Satisfies GER in Non-Western Civilization. *Spring semester*

ANTH 130 Introduction to Primates (3 credits)

This course will provide an introduction to the variation of modern nonhuman primates—monkeys, apes, and prosimians. We will examine the social behavior of these animals, drawing links to human behavior that will allow us to see where there are similarities and in what ways humans are unique. The origins of cultural behavior, along with diet and morphology, will be explored within an ecological context. The nature of learned behavior, dependence on social relationships for survival, competition for resources, and the importance of cultural understanding to achieve goals will be major themes. Evolutionary theory and conservation will provide much of the framework for our studies.

ANTH 204 Global Human Issues (3 credits)

This interdisciplinary course treats major world problems with particular emphasis upon those faced by non-Western peoples. The interdependence between economically developed and underdeveloped parts of the world will be explored according to such themes as collective versus individual good, short versus long-term planning and cooperation versus competition. Satisfies the GER in Non-Western Civilization. *Formerly AN 104. Either semester*

ANTH 206 Native Cultures of North America (3 credits)

This cross-cultural course studies the tribal cultures of the United States, Canada and Mexico. Emphasis will be placed on developing an understanding of Native American cultural systems in their traditional settings and on the current status of Native American interaction with government policies and attitudes. Satisfies the GER in Non-Western Civilization. *Either semester*

ANTH 208 Anthropology of Women (3 credits)

This course will investigate the relative status of women cross-culturally in a range of non-western settings, including hunter-gatherer bands, horticultural societies, peasantry, nomadic pastoralists and contemporary industrial societies. Women will be examined as they relate to economic resources, political power and authority, kin and non-kin and in religion, myth and lore. Students will analyze conceptually

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and through cross-cultural data what is meant by sex roles, how they vary cross-culturally and how they are negotiated and maintained. Satisfies the GER in Non-Western Civilization. *Either semester*

ANTH 209 Peoples and Cultures of Africa (3 credits)

A survey of the multiplicity of ways in which contemporary societies, rural and urban, arrange their ways of life in a rapidly changing Africa. Satisfies GER in Non-Western Civilization. *Once yearly*

ANTH 213 Latin American Peoples and Cultures (3 credits)

This course will investigate the culture, history and development of selected Latin American regions and their contemporary relations with the United States. Mexico/Guatemala and Central and South America will be studied by means of ethnographic and cross-cultural documents of the past and present which reveal changing conditions of society, land ownership, ethnicity and political allegiance. Satisfies the GER in Non-Western Civilization. *Either semester*

ANTH 215 The Caribbean (3 credits)

This course examines the creation of Caribbean cultures and societies over 500 years of European conquest and colonization, the impact of the slave trade, emancipation, independence movements and postcolonial state formation. The course explores everyday life in contemporary Caribbean societies considering the intersections of nationality, class, ethnicity, race, gender and religion on the formation of diverse and complex cultures. Satisfies GER in Non-Western Civilization. *Fall semester*

ANTH 305 Culture Change (3 credits)

Prerequisite: ANTH 100 or ANTH 101 or ANTH 103 or consent of the instructor

This course focuses on the processes of culture change, intentioned and unintentioned, internal and external. It will explore reaction strategies of cultures toward imminent change. The course concludes with a consideration of how models can be applied to producing non-destructive, non-exploitative culture change. *Offered once every three years. (formerly AN 205)*

ANTH 307 Anthropology of Religion (3 credits)

The origins and development of religion in society; myth, ritual, magic and religious specialists: Australian, African and American Indian. *Offered alternate years, Fall semester*

ANTH 309 Anthropology of Art (3 credits)

This course investigates the forms, functions, meanings, and aesthetics of art cross-culturally. It will be critical of the modern western concept of "art for arts sake" and discuss ways that socio-cultural, political, and economic factors frame the contexts and dynamics of art production across the

world. The role of artists in society and aesthetic creativity will also be examined from a cross-cultural perspective. Discussion begins with the arts of "traditional" societies drawing from examples from Africa, Oceania, Asia, and the Americas. The course will then examine how these arts have been impacted by colonialism, capitalism, and the emergence of new nation-states. Topics include: ethnic, tourist, and national arts, culture revitalization, issues of authenticity, and the emergence of a global art world with its power relations. *Offered every three years*

ANTH 314 Women in Myth and Lore (3 credits)

Prerequisite: ANTH 100 or ANTH 110 or ANTH 111 or INTD 230 or consent of the instructor

This course will investigate females and the feminine in mythologies and folklore traditions cross-culturally. Native indigenous (African, Australian, South Pacific, Native American); classical (Greek, Egyptian, Roman); and Judeo-Christian mythologies will be analyzed, compared and contrasted. Students will explore mythology and story-telling traditions as they pertain to women and gender cross-culturally.

