

Anthropology

Anthropology is the study of human beings from all times and all places, offering a holistic, comparative, international, and humanistic perspective. In studying and interpreting the vast range of similarities and differences in human societies and cultures, anthropologists also seek to understand how people themselves make sense of the world in which they live. The Department of Anthropology at Brown is a vibrant, award-winning group of scholars working primarily in the subfields of cultural anthropology, archaeology, and anthropological linguistics. Anthropology is a varied discipline and the Concentration at Brown University reflects that diversity. Students concentrating in Anthropology must declare one of six possible concentration tracks: sociocultural anthropology, archaeology, anthropological linguistics, biological anthropology, medical anthropology, or general anthropology.

The department also supports students involved in Engaged Scholarship through the Swearer Center, through which students may pursue an Engaged Scholarship Certificate. Study abroad is also supported and encouraged. Interested students may contact the director of undergraduate studies.

Students who declared a concentration prior to fall 2019 can refer to concentration requirements here: (<https://bulletin.brown.edu/archive/2018-19/>)<https://bulletin.brown.edu/archive/2018-19/the-college/concentrations/anth/>

General Anthropology Track

Choose one foundational course in sociocultural, linguistic anthropology, or medical anthropology: 1

ANTH 0100	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
ANTH 0300	Culture and Health
ANTH 0800	Sound and Symbols: Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology

Choose one foundational course in archaeology or biological anthropology: 1

ANTH 0310	Human Evolution
ANTH 0500	Past Forward: Discovering Anthropological Archaeology

Choose one of the following courses in anthropological methodology, to prepare students for further research: 1

ANTH 1201	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis
ANTH 1621	Material Culture Practicum
ANTH 1720	The Human Skeleton
ARCH 1900	The Archaeology of College Hill
ANTH 1940	Ethnographic Research Methods
ANTH 1740	Paleoethnobotany: Ancient Agriculture to Criminal Investigations

Five additional courses in anthropology of the student's choosing. At least three of these electives will need to be at the 1000-level to meet the requirements of the concentration. 5

Senior Seminar		1
ANTH 1990	Senior Seminar: (Re)Making Anthropology (Senior Seminar)	

Total Credits 9

Medical Anthropology Track

Foundation course 1

ANTH 0300	Culture and Health
-----------	--------------------

Two courses in at least two of the four major subfields of anthropology: 2

Choose one:	
ANTH 0310	Human Evolution

ANTH 0500	Past Forward: Discovering Anthropological Archaeology	
Choose any one 0000 or 1000-level course in socio-cultural anthropology or linguistic anthropology such as:		
ANTH 0100	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
ANTH 0800	Sound and Symbols: Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology	
ANTH 1111	Anthropology of China	
ANTH 1150	Middle East in Anthropological Perspective	
ANTH 1255	Anthropology of Disasters	
ANTH 1320	Anthropology and International Development: Ethnographic Perspectives on Poverty and Progress	
ANTH 1848	Ethnography + Social Critique	
Methods Course		1
ANTH 1940	Ethnographic Research Methods	
At least one 1000-level course in medical anthropology such as:		1
ANTH 1242	Bioethics and Culture	
ANTH 1300	Anthropology of Addictions and Recovery	
ANTH 1301	Anthropology of Homelessness	
ANTH 1310	Global Health: Anthropological Perspectives	
An additional three anthropology courses of the student's choosing. At least two of the electives must be at the 1000-level to meet the general requirements of the concentration.		3
At least one non-anthropology course in the natural sciences, public health, or psychology that focuses on human health to give students basic exposure to the science of human physical and/or mental health. This course is in addition to the nine courses required in ANTH. ²		1
Senior Seminar		1
ANTH 1990	Senior Seminar: (Re)Making Anthropology	
Total Credits		10

¹ Other appropriate anthropology courses may be used to fulfill this requirement with DUS approval

² Most qualifying courses will bear a BIOL, PHP, or CLPS designation but students can choose any appropriate course to fulfill this requirement with DUS approval.

Socio-Cultural Anthropology Track

Foundation course		1
ANTH 0100	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
One course in archaeology or biological anthropology:		1
ANTH 0310	Human Evolution	
ANTH 0500	Past Forward: Discovering Anthropological Archaeology	
Research methods		1
ANTH 1940	Ethnographic Research Methods	
At least two 1000-level courses that focus on specific aspects of sociocultural methods or theories, or in a particular region, such as:		2
ANTH 1111	Anthropology of China	
ANTH 1150	Middle East in Anthropological Perspective	
ANTH 1240	Religion and Culture	
ANTH 1242	Bioethics and Culture	
ANTH 1255	Anthropology of Disasters	
ANTH 1300	Anthropology of Addictions and Recovery	
ANTH 1301	Anthropology of Homelessness	

ANTH 1310	Global Health: Anthropological Perspectives	
ANTH 1320	Anthropology and International Development: Ethnographic Perspectives on Poverty and Progress	
ANTH 1515	Anthropology of Mental Health	
ANTH 1848	Ethnography + Social Critique	
ANTH 1911	Gender and Sexuality in the Middle East	
An additional three anthropology courses of the student's choosing. At least one of the electives must be at the 1000-level to meet the general requirements of the concentration.		3
Senior Seminar		1
ANTH 1990	Senior Seminar: (Re)Making Anthropology	
Total Credits		9

Linguistic Anthropology Track

Foundation course		1
ANTH 0800	Sound and Symbols: Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology	
One additional course in linguistic anthropology from the following:		1
ANTH 0805	Language and Migration	
ANTH 1311	Language and Medicine in Practice	
ANTH 1810	Language and Power	
Two other foundational courses in anthropology:		2
Choose one:		
ANTH 0100	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
ANTH 0300	Culture and Health	
Choose one:		
ANTH 0310	Human Evolution	
ANTH 0500	Past Forward: Discovering Anthropological Archaeology	
Research methods		1
ANTH 1940	Ethnographic Research Methods	
Senior Seminar		1
ANTH 1990	Senior Seminar: (Re)Making Anthropology	
An additional three anthropology courses of the student's choosing. At least two of the electives must be at the 1000-level to meet the requirements of the concentration.		3
At least one general course focusing on aspects of linguistic structure. ¹		1
At least one language course (one semester) in any language other than English. ²		1
Total Credits		11

¹ This course is in addition to the nine courses required in ANTH. Given the teaching commitments of departmental faculty, eligible courses will generally be offered only in departments other than Anthropology. Recommended courses include Introduction to Linguistics (LING 0100) or Sociolinguistics (SLAV 1300). Students may also choose another appropriate course to fulfill this requirement with DUS approval.

² This course is in addition to the nine courses required in ANTH. Students interested in studying a language not offered at Brown should consult with Linguistic Anthropology faculty and the DUS.

Anthropological Archaeology Track

Foundation course in anthropological archaeology		1
ANTH 0500	Past Forward: Discovering Anthropological Archaeology	
Foundation course in socio-cultural anthropology		1
ANTH 0100	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	

Choose one course in anthropological archaeology methodology: ¹		1
ANTH 1201	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis	
ANTH 1621	Material Culture Practicum	
ARCH 1900	The Archaeology of College Hill	
ANTH 1740	Paleoethnobotany: Ancient Agriculture to Criminal Investigations	
Choose one course that involves detailed archaeological investigation of a geographic region: ²		1
ANTH 1031	Classic Mayan Civilization	
ANTH 1126	Ethnographies of Heritage: Community and Landscape of the Mediterranean and Beyond	
ANTH 1505	Vertical Civilization: South American Archaeology from Monte Verde to the Inkas	
ANTH 1624	Indians, Colonists, and Africans in New England	
ANTH 1640	Maize Gods and Feathered Serpents: Mexico and Central America in Antiquity	
ANTH 1650	Ancient Maya Writing	
ANTH 1692	Southwestern Archaeology	
One 1000-level course in anthropology with significant archaeological, material culture, and/or museum studies component. A second geographic area course from the list above may be used to meet this requirement. Other regularly offered courses that meet this requirement include: ³		1
ANTH 1125	Indigenous Archaeologies	
ANTH 1620	Global Historical Archaeology	
ANTH 1623	Archaeology of Death	
ANTH 1820	Lost Languages: The Decipherment and Study of Ancient Writing Systems	
Three anthropology courses of the student's choosing. At least one of the electives must be at the 1000-level to meet the general requirements of the concentration.		3
Senior Seminar		1
ANTH 1990	Senior Seminar: (Re)Making Anthropology	
Total Credits		9

¹ This requirement will be waived for students who have completed an archaeological field school. The field school must be approved in advance of its completion for the requirement to be waived. Per the broader requirements of the concentration, students must still complete nine anthropology credits at Brown or via transfer credits. Note that many field schools do not carry credit.

² Other anthropological archaeology courses with significant geographic focus may be used to fulfill this requirement with DUS approval.

³ Other anthropology courses with significant archaeological, material culture, or museum studies focus may be used to fulfill this requirement with DUS approval.

Biological Anthropology Track

Foundation course in biological anthropology		1
ANTH 0310	Human Evolution	
Choose one foundational course in cultural anthropology, medical anthropology, or linguistic anthropology:		1
ANTH 0100	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
ANTH 0300	Culture and Health	
ANTH 0800	Sound and Symbols: Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology	
Biological anthropology methodology		1
ANTH 1720	The Human Skeleton	

Five anthropology courses of the student's choosing. At least three of the electives must be at the 1000-level to meet the requirements of the concentration. 5

At least one non-anthropology course with a biological focus. Any course with a BIOL subject code can be used to fulfill this requirement. Students are especially encouraged to consider a course with a significant content devoted to genetics and/or evolutionary theory. This course is in addition to the nine courses required in ANTH. 1

Choose at least one course in statistics. This course is in addition to the nine courses required in ANTH. Possible courses include:¹ 1

APMA 0650	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	
BIOL 0495	Statistical Analysis of Biological Data	
CPSY 0900	Statistical Methods	
SOC 1100	Introductory Statistics for Social Research	
PHP 1501	Essentials of Data Analysis	
Senior Seminar		1
ANTH 1990	Senior Seminar: (Re)Making Anthropology	

Total Credits 11

¹ Other courses may be substituted to meet this requirement with the permission of the DUS.

1. Take two half-credit Anthropology Thesis Workshop courses (ANTH 1930) and at least one additional independent study course (ANTH 1970) with the thesis advisor, usually in the student's final semester.
2. In consultation with the primary thesis advisor, identify a second reader by the start of the seventh semester.
3. Submit an approved honors thesis by the deadline stipulated each year.
4. Present the thesis in the Honors Theses Symposium in the Anthropology department.

More information on honors is available here: <https://www.brown.edu/academics/anthropology/honors> (<https://www.brown.edu/academics/anthropology/honors/>)

Research Opportunities and Engaged Scholarship

Training in anthropology is not limited to the classroom. Students are urged to seek out extracurricular opportunities that will round out their anthropological studies. Such experiences might include internships, study abroad, field schools, faculty research apprenticeships, and independent projects. Interested students may contact the director of undergraduate studies.

Anthropology concentrators who are especially interested in making deeper connections between their concentration curriculum and long-term engagement with local communities in Providence and beyond may choose to pursue an Engaged Scholarship designation through the Swearer Center. Engaged scholars combine hands-on experiences such as internships, public service, humanitarian and development work with their academic learning in order to develop a deeper understanding of, and appreciation for, social engagement. While most anthropology courses have some sort of 'engaged' element, being an Engaged Scholar in Anthropology means making a commitment to engaging more actively and intensively with the communities in which a student is living.

All Anthropology tracks are compatible with the Engaged Scholarship Certificate.

Honors

Honors

Candidates for honors should apply to the concentration advisor by the end of their 6th semester, but no later than the 4th week of the 7th semester. An application consists of a thesis proposal of 2-3 pages, describing the major research questions and methods to be used.

Candidates will prepare their proposals in close consultation with their primary advisor. Candidates for honors are required to:

1. Fulfill the standard concentration requirements.
2. Have completed at least two thirds of the concentration requirements by the end of the sixth semester.
3. Be in good standing
4. Have earned a majority of "A" grades in the concentration. Classes taken S/NC will count as qualifying towards that majority if they are marked "S* with distinction" indicating that had the student taken the course for a grade, the grade would have been an "A."

Honors candidates will: