

ANTHROPOLOGY

Director of undergraduate studies: William Honeychurch, Rm. 305, 51 Hillhouse Avenue, 432-3676, william.honeychurch@yale.edu; anthropology.yale.edu

The major in Anthropology gives a firm grounding in this comparative discipline concerned with human cultural, social, and biological diversity. Anthropology deals not only with that small proportion of humankind in Europe and North America but with societies of the entire world, from the remotest past to the present day. It is thus an essential part of a sound liberal education, helping us to see our world from a perspective that challenges ethnocentric assumptions. The major in Anthropology covers the evolution of human and nonhuman primates and the evolutionary biology of living people; world prehistory and the emergence of civilization; diversity and commonality in social organization and culture; the importance of culture for understanding such topics as sickness and health, gender and sexuality, environment and development, media and visual culture, urban life and sport, economic organization and politics, law and society, migration, and religion; and language use as cultural behavior.

The subfields of anthropological inquiry – archaeology, biological anthropology, sociocultural anthropology, and linguistic anthropology – together offer a holistic perspective on humankind and its development.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Students are required to present twelve course credits toward their major. At least eight term courses must be taught in the Yale Department of Anthropology. These eight must include an introductory or intermediate course (numbered ANTH 001–299) in each of at least three subfields of anthropology, three advanced courses (numbered ANTH 300–470 or 473–490, not including a senior essay seminar), and two electives. Additionally, all students must prepare a senior essay in ANTH 491 or another Anthropology seminar. Majors may take up to three cognate courses in departments other than Anthropology.

Three term courses related to anthropology may be selected from other departments, with approval by the director of undergraduate studies. Majors are not required to present such cognate courses, but those who do should choose courses that expand their knowledge in one of the subfields of anthropology or in an area of cross-disciplinary concentration. For example, cognate courses for biological anthropology can be found in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Geology and Geophysics, Psychology, and Forestry & Environmental Studies; cognates for sociocultural anthropology can be found in Sociology, American Studies, History, Environmental Studies, Religious Studies, Global Affairs, and international and area studies. Appropriate areas of cross-disciplinary concentrations include such topics as area studies (e.g., Africa); anthropological approaches to law, environment, business, the built environment, and health; gender and sexuality studies; evolutionary biology; and geology.

Areas of concentration The major does not have formal tracks, but majors may choose to concentrate in one of the subfields of anthropology. They may also draw on courses in sociocultural and biological anthropology to pursue a concentration in medical anthropology. Those who concentrate in sociocultural anthropology are strongly encouraged to take a course in ethnographic methods and one in anthropological theory (e.g., ANTH 303 or 311). Those who concentrate in biological anthropology are strongly encouraged to take courses that give them hands-on experience working with material used in the study of human and nonhuman primate anatomy and evolution and that introduce them to laboratory methods.

Credit/D/Fail A maximum of one course taken Credit/D/Fail may be applied toward the Anthropology major.

SENIOR REQUIREMENT

All majors are required to complete a substantial paper during the senior year, either in a seminar or in ANTH 491. There are three options for completing the senior essay. First, students can write a paper for an advanced seminar. A seminar senior essay must be more substantial than a typical term paper and is expected to be 20–25 pages long. It is evaluated by the seminar instructor and a second reader drawn from the Yale faculty. Students must obtain written approval for this option from the seminar instructor no later than the third week of the term. Students fulfilling the requirements of two majors may not apply a single seminar essay toward the senior requirement for both majors. The deadline for a seminar senior essay is the senior essay deadline, not the term paper deadline. Students choosing this option must take the seminar for which they write their essay in addition to the three advanced courses required for the major.

The second option for the senior essay is an independent essay on a subject of the student's choice, completed in ANTH 491. A student pursuing this option must choose a topic and identify a faculty adviser by the end of the third week of the term in which the essay is to be written. By the same date, the adviser must approve a prospectus that outlines the topic, objectives, and methods of the essay, as well as a preliminary bibliography. The student should also inform the DUS of a preferred second reader by this time. The adviser must have a faculty appointment in Anthropology, and the second reader must have a faculty appointment at Yale.