ANTH 315 Ethnic Experience in America (3 credits)

Prerequisite: ANTH 100 or SOCI 102

This course considers the role of ethnic background in personal and social relationships. The varying interpretations of ethnic culture—its formation and growth in America—are examined while each student looks into his or her personal heritage and the role of tradition in contemporary life. *Either semester*

ANTH 319 Contemporary Native Americans (3 credits)

Prerequisite: ANTH 100 or ANTH 206 or consent of instructor

This course will explore the problems faced by native or indigenous peoples in the United States today. It will focus on issues of land, tribal recognition, poverty, treatment by government agencies and multi-national corporations and ethnic discrimination. It will also address the ongoing changes in native responses including the American Indian Movement, the revival of native spiritual life, and the problem/opportunity of casino gambling. *Offered alternate years*

ANTH 322 War, Peace and Culture (3 credits)

This course proceeds from the premise that while conflict of some sort is inevitable within and among human cultures, war is not. By investigating sources of conflict violence, and conflict resolution strategies in a variety of cultures, the course creates an opportunity to study war, violence, and conflict cross-culturally – and the possibilities of peace. *Offered alternate years, spring semester*

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ANTH 328 Archaeology of North America (3 credits)

Prerequisite: ANTH 103 or consent of the instructor

The development of prehistoric and proto-historic Native American cultures. Cultural dynamics of hunting-gathering and maize agriculture. Theories of the peopling of the continent will be evaluated. *Offered alternate years, Fall semester*

ANTH 330 Medical Anthropology (3 credits)

The course concentrates on health, illness and healing in cross-cultural perspective. It will examine ways in which culture mediates ideas of physical well-being, and will be aimed at dispelling belief in the absolute truth of medical dogma, teaching students to think outside their own cultural biases. It begins with a consideration of body image in a range of different cultures and then proceeds to the varying rationales for normal function and for dysfunction. The healing process as ritual and as scientific procedure, including the theory and practice of healing in different cultures, figures into the course as does the training and outlook of healers—doctors, priests, shamans, nurses, midwives, and others. Finally, the medical systems of several cultures, ancient and modern, industrialized and preindustrial are compared.

Offered alternate years

ANTH 331 Political Anthropology (3 credits)

Prerequisite: ANTH 100 or consent of the instructor

This course examines political processes in state and “stateless” societies, focusing on the development of political forms in foraging, pastoral, agricultural and industrial societies, mainly in the developing world. The idea that “politics” exist as a set of practices tied to power that can be observed through anthropological methods will be addressed, along with the development of the subfield of political anthropology itself. *Offered alternate years, fall semester*

ANTH 332 Practicum in Field Archaeology (1-3 credits)

Prerequisite: ANTH 103 (may be taken concurrently) or ANTH 403, or consent of the instructor

This course provides experiential training in excavation techniques, field recording, and primary cataloging and analysis of archaeological materials. *Offered fall semester*

ANTH 340 Myths and Peoples of the Ancient Near East (3 credits)

Prerequisite: ANTH 100 or ANTH 110 or ANTH 111 or ANTH 307

This course will explore the dimensions of myth as they relate to the cultural life of the peoples of the Ancient Near East: the Egyptians, the Sumerians, the Babylonians and Assyrians, the Hittites, the Phoenicians and the Hebrews. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the context out of which the myths arose, and the ways in which they both described and conditioned the cultural realities to which they related. *Offered every other year*

†May be taken for graduate level credit.

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ANTH 355 Anthropology Study Tour (3 credits) (Country to be determined)

Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor

This course will offer students a first-hand, supervised cross cultural travel and study experience from an anthropological perspective. Students will participate in lectures, site visits, research, and other academic experiences, including pre- and post-travel activities, as appropriate. Students will earn aspects of local society and culture, such as visual and performing arts, religious traditions, political organization, economy, subsistence activities, folklore, and family life. This course may be taken twice for anthropology credit, for travel to different study tour sites.

ANTH 399 Special Topics in Anthropology (3 credits)

Prerequisite: Dependent on topic

Various special topics of current interest in anthropology will be offered from time to time. Topics will be announced before pre-registration. May be taken more than once but only six credits will be counted toward the first 30 hours of the major.

ANTH 400 Seminar: Anthropological Theory (3 credits)†

Prerequisite: ANTH 100; and ANTH 101 or ANTH 103

This course is a survey of the foundations of cultural and archaeological theory, including cultural evolutionism, structuralism, American historical-particularism, British functionalism and structural-functionalism, French structuralism and current directions in American, European and Third World anthropological thought. Theories of archaeology will also be examined, including traditional evolutionary perspectives; the New Archaeology, and contemporary critiques, drawing upon social systems analysis. *Every third semester*

ANTH 403 Archaeological Field Excavation in Prehistoric Sites in New England (2-6 credits)†

Prerequisite: ANTH 100 and either ANTH 101 or ANTH 103

This course provides intensive training in the practical skills of field archaeology. Direction in site survey, excavation tactics and strategy, fieldwork supervision, methods of sampling and on-site analysis is given. The course includes an introduction to laboratory work, covering topics such as cataloging, recognizing lithic materials, metric measurement and flotation of organic samples. *Every third semester*

ANTH 404 Seminar: Culture and Consciousness (3 credits)

Prerequisite: ANTH 100 or any one of the following: ANTH 110 or ANTH 111 or ANTH 307; and PY100

This course is an experiment in the study of how consciousness, and particularly the idea of the unconscious, is constructed and constructed in various cultural contexts. We will work towards an understanding of consciousness in cultural

context as a means of understanding cultures at their deepest levels, including our own. An important component of the course will be class dreamwork sharing sessions. *Offered alternate Spring semesters*

ANTH 405 Forensic Anthropology (3 credits†)

Prerequisite: ANTH 101 or ANTH 103 or consent of instructor
This course will introduce students to the methods and approaches of the forensic anthropologist. Extensive time will be spent on becoming familiar with the human skeleton—the most important tool in anthropology. In addition, the many legal and ethical issues that arise when working with human remains will be examined. This class will include lectures and discussion. *Offered annually*

ANTH/HIST 409 Mesoamerican Societies and Cultures (3 credits†)

Prerequisite: ANTH 100 or ANTH 213
This course examines some of the major societies and culture areas in Mesoamerica (Mexico and Central America) from ten thousand years before present up to and through the early conquest period (the 16th century). Cultures to be examined include the Olmec, Teotihuacan, Toltecs, Aztecs and Maya. Issues of daily life, family, gender roles, religion, trade, warfare, politics, culture and reactions to conquest will be considered.

ANTH 410 Public Archaeology (3 credits†)

Prerequisite: ANTH 103 and at least 2 credits in ANTH 332 or ANTH 403 or consent of the instructor
An introduction to public archaeology, its history of development. Emphasis will be placed on the basic knowledge and training necessary for careers in contract archaeology and cultural resource management: 1) to introduce students to the history of the development of public archaeology; 2) to study the federal, state, and local legislation protecting archaeological resources; 3) to provide administrative training for doing contract archaeology — contract and research proposal development, report writing, Environmental Impact Statement interpretation and to provide a basic background for cultural resource management careers. *Offered alternate years, Spring semester*

ANTH 415 Anthropology of Education (3 credits)

Prerequisite: ANTH 100 or consent of the instructor
This course introduces students to anthropological approaches to analyzing and understanding learning, schools, and education systems cross-culturally. Students investigate schools as agents of child socialization and enculturation; compare U.S. schools, education systems, and school cultures to learning, schools, and education in other societies; and examine how educational institutions relate to other aspects of culture. Cross-cultural data include indigenous and contemporary Native North America, Africa, Japan, Germany, and other settings globally. *Offered alternate years*

†May be taken for graduate level credit.

ANTH 417 Seminar: She/He “Two Spirits” Gender Cross-Culturally (3 credits†)

Prerequisite: ANTH 100 or INTD 230 or consent of instructor
This course introduces students to cross-cultural constructions of gender. Gender and sexuality are differentiated and students explore how gender is a cultural construct which varies cross-culturally. Students will explore a range of gender expressions, including homosexual males, lesbians, transgendered, bisexuals, and Native American Two Spirits. Issues of masculinity, femininity and alternate genders will be examined in Euro-American, Latin American, Asian, Native American and other cross-cultural settings. *Offered alternate years*

ANTH 420 Visual Anthropology (3 credits†)

Prerequisite: ANTH 100
This course is grounded in interpretive and semiotic theories and examines the uses of images for cultural documentation, interpretation, and analysis. Students will examine the roles of objectivity, ideology, and perspective in the production and interpretation of visual images in motion and still photography. Emphasis will be on how visual images represent the cultural, vis-a-vis gender, social class, ethnicity and socio-cultural context. *Offered alternate years*

ANTH 425 Seminar: Problems of New England Archaeology (3 credits†)

Prerequisite: ANTH 103 and ANTH 206 and ANTH 328
This is an intensive seminar course in local pre-Contact and post-Contact archaeology. It will explore the cultural and environmental evidence for settlement patterns in the northeastern United States and adjacent provinces of Canada. Important considerations will include how we know what we think we know, and why we do not currently know more about the lifeways of the past inhabitants of this area. Individual research papers will be assigned. This course may be used in place of any of the cognate courses required for the public archaeology concentration except for SOCI 403 and EASC 100.

