Anthropology

Anthropology is the study of human beings from all times and all places, offering 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. The concentration provides students with a broad introduction to the discipline and includes the major subdisciplines of the field: sociocultural anthropology, archaeology, anthropological linguistics, and biological anthropology. The department also allows students to pursue the Engaged Scholars Program (https://www.brown.edu/academics/college/special-programs/public-service/engaged-scholars-program). ESP is for students with an interest in making deeper connections between their concentration curriculum and long-term engaged activities such as internships, public service, humanitarian and development work, archaeological excavations, and many other possible forms of community involvement.

Concentrators should select their courses in anthropology in consultation with the concentration advisor. At least nine courses in anthropology are required, including:

Select one of the following sociocultural/linguistic anthropology classes:
- ANTH 0100 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- ANTH 0110 Anthropology and Global Social Problems: Environment, Development, and Governance
- ANTH 0200 Culture and Human Behavior
- ANTH 0300 Culture and Health
- ANTH 0800 Sound and Symbols: Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology

Select one of the following biological anthropology/archaeology classes:
- ANTH 0310 Human Evolution
- ANTH 0500 Past Forward: Discovering Anthropological Archaeology

Select one of the following, normally taken in junior or sophomore year:
- ANTH 1621 Material Culture Practicum
- ANTH 1900 History of Anthropology: Anthropological Theories
- ANTH 1940 Ethnographic Research Methods
- ANTH 1950 Archaeological Field Work

A course from the ANTH 1910 Series (Normally taken in senior year)

Five additional Anthropology courses.

Total Credits 9

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Of the required courses, at least five courses counted toward the concentration must be offered at the 1000-level or above and one course must be on a particular world area.

Honors

Candidates for honors should apply to the concentration advisor by the end of his or her 6th semester, but no later than the 4th week of the 7th semester. An application consists of a brief statement addressing the focus of a proposed thesis and the names and signatures of two faculty members from the Department of Anthropology who have agreed to serve as the student's honors committee—one as honors thesis advisor, the other as a reader. Candidates for honors are required to:

1. Fulfill the standard concentration requirements.
2. Take two additional courses, usually, which may be used for thesis preparation.
3. Have a majority of A's in the concentration.

Field Work

Concentrators interested in archaeology are urged to obtain training in field archaeology by participating in Brown-sponsored field research, or by participating in an archaeological field school elsewhere.

4. Submit an approved honors thesis.