The third option for the senior essay is a yearlong paper, begun in ANTH 471 or 472 and completed in ANTH 491. The yearlong essay is designed for students who wish to pursue more extensive independent projects than can be completed in a single term. Students must have their project approved by a faculty adviser who establishes the requirements for ANTH 471 or 472. Approval is required before the student registers for ANTH 471 or 472, typically in the fall term of the senior year.

ADVISING

With permission of the DUS, students may apply up to four courses taken outside Yale as electives or cognates toward the Anthropology major. Such courses must have been approved for Yale College credit and may include courses taken on a Year or Term Abroad or through summer study at another college or university.

Graduate courses Most graduate seminars in anthropology are open to qualified undergraduates. Descriptions are available in the departmental office, 10 Sachem St. Permission of the instructor and of the director of graduate studies is required.

STUDY ABROAD

Study abroad courses that are approved for Yale College and Anthropology credit may be used to replace one elective. If more than one such study abroad course credit is to be used for the major, it will come at the expense of one or more of the three cognate courses which may be taken in any Yale department or program with the approval of the DUS in Anthropology.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Prerequisites None

Number of courses 12 course credits (incl senior req)

Distribution of courses At least 1 intro survey or intermediate course in each of 3 subfields; 3 advanced courses (not incl senior essay sem); 2 electives; up to 3 cognate courses in other depts or programs with DUS approval

Substitution permitted 1 study abroad course for 1 ANTH elective

Senior requirement Senior essay in advanced sem or ANTH 491

FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Professors †Claire Bower, Richard Bribiescas, Richard Burger, †Michael Dove (*Forestry & Environmental Studies*), Kathryn Dudley (*American Studies*), J. Joseph Errington, Eduardo Fernandez-Duque, †Inderpal Grewal (*Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies*), Marcia Inhorn (*Middle East Studies*), William Kelly, Paul Kockelman, Roderick McIntosh, Catherine Panter-Brick, Eric Sargis, James Scott (*Political Science*), Helen Siu, Kalyanakrishnan Sivaramakrishnan, Anne Underhill (*Chair*), Claudia Valeggia, David Watts

Associate Professors Aimee Cox, Erik Harms, William Honeychurch, Douglas Rogers

Assistant Professors Oswaldo Chinchilla, Narges Erami (*Middle East Studies*), Louisa Lombard, Lisa Messeri

Senior Lecturer †Carol Carpenter

†A joint appointment with primary affiliation in another department or school.

Courses

ANTH 110a, An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology Louisa Lombard

Anthropological study of cosmology, tacit knowledge, and ways of knowing the world in specific social settings. Ways in which sociocultural specificity helps to explain human solutions to problems of cooperation and conflict, production and reproduction, expression, and belief. Introduction to anthropological ways of understanding cultural difference in approaches to sickness and healing, gender and sexuality, economics, religion, and communication. SO

ANTH 116a, Introduction to Biological Anthropology David Watts

Introduction to human and primate evolution, primate behavior, and human biology. Topics include a review of principles of evolutionary biology and basic molecular and population genetics; the behavior, ecology, and evolution of nonhuman primates; the fossil and archaeological record for human evolution; the origin of modern humans; biological variation in living humans; and the evolution of human behavior. SC, SO

ANTH 119b, Law as Culture Louisa Lombard

Introduction to anthropological understanding of what law is, how it holds its authority, and how it is shaped by cultural assumptions about justice, rights, and morality. Readings from classic and contemporary texts in legal and political anthropology. Cultural dimensions of law and its changing relationship to discipline, power, and governance. SO

ANTH 140a / SOCY 138a, The Corporation Douglas Rogers

Survey of the rise, diversity, and power of the capitalist corporation in global contexts, with a focus on the 20th and 21st centuries. Topics include: the corporation as legal entity and the social and cultural consequences of this status; corporations in the colonial era; relationships among corporations, states, and non-governmental organizations in Western and non-Western contexts; anti-corporate critique and response; corporate social responsibility; and race, gender, and indigeneity. HU, SO

ANTH 148Lb / NSCI 265b / PSYC 248b, Hormones and Behavior Claudia Valeggia and Eduardo Fernandez-Duque

Introductory laboratory focusing on the interaction between hormones and behavior from an evolutionary and developmental perspective. Students gain competency in basic laboratory techniques (pipetting, diluting, aliquoting, etc.) and develop a small, group research project. Additional study of the theoretical background on which any laboratory work is developed through reading and discussing primary scientific literature on both human and non-human primates. SC ½ Course cr

