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 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 (DUS). 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, Earth and Planetary Sciences, 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.

Alternative thesis formats may be considered at the discretion of the DUS and the student’s primary thesis advisor.
ADVISING
With permission of the DUS, students may apply up to two 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. See Academic Regulations, section K, Special Academic Programs.

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; or a yearlong essay to include ANTH 471 or 472 in addition to ANTH 491; or alt thesis format with DUS approval

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

The following courses introduce the student to the four subfields of anthropology.

Archaeology ANTH 172 Great Hoaxes and Fantasies in Archaeology

Biological anthropology ANTH 116 Introduction to Biological Anthropology

Sociocultural anthropology ANTH 110 An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Linguistic anthropology ANTH 231 Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology

The following courses are among those appropriate for first-year students, whether or not they intend to major in Anthropology.

• ANTH 112, Agent, Person, Subject, Self
• ANTH 140, The Corporation
• ANTH 148L, Hormones and Behavior Lab
• ANTH 172, Great Hoaxes and Fantasies in Archaeology
• ANTH 203, Primate Conservation
• ANTH 223, The Anthropology of War
• ANTH 232, Ancient Civilizations of the Andes
• ANTH 234, Disability and Culture
• ANTH 242, Human Evolutionary Biology and Life History
• ANTH 245, Nature and Globalization
• ANTH 254, Japan: Culture, Society, Modernity
• ANTH 257, Biocultural and Ecological Perspectives on Global Health
• ANTH 267, Human Evolution
• ANTH 276, South Asian Social Worlds
• ANTH 280, Evolution of Primate Intelligence

Students are invited to contact the director of undergraduate studies (DUS) in the fall to begin planning a program of study.
* ANTH 040a, The Evolution of Human Uniqueness David Watts
Current ideas in anthropology about what facilitated the evolutionary success of Homo sapiens and what distinguishes humans from other primates. The fossil and archaeological records for human evolution and the evolution of social behavior; research on nonhuman primate behavior and cognitive abilities, with an emphasis on chimpanzees; insights and limitations of comparative primate research. Enrollment limited to freshmen. Preregistration required; see under Freshman Seminar Program. SO

ANTH 116a, Introduction to Biological Anthropology Jessica Thompson
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 o Course cr

ANTH 140a / ER&M 241a / 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 171a / ARCG 171a, Great Civilizations of the Ancient World Anne Underhill
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 o Course cr

ANTH 217a, Hormones, Evolution, and Human Behavior Richard Bribiescas
This course examines the evolution of human behavior through the lens of endocrinology and life history theory. Topics include the evolution of social behavior, pair bonding, parental investment, aggression, sex, feeding behavior, and risk tolerance. This course also addresses these topics with a mindful eye towards variation throughout the human life course from birth to death. Specific attention is made towards examining behavioral endocrinology within the context of human diversity in all its forms, social, biological, and ecological as well as in comparison with other species including non-human primates. ANTH 116, ANTH 242, or a similar course is recommended before enrolling in this course. SC, SO o Course cr

ANTH 267a / ARCG 267a, Human Evolution Jessica Thompson
The main objective of this course is for students to learn how evidence and theory intersect with some of the peculiarities of history to form the modern discipline of paleoanthropology. It deals with scientific questions of human origins and evolution, and what we think we know of our own ancestry over the past 6 million years. We cover key tools such as evolutionary theory, paleontology, archaeology, paleoenvironmental reconstruction, phylogenetic analysis, genetics, and functional morphology. Using these tools, we critically examine what key debates have taken place over the last century of exploration and discovery in human evolutionary research, learning how unconventional thinking and spectacular discoveries have shaped current knowledge of our origins. Students learn what a surprising amount of information scientists can discern from fragmentary fossils, and are brought up to date with the most current discoveries and debates in human evolution. Students also see how human origins are conveyed to a broader audience, and how misunderstandings about how it happened can propagate and be misused. Knowledge of introductory biological anthropology or biology are helpful. SC, SO o Course cr

ANTH 280a, Evolution of Primate Intelligence David Watts
Discussion of the extent and evolutionary origins of cognitive abilities in primates (prosimians, monkeys, apes, and humans). Topics include the role of ecological and social factors as evolutionary forces; "ape language" studies; and whether any nonhuman primates possess a "theory of mind." SO

