Anthropology

Anthropology involves the study of present and past human cultures and biology to better understand the human species. With diverse but overlapping subfields, including archaeological, biological, sociocultural, linguistic and applied anthropology, anthropology spans the social, behavioral, and natural sciences, as well as the humanities. The skills developed in the study of anthropology are applicable to many settings and activities. While it is possible to pursue a more traditional career in anthropology (teaching at a college or university or working at a museum, for example), recognition of the skills of anthropologists in communication, cultural awareness, and research have expanded the settings in which training in anthropology is seen as relevant as we attempt to address the many challenges of globalization in our world today. Some of the careers listed below may require advanced degrees or additional training beyond the bachelor’s degree. Also, careers outside of the more traditional areas may require initiative to create new job opportunities. Students with motivation and flexibility will find that a degree in anthropology has the potential to help them pursue an interesting and rewarding career.

Some career possibilities for Anthropology Majors:

Applied anthropometry  Digital Mapping/Cartography  Interpretation (Guide)
Archival Work  Education (Teaching, Admin)  Kinesiology/Human Biology
Biomedicine  Epidemiology  Law Enforcement
Business/International  Environmental Consulting  Primate Behavior
Collections Management  Ethnology  Public Health
Cultural Brokerage  Forensic Science  Social Work
Cultural Resource Management  Genetics  Translation
Curation  Health Care  Writing/Editing
Curriculum Development  International Development

Possible employers of Anthropology Majors:

Businesses & Industries  Libraries  Publishers
Centers For Disease Control  Local, State, Federal, Tribal Govt  Research Institutions
Consulting Firms  Marketing Firms  Schools, Colleges, Universities
Coroner, Me Offices  Medical Service Organizations  Social Agencies
Counseling Agencies  Museums & Galleries  Social Research Organizations
Health Care Clinics  National Institutes Of Health  Social Service Programs
Historical Societies  Non-Profit Organizations  Us Bureau Of Indian Affairs
Hospitals  Peace Corps  National Park Service
International Agencies  Print Media  Zoological Gardens
Law Enforcement Agencies  Public Relations Firms
Suggested activities for Anthropology Majors:

• Internships or fellowships  
• Archaeological field experiences  
• Work with museum collections  
• Volunteer or part-time work in museums, historical societies, non-profit organizations, etc.  
• Work in arenas of social justice (migration, intimate violence, environmental health, etc.)

Professional Organizations

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (www.aafs.org)  
American Anthropological Association (www.aaanet.org)  
American Association of Physical Anthropologists (www.physanth.org)  
Archaeological Institute of America (www.archaeological.org)  
Register of Professional Archaeologists (http://www.rpanet.org)  
Society for American Archaeology (www.saa.org)  
Society for Applied Anthropology (www.sfaa.net)  
Society for Historical Archaeology (http://www.sha.org)  
National Association for the Practice of Anthropology (http://practicinganthropology.org/)  
National Association of Student Anthropologists (http://www.studentanthropologists.org/)  
Council on Anthropology and Education (http://www.aaanet.org/sections/cae/cae-home.html)

Anthropology Career Links

American Academy of Forensic Sciences Career page (http://www.aafs.org/choosing-career)  
American Anthropological Association Career Center (http://careercenter.aaanet.org/index.cfm)  
American Association of Physical Anthropologists graduate programs and careers (http://www.physanth.org/career)  
Archaeology Fieldwork.Com (http://www.archaeologyfieldwork.com/AFW)  
eCultural Resources, Cultural Resource Network for CRM jobs (http://www.eculturalresources.com/)  
FAQ about careers in archaeology in the US by Texas A&M University (link to: http://www.museum.state.il.us/ismdepts/anthro/dlcfaq.html)  
Human Terrain Systems (http://www.htscareers.com/)  
National Association for the Practice of Anthropology (http://practicinganthropology.org/jobs/)  
Northern Kentucky University Careers in Anthropology (http://anthropology.nku.edu/index.php/careers-in-anthropology)  
Shovelbums jobs and field schools (http://www.shovelbums.org/)  
Smithsonian Institution Career Center (http://www.sihr.si.edu/)  
Society for American Archaeology FAQ for students (http://www.saa.org/publicftp/PUBLIC/faqs/students.html)

Research, Grant, and Volunteer Links

American Anthropological Association extensive listing of fellowships and grants (http://www.aaanet.org/profdev/fellowships/)  
Fulbright Program (U.S. Dept. of State) (http://www.us.fulbrightonline.org/home.html)  
Field Museum Grants (http://www.fieldmuseum.org/research_Collections/scholarships/default.htm)
AAUW Women Leaders Conference (http://www.aauw.org/nccwsl/students.cfm)
AmeriCorps Vista (http://www.americorps.gov/about/programs/vista.asp)
Peace Corps (link to http://www.peacecorps.gov/)
Habitat for Humanity/Women Build (http://www.habitat.org/wb/default.aspx)
Smithsonian Natural History Research Experiences (http://www.mnh.si.edu/NHRE/)