ANTH 171a / ARCG 171a, Great Civilizations of the Ancient World Staff

A survey of selected prehistoric and historical cultures through examination of archaeological sites and materials. Emphasis on the methodological and theoretical approaches by which archaeologists recover, analyze, and interpret the material remains of the past. SO

*** ANTH 230a / WGSS 230a, Evolutionary Biology of Women's Reproductive Lives** Claudia Valeggia

Evolutionary and biosocial perspectives on female reproductive lives. Physiological, ecological, and social aspects of women's development from puberty through menopause and aging, with special attention to reproductive processes such as pregnancy, birth, and lactation. Variation in female life histories in a variety of cultural and ecological settings. Examples from both traditional and modern societies. SC

ANTH 232a / ARCG 232a / LAST 232a, Ancient Civilizations of the Andes Richard Burger

Survey of the archaeological cultures of Peru and Bolivia from the earliest settlement through the late Inca state. SO

ANTH 242b, Human Evolutionary Biology and Life History Claudia Valeggia

The range of human physiological adaptability across environments and ecologies. Effects of energetic constraints on growth, reproduction, and behavior within the context of evolution and life history theory, with special emphasis on traditional non-Western societies. SC, SO

ANTH 254a, Japan: Culture, Society, Modernity Sarah LeBaron von Baeyer

Introduction to Japanese society and culture. The historical development of Japanese society; family, work, and education in contemporary Japan; Japanese aesthetics; and psychological, sociological, and cultural interpretations of Japanese behavior. WR, SO

*** ANTH 255b / ARCG 255b / LAST 255b, Inca Culture and Society** Richard Burger

The history and organization of the Inca empire and its impact on the nations and cultures it conquered. The role of archaeology in understanding the transformation of Andean lifeways; the interplay between ethnohistoric and archaeological approaches to the subject. SO

ANTH 267b / ARCG 267b, Human Evolution David Watts

Examination of the fossil record of human evolution, including both paleontological and archaeological evidence for changes in hominid behavior during the Pleistocene. Prerequisite: Introductory course in biological anthropology or biology. SO

ANTH 300a / E&EB 300a / EVST 182a, Primate Behavior and Ecology Eduardo Fernandez-Duque

Socioecology of primates compared with that of other mammals, emphasizing both general principles and unique primate characteristics. Topics include life-history strategies, feeding ecology, mating systems, and ecological influences on social organization. SC, SO

*** ANTH 301b, Foundations of Modern Archaeology** Richard Burger

Discussion of how method, theory, and social policy have influenced the development of archaeology as a set of methods, an academic discipline, and a political tool. Background in the basics of archaeology equivalent to one introductory course is assumed. SO

*** ANTH 303a, Field Methods in Cultural Anthropology** Sarah LeBaron von Baeyer

The fundamentals of cultural anthropology methods. The foundations of fieldwork approaches, including methods, theories, and the problem of objectivity. WR, SO

ANTH 316La / ARCG 316La, Introduction to Archaeological Laboratory Sciences Staff

Introduction to techniques of archaeological laboratory analysis, with quantitative data styles and statistics appropriate to each. Topics include dating of artifacts, sourcing of ancient materials, remote sensing, and microscopic and biochemical analysis. Specific techniques covered vary from year to year.

*** ANTH 322a / EVST 324a / SAST 306a, Environmental Justice in South Asia** Kalyanakrishnan Sivaramakrishnan

Study of South Asia's nation building and economic development in the aftermath of war and decolonization in the 20th century. How it generated unprecedented stress on natural environments; increased social disparity; and exposure of the poor and minorities to environmental risks and loss of homes, livelihoods, and cultural resources. Discussion of the rise of environmental justice movements and policies in the region as the world comes to grips with living in the Anthropocene. SO

*** ANTH 335b / E&EB 342b, Primate Diversity and Evolution** Eric Sargis

The diversity and evolutionary history of living and extinct primates. Focus on major controversies in primate systematics and evolution, including the origins and relationships of several groups. Consideration of both morphological and molecular studies. Morphological diversity and adaptations explored through museum specimens and fossil casts. Recommended preparation: ANTH 116 or BIOL 104. SC

*** ANTH 346b, Anthropological Approaches to Capitalism** Douglas Rogers

An introduction to the anthropological study of capitalism. Focus on how markets and commodities are embedded in social, cultural, and political contexts. Discussion of the many ways people have embraced, reinterpreted, and resisted capitalism worldwide. Consideration of the implications of this diversity for theories of capitalism as a whole. Enrollment limited to sophomores. SO

*** ANTH 362b, Unity and Diversity in Chinese Culture** Helen Siu

An exploration of the Chinese identity as it has been reworked over the centuries. Major works in Chinese anthropology and their intellectual connections with general anthropology and historical studies. Topics include kinship and marriage, marketing systems, rituals and popular religion, ethnicity and state making, and the cultural nexus of power.

* **ANTH 375a or b / ARCG 375a or b / ARCG 379a or b, Anthropology of Mobile Societies** William Honeychurch

The social and cultural significance of the ways that hunter-gatherers, pastoral nomads, maritime traders, and members of our own society traverse space. The impact of mobility and transport technologies on subsistence, trade, interaction, and warfare from the first horse riders of five thousand years ago to jet-propulsion tourists of today. SO

ANTH 380a / LING 219a, The Evolution of Language and Culture Claire Bowers

Introduction to cultural and linguistic evolution. How diversity evolves; how innovations proceed through a community; who within a community drives change; how changes can be “undone” to reconstruct the past. Methods originally developed for studying evolutionary biology are applied to language and culture. None WR, SO

ANTH 381b / WGSS 378b, Sex and Global Politics Graeme Reid

Global perspectives on the sexual politics of gender identity, sexual orientation, and human rights. Examination of historical, cultural, and political aspects of sexual orientation and gender identity in the context of globalization. SO

* **ANTH 385a / ARCG 385a, Archaeological Ceramics** Staff

Archaeological methods for analyzing and interpreting ceramics, arguably the most common type of object found in ancient sites. Focus on what different aspects of ceramic vessels reveal about the people who made them and used them. SO

* **ANTH 386a / GLBL 393a, Humanitarian Interventions: Ethics, Politics, and Health** Catherine Panter-Brick

Analysis of humanitarian interventions from a variety of social science disciplinary perspectives. Issues related to policy, legal protection, health care, morality, and governance in relation to the moral imperative to save lives in conditions of extreme adversity. Promotion of dialogue between social scientists and humanitarian practitioners. WR, SO

* **ANTH 389b / MMES 376b / NELC 385b / PLSC 469b / SOCY 359b, Politics of Culture in Iran** Nahid Siamdoust

Examination of cultural production in post-revolutionary Iran (1979 to the present) through works of noteworthy cultural and sociopolitical content in cinema, music, and newspaper journalism. Consideration of the policies the new Islamic Republic has put in place in order to regulate the field of cultural production, and the strategies that cultural producers have devised to navigate the given constraints.

HU

* **ANTH 397b / ARCG 397a or b, Archaeology of East Asia** Anne Underhill

Introduction to the findings and practice of archaeology in China, Japan, Korea, and southeast Asia. Methods used by archaeologists to interpret social organization, economic organization, and ritual life. Attention to major transformations such as the initial peopling of an area, establishment of farming villages, the development of cities, interregional interactions, and the nature of political authority. SO

ANTH 399b, The Anthropology of Outer Space Lisa Messeri

Examination of the extraterrestrial through consideration of ideas in anthropology and aligned disciplines. Students discuss, write, and think about outer space as anthropologists and find the value of exploring this topic scientifically, socially, and philosophically. SO

* **ANTH 406a / EVST 424a / PLSC 420a, Rivers: Nature and Politics** James Scott

The natural history of rivers and river systems and the politics surrounding the efforts of states to manage and engineer them. SO

* **ANTH 409a / ER&M 394a / EVST 422a / F&ES 422a, Climate and Society from Past to Present** Michael Dove

Discussion of the major traditions of thought – both historic and contemporary – regarding climate, climate change, and society; focusing on the politics of knowledge and belief vs disbelief; and drawing on the social sciences and anthropology in particular. SO

* **ANTH 414b / EAST 417b, Hubs, Mobilities, and World Cities** Helen Siu

Analysis of urban life in historical and contemporary societies. Topics include capitalist and postmodern transformations; class, gender, ethnicity, and migration; and global landscapes of power and citizenship. SO RP

* **ANTH 439a, Africa, Politics, Anthropology** Louisa Lombard

Historical-anthropological study of politics in Africa since the early nineteenth century. The creation and operation of African states; the negotiation of legitimacy, authority, and belonging by state agents and the people they govern; anthropological theories about the workings of African politics, including the involvement of both state and nonstate actors. SO

* **ANTH 454a / ARCG 454a, Statistics for Archaeological Analysis** William Honeychurch

An introduction to quantitative data collection, analysis, and argumentation for archaeologists. Emphasis on the exploration, visualization, and analysis of specifically archaeological data using simple statistical approaches. No prior knowledge of statistics required.

QR

* **ANTH 455b / WGSS 459b, Masculinity and Men's Health** Staff

Ethnographic approaches to masculinity and men's health around the globe. Issues of ethnographic research design and methodology; interdisciplinary theories of masculinity; contributions of men's health studies from Western and non-Western sites to social theory, ethnographic scholarship, and health policy. SO RP

* **ANTH 462b, Ethnographic Perspectives on Global Health** Staff

Study of anthropological ethnographies on serious health problems facing populations in resource-poor societies. Poverty and structural violence; health as a human right; struggles with infectious disease; the health of women and children. Focus on health issues facing sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America. SO RP

ANTH 464b / ARCG 464b / E&EB 464b, Human Osteology Eric Sargis

A lecture and laboratory course focusing on the characteristics of the human skeleton and its use in studies of functional morphology, paleodemography, and paleopathology. Laboratories familiarize students with skeletal parts; lectures focus on the nature of bone tissue, its biomechanical modification, sexing, aging, and interpretation of lesions. SC, SO

*** ANTH 471a or b and ANTH 472a or b, Readings in Anthropology** William Honeychurch

For students who wish to investigate an area of anthropology not covered by regular departmental offerings. The project must terminate with at least a term paper or its equivalent. No student may take more than two terms for credit. To apply for admission, a student should present a prospectus and bibliography to the director of undergraduate studies no later than the third week of the term. Written approval from the faculty member who will direct the student's reading and writing must accompany the prospectus.

*** ANTH 473b / ARCG 473b / EVST 473b / NELC 473b, Abrupt Climate Change and Societal Collapse** Harvey Weiss

The coincidence of societal collapses throughout history with decadal and century-scale drought events. Challenges to anthropological and historical paradigms of cultural adaptation and resilience. Examination of archaeological and historical records and high-resolution sets of paleoclimate proxies. HU, SO

*** ANTH 476a or b / ARCG 476a or b, GIS and Spatial Analysis for Archaeology** William Honeychurch

Introduction to the use of geographical information systems (GIS) in anthropology, with attention to archaeological applications. Examples from theoretical, analytical, and geographical contexts; introduction to current software. SO

*** ANTH 478a / ARCG 399a / EVST 399a / NELC 399a, Agriculture: Origins, Evolution, Crises** Harvey Weiss

Analysis of the societal and environmental drivers and effects of plant and animal domestication, the intensification of agroproduction, and the crises of agroproduction: land degradation, societal collapses, sociopolitical transformation, sustainability, and biodiversity. SO

*** ANTH 484b / WGSS 304b, Men, Manhood, and Masculinity** Andrew Dowe

Cultural and historic constructions of masculinity explored through an investigation of male bodies, sexualities, and social interactions. Multiple masculinities; the relationship between hegemonic, nonhegemonic, and subordinate masculinities. SO

*** ANTH 491a or b, The Senior Essay** William Honeychurch

Supervised investigation of some topic in depth. The course requirement is a long essay to be submitted as the student's senior essay. By the end of the third week of the term in which the essay is written, the student must present a prospectus and a preliminary bibliography to the director of undergraduate studies. Written approval from an Anthropology faculty adviser and an indication of a preferred second reader must accompany the prospectus.

*** ANTH 492b / ARCG 492b / NELC 321b, Imaging Ancient Worlds** John Darnell, Roderick McIntosh, and Agnete Lassen

The interpretation of epigraphic and archaeological material within the broader context of landscape, by means of creating a virtual model to reconstruct the sensory experiences of the ancient peoples who created those sites. Use of new technologies in computer graphics, including 3D imaging, to support current research in archaeology and anthropology.