

Anthropology Major

www.Anthropology.Pitt.edu/Undergraduate

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Anthropology is concerned with how humans and human societies evolve culturally and biologically. Anthropology explores differences and similarities among human cultures and the biocultural processes that influence human biological diversity. It integrates a wide range of perspectives on human behavior, culture, and society. Students will become familiar with the basic concerns of four subfields of anthropology: archaeology, biological anthropology, cultural anthropology, and anthropological linguistics.

The anthropology program offers archaeology courses covering many geographic regions (Latin America, Africa, Europe, North America, among others), techniques of analysis, and issues in prehistory.

Course offerings in biological anthropology focus on evolutionary theory, human biological diversity and adaptation, and human evolution in Africa, Europe, Asia, and the Americas. Courses also explore human evolution in China, Japan, South Asia, East Africa, and the Pacific. Topics include decolonization, identity, media and society, and migration. Topics also include population genetics, human evolution, and human adaptation.

Opportunities for student field work and research are provided through museum courses, internships with faculty and graduate students, internships with local organizations, and summer research experiences.

Grade requirements

A minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses is required for graduation.

Satisfactory/No Credit option

No course that counts toward the major can be taken on an S/NC basis.

Writing (W) requirement

Students must complete at least one W course in the major.

The department strongly recommends a field school course for undergraduate majors.

Honors major requirements

Students with a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 and a minimum GPA of 3.0 in their Anthropology courses may graduate from the department with honors, pending the submission and acceptance of a completed project representing substantial student research. An honors project may be the expanded version of a paper from a current or previous course, or may result from independent research.

Undergraduate Anthropology Club

This organization offers workshops, hosts informal discussions, shows films, and organizes field trips for Anthropology majors and those interested in Anthropology.

Lambda Alpha

Students with a minimum overall GPA of 3.25 and a minimum GPA of 3.50 in their Anthropology courses may apply for membership in the Delta Chapter of the Lambda Alpha Anthropology National Honor Society

Advising

Majors are entered into the anthropology course site on Canvas where current information on opportunities for research, funding, and experiential opportunities can be found. The Anthropology Director of Undergraduate Studies and undergraduate peer advisors maintain regular offices. Students may make an advising appointment via Pathways. In addition, students are assigned a faculty advisor in their subdiscipline of interest.

Dr. Jennifer Muller
Director of Undergraduate Studies
3314 WWPH
jem498@pitt.edu