ANTH 426 Seminar: New England Ethnic and Regional Communities (3 credits†)

Prerequisite: ANTH 100 or SOCI 102, and ANTH 315 or SOCI 315
This course will explore theories of ethnic persistence and change as they pertain to New England’s ethnic and social communities, such as Cape Verdeans, Asians, African Americans, Italians, Jews and Homosexuals. Cultural traditions, social institutions, and changing beliefs of New England’s ethnic and regional communities will be examined through critical analyses of relevant cultural materials, including sociological data, folklore, oral traditions, celebrations and the media. *Offered every third year*

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ANTH 435 Seminar: Global Feminism (3 credits)†

Prerequisite: One of the following: ANTH 100, SOCI 104, ANTH 204, ANTH 208 or WMST 240

This course will explore the range and content of women's activism, agency and feminist consciousness-raising globally around a range of issues, including education, health care, sexual politics, political participation, the division of labor and labor force participation, self-determination and participation in local feminist movements. Students will explore women's feminism and activism globally, the relationship of local cultural practices to women's and feminist movements, and what women are doing to work as agents of self-empowerment and self-determination globally.

ANTH 485 Honors Thesis (3 credits)

Prerequisite: Admission to the Commonwealth and Departmental Honors and senior status

With the consent of the Departmental Honors Committee and the thesis director, this course may be extended into a second semester for three additional credits depending on the scope of the project. The Departmental Honors Committee will determine if the final version of the thesis qualifies the student to graduate with Honors.

ANTH 498 Field Experience in Anthropology (3-15 credits)

Prerequisite: Consent of the department; minimum 2.5 GPA; formal application required

The field experience provides an opportunity for students to apply methods of fieldwork in ongoing societies, to design field studies, to learn methods for collection and analysis of empirical data, and to participate in experimental field projects.

ANTH 499 Directed Study in Anthropology (1-3 credits)

Prerequisite: Consent of the department; formal application required
Open to juniors and seniors who have demonstrated critical and analytical abilities in their studies and who wish to pursue a project independently. May be taken twice for a maximum of six credits.

ANTH 502 Research (credit to be arranged)

Prerequisite: Consent of the department; formal application required
Original research undertaken by the graduate student in his field. For details, consult the paragraph entitled "Independent Study" in the *Graduate and Continuing Education* section of this catalog. This course may be repeated.

ANTH 503 Directed Study (credit to be arranged)

Prerequisite: Consent of the department; formal application required
Designed for the graduate student who desires to study selected topics in a specific field. For details, consult the paragraph entitled "Independent Study" in the *Graduate and Continuing Education* section of this catalog. This course may be repeated.

†May be taken for graduate level credit.

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ANTH 526 Cultural Resource Management (3 credits)

Prerequisite: ANTH 103, ANTH 333, ANTH 403, ANTH 410 or equivalents

For graduate students seeking employment in the field of conservation archaeology. A detailed survey of the techniques and importance of cultural resource management, including archival research, field strategies, conservation of finds, report writing and archaeological legislation. Individual research papers will be assigned.

ANTH 555 Anthropology Study Tour [country to be determined] (3 credits)

Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor

This course will offer students a first-hand, supervised cross-cultural travel and study experience from an anthropological perspective. Students will participate in lectures, site visits, research, and other academic experiences, including pre- and post-travel activities, as appropriate. Students will learn aspects of local society and culture, such as visual and performing arts, religious traditions, political organization, economy, subsistence activities, folklore, and family life. This course may be taken twice for credit for travel to different study tour sites.

ANTH 560 Special Topics in Anthropology (variable credit)

Prerequisite: Prerequisite will depend on the topic

Special topics of current relevance to anthropology will be offered from time to time. The topic to be offered will be announced in pre-registration publications. This course may be taken more than once, with the permission of the department.

Other Approved Courses:

ANTH 304 Personality and Culture

ANTH 306 Urban Anthropology

ANTH 311 The Emergence of Cities

ANTH 510 Symbolic Anthropology

ANTH 520 Ethnographic Film

ANTH 525 Problems of New England Archaeology

ANTH 590 Seminar: Community Cultures in Southeastern Massachusetts