* ANTH 308b / WGSS 407b, Feminist & Queer Ethnographies: Family, Community, Nation Eda Pepi
This seminar centers the analytics and methods that feminist and queer ethnographic analyses have brought to the fore to revisit a cluster of topical issues, this year assembled around the theme: Family, Community, Nation. As a site in which personhood is distributed
and contested, the “family” is one of the building blocks of social scientific analysis—along with “community” and “nation.” Seen as ideological lynchpins for the reproduction of the social order, processes of family-making—like marriage, divorce, childbirth, and intergenerational flows—have been codified differently across historical and cultural contexts. This course engages the feminist and queer ethnographies that revealed the political hierarchies that emerge from seemingly natural categories and distinctions of kinship. We trace the gendered, sexualized, class-making, and racialized concepts, processes, and implicit understandings of family-making that chart the public and private spheres of life and national terrains. Students grapple with the processes of naturalization and denaturalization through which the “political” is mobilized by dyads like kin/kith, blood/soil, human/nonhuman, citizen/noncitizen, us/them, are made to appear. We also engage with feminist and queer methodologies that conjure up speculative fabulations for what Saidiya Hartman has called, “the radical hope for living otherwise.” We do so at a time when the global Covid-19 pandemic has demanded the resurgence of the state, tested community ties, transformed family arrangements, and isolated most of the world’s population within domestic domains.

* ANTH 309a, Language and Culture  Paul Kockelman
The relations between language, culture, and cognition. What meaning is and why it matters. Readings in recent and classic works by anthropologists, linguists, psychologists, and philosophers.  SO  o Course cr

* ANTH 311a, Anthropological Theory and the Post Colonial Encounter  Jane Lynch
Key texts in the theoretical development of sociocultural anthropology. Theorists include Karl Marx, Max Weber, Emile Durkheim, Franz Boas, Zora Neale Hurston, Sidney Mintz, Bernard Cohn, Michel Foucault, Edward Said, Antonio Gramsci, Sherry Ortner, and Joan Scott.  SO

* ANTH 324a / ANTH 824a, Politics of Memory  Yukiko Koga
This course explores the role of memory as a social, cultural, and political force in contemporary society. How societies remember difficult pasts has become a contested site for negotiating the present. Through the lens of memory, we examine complex roles that our relationships to difficult pasts play in navigating issues we face today. This course explores this politics of memory that takes place in the realm of popular culture and public space. The class asks such questions as: How do you represent difficult and contested pasts? What does it mean to enable long-silenced victims’ voices to be heard? What are the consequences of re-narrating the past by highlighting past injuries and trauma? Does memory work heal or open wounds of a society and a nation? Through examples drawn from the Holocaust, the atomic bombing in Hiroshima, the Vietnam War, genocide in Indonesia and massacres in Lebanon, to debates on confederacy statues, slavery, and lynching in the US, this course approaches these questions through an anthropological exploration of concepts such as memory, trauma, mourning, silence, voice, testimony, and victimhood.  HU, SO

* ANTH 385a / ARGC 385a, Archaeological Ceramics  Anne Underhill
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 386b / GLBL 393b, 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 401a, Meaning and Materiality  Paul Kockelman
The interaction of meaning and materiality. Relations among significance, selection, sieving, and serendipity explored through classic work in biosemiosis, technocognition, and sociogenesis. Sources from sociocultural and linguistic anthropology, philosophy, and cognitive sciences such as psychology.  SO

* ANTH 415a, Culture, History, Power, and Representation  Anne Aronsson
This seminar critically explores how anthropologists use contemporary social theories to formulate the junctures of meaning, interest, and power. It thus aims to integrate symbolic, economic, and political perspectives on culture and social process. If culture refers to the relations between language, culture, and cognition. What meaning is and why it matters. Readings in recent and classic works by anthropologists, linguists, psychologists, and philosophers.  SO

* ANTH 441a / MMES 399a / MMES 430a / WGSS 430a, Gender and Citizenship in the Middle East  Eda Pepi
This seminar explores the gendered and ethnic-based social processes and forms of power that citizenship, statelessness, and migration crises fuel, and are fueled by, in the Middle East and North Africa. The history of gender and citizenship in the region is imbricated in
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ethnosexual and orientalist colonial legacies that articulate a racialized problematic of “modernity.” Part of these legacies involve obscuring the role that women, sexual minorities, and gender, more broadly, have played in framing citizenship and statehood in the Middle East in global, regional, and local imaginations not only as border policing and legal doctrine, but as signifier – and reifier – of culture, race, and ethnicity. By examining the gendered and sexual dimensions of war, conflict, and partition, and the formation of modern citizenship in the Middle East, the seminar presents ethnographic, historical, literary and visual scholarship that theorizes the role of kinship and citizenship in gendered and racialized narratives of the nation and political sovereignty. So

* ANTH 471a and ANTH 472a, Readings in Anthropology   Staff
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 491a, The Senior Essay   Staff
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.