

Anthropology, BS

Requirements

The Bachelor of Science with a major in anthropology requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including a minimum of 39 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major.

Students also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core. Students may count up to 56 s.h. of Department of Anthropology coursework (prefix ANTH) toward credit required for the Bachelor of Science degree.

The BS is appropriate for students with interests in any of anthropology's subfields; it offers enhanced opportunities to gain experience and develop skills in research methods and scientific reasoning.

Students may choose to complete one of two specialized tracks: archaeology or medical anthropology. See "Optional Undergraduate Tracks."

Undergraduates majoring in anthropology, including transfer students, must earn a minimum of 15 s.h. for the major at the University of Iowa. Students may apply credit earned at approved field schools offered by other institutions toward the major, with Department of Anthropology approval.

Students who declare anthropology as their major when they are admitted to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are advised at the Academic Advising Center until they have earned 30 s.h. Students who have earned more than 30 s.h. are advised by the departmental undergraduate advisor.

The BS with a major in anthropology requires the following coursework.

Requirements	Hours
Common Requirements	30
Advanced Coursework	6
Quantitative, Mathematical, or Formal Reasoning Tool	3
Allied Topical Field	
Optional Undergraduate Track	

Common Requirements

Students must complete three foundational courses, three global challenges courses, one course in comparative human experience, one course about people in places, and 6 s.h. in practicum and methods training.

Course #	Title	Hours
Foundational Courses		
Three of these:		
ANTH:1001	Issues in Anthropology	3
ANTH:1101	Cultural Anthropology	3
ANTH:1201	World Archaeology	3
ANTH:1301	Human Origins	3

Global Challenges

Three of these:

ANTH:2100	Anthropology and Contemporary World Problems	3
ANTH:2151	Global Migration in the Contemporary World	3
ANTH:2164	Culture and Healing: An Introduction to Medical Anthropology	3
ANTH:2261	Human Impacts on the Environment	3
ANTH:2320	Origins of Human Infectious Disease	3
ANTH:3237	Politics of the Archaeological Past	3

Comparative Human Experience

One of these:

ANTH:2102	Anthropology of Marriage and Family	3
ANTH:2136	Race, Place, and Power: Urban Anthropology	3
ANTH:2140	Food, Drink, and Culture	3
ANTH:2181	The Anthropology of Aging	3
ANTH:2190	Love Rules: Law and the Family Across Cultures	3
ANTH:2191	Love, Sex, and Money: Sexuality and Exchange Across Cultures	3
ANTH:3103	Environment and Culture	3
ANTH:3110	Colonialism and Indigenous Health Equity	3
ANTH:3125	Transnational Feminism	3
ANTH:3127	Anthropology of Death	3
ANTH:3152	Anthropology of Caregiving and Health	3
ANTH:3199	Understanding Health in an Unequal World: Anthropology and Global Health Policy	3
ANTH:3261	Our Life With Dogs: The Anthropological Study of Animals in Human Societies	3
ANTH:3278	Archaeology of Ancient Cities	3
ANTH:4140	Feminist Activism and Global Health	3

People in Places

One of these:

ANTH:1046	Environmental Politics in India	3
ANTH:2108	Gendering India	3
ANTH:2160	Culture, Health, and Wellness: Southeast Asia in Focus	3
ANTH:2165	Native Peoples of North America	3
ANTH:2182	Africa: Health and Society	3
ANTH:2220	The Olmec, Maya, and Aztecs: Archaeology of Mesoamerica	3
ANTH:3017	Decolonizing Anthropology in Native North America	3

ANTH:3121	Love, Marriage, and Family in India	3
ANTH:3239	The Archaeology of the First Europeans	3
ANTH:3243	Archaeology of the American Midcontinent	3
ANTH:3257	North American Archaeology	3
ANTH:3260	Pleistocene Peopling of the Americas	3
ANTH:3265	Archaeology of the Great Plains	3
ANTH:3275	Egyptian Archaeology	3
ANTH:3276	Greek Archaeology	3
ANTH:3277	Roman Archaeology	3

Practicum and Methods Training

6 s.h. from these:

ANTH:2208	Archaeological Methods	3
ANTH:2290	Practicum in Archaeology	arr.
ANTH:2390	Laboratory Methods in Biological Anthropology	arr.
ANTH:3117	Using Ethnographic Methods	3
ANTH:3207	Animal Bones in Archaeology	3
ANTH:3240	Cultural Resources Management Archaeology: Practice and Practicalities	3
ANTH:3255	Introduction to Archaeological Ceramics	3
ANTH:3295	Field Research in Archaeology	arr.
ANTH:3305	Human Osteology	3
ANTH:4080	Anthropology Internship	arr.
ANTH:4315	Human Evolutionary Anatomy	3

Advanced Coursework

Students must complete two additional anthropology courses (6 s.h., prefix ANTH) numbered 3000 or above.

Anthropology offers many options for advanced coursework, including courses dealing with environment and culture, expressive culture (art, verbal arts, literature, music, and dance), gender and sexuality, human evolution, human osteology, human prehistory, identity, medical anthropology, molecular genetics, psychological anthropology, and urban anthropology. Department faculty members offer courses that focus on Europe, South Asia, and Native North America.

Quantitative, Mathematical, or Formal Reasoning Tool

Course #	Title	Hours
One of these:		
COMM:1117	Advocacy and Argument	3
CS:1110	Introduction to Computer Science	3
CS:1210	Computer Science I: Fundamentals	4
LING:1050	Language and Formal Reasoning	3
MATH:1440	Mathematics for the Biological Sciences	4

MATH:1850	Calculus I	4
PHIL:1636	Principles of Reasoning: