

# Anthropology

Laurie Medina, Interim Chairperson  
354 Baker Hall  
(517) 353-2950

Anthropology takes culture as its central object of study. The discipline gives students a framework for viewing culture in the context of the natural world and evolutionary processes. Anthropologists also study the organization of social life, as well as symbolic and ideological systems. Major points of orientation are the search for cultural universals in the midst of wide variation in ways of life; the processes of change and alteration in social and cultural structures; comparisons between different societies; and the functioning of social, economic, and political institutions as part of overall cultural systems. Anthropology views the world of human culture as a natural laboratory in which diverse historical experiments have occurred and are occurring. The study of this diversity provides a foundation for a broad liberal education. The study of anthropology also contributes to the preparation of students for careers in education, medicine, business and industry, government service, and institutions in which a broad knowledge of human relations is important.

## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

### Department Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Anthropology

1. The University requirements for bachelor's degrees as described in the *Undergraduate Education* section of this catalog; 120 credits, including general elective credits, are required for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology.

The University's Tier II writing requirement for the Anthropology major is met by completing Anthropology 489. That course is referenced in item 3. a. below.

2. The requirements of the College of Social Science.
3. The following required major courses (30 credits):

A. **All of the following courses:**

ANP 201	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (3)
ANP 203	Introduction to Archaeology (3)
ANP 206	Introduction to Physical Anthropology (3)
ANP 489	Anthropology Capstone Course (W) (3)

B. **One area course from:**

ANP 410:	Revolution and Social Change in Latin America
ANP 411:	North American Indian Ethnography
ANP 414:	Anthropology of South Asia
ANP 415:	China: Culture and Society
ANP 419:	Anthropology of the Middle East
ANP 432:	American Indian Women (D)
ANP 433:	Contemporary American Indian Communities (D)

ANP 451: European Prehistory  
ANP 452: North American Prehistory  
ANP 453: Mesoamerican Prehistory  
ANP 455: Archaeology of Ancient Egypt  
ANP 490 – Independent Study (Depending on Topic)  
ANP 491 – Special Topics (Depending on topic)

C. **One topical/analytical course from:**

ANP 320: Social & Cultural Analysis  
ANP 321: Anthropology of Social Movements  
ANP 325: Anthropology of the Environment and Development  
ANP 330: Race, Ethnicity & Nation: Anthropological Approaches to Collective Identity  
ANP 362: Archaeology of Foragers to Farmers  
ANP 363: Rise of Civilization  
ANP 364: Pseudoarchaeology  
ANP 370: Culture, Health and Illness  
ANP 417: Introduction to Islam in Africa  
ANP 420: Language and Culture  
ANP 422: Religion and Culture  
ANP 423: Psychological Anthropology  
ANP 425: Issues in Medical Anthropology  
ANP 426: Urban Anthropology  
ANP 428: Environments of International Enterprise  
ANP 430: Culture, Resources, and Power  
ANP 431: Gender, Environment and Development  
ANP 436: Globalization and Justice: Issues in Political and Legal Anthropology  
ANP 439: Human Rights: Anthropological Perspectives (D)  
ANP 440: Hominid Fossils  
ANP 441: Osteology and Forensic Anthropology  
ANP 443: Human Adaptability  
ANP 461: Method and Theory in Historical Archaeology  
ANP 462: Frontiers and Colonization in Historical Archaeology  
ANP 490 – Independent Study (Depending on Topic)  
ANP 491 – Special Topics (Depending on topic)

D. **One course in anthropological methods, selected from:**

ANP 429: Ethnographic Field Methods  
ANP 441: Osteology and Forensic Anthropology  
ANP 463: Laboratory methods in Archaeology  
ANP 464: Field Methods in Archaeology

E. Four additional Anthropology courses, at least three of which must be at the 300-400 level. Anthropology 101 and Anthropology 200 may not be used to meet this requirement.

## College of Social Science Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Anthropology

### 1. Fifteen Credits in Social Science Course Work Outside the Department of Anthropology

A. Acceptable Disciplines: CJ, EC, GAS, GEO, IDSS, HST, HDFS, PS, PSY, SW, SOC

### 2. Six Credits in Natural Science Course Work selected from at least two different disciplines, from the list of disciplines and specific courses below:

A. Acceptable disciplines: BMB (BCH), BOT, BS, CEM, ENT, GLG, MTH\*\*, MIC, PHY, PSL, STT\*, ZOL.

B. Acceptable courses: ANTR 350, ANTR 480, CSE 101, EPI 390, GEO 203, GEO 206, GEO 206L, GEO 401, GEO 402, HNF 150, HST 250 (only offered online in the summer).

C. Relevant natural science courses offered through any other College or Department may be taken with the approval of the student's academic advisor and the College of Social Science.

\*Courses taken in fulfillment of the University mathematics requirement may not be included in the 15 credits taken for the College natural science requirement.

\*\*MTH 1825, MTH 290, MTH 100E, and MTH 103E may not apply to this requirement.

### 3. Six Credits in Arts & Letters Course Work

A. Acceptable disciplines: AAHD, ENG, Language, PHIL, REL, RCS, THR, WRAC, MUS, THR

**Academic Adviser**  
**Jackie Lillis-Warwick**  
**304 Baker Hall**  
**[lillisja@msu.edu](mailto:lillisja@msu.edu)**  
**(517) 355-7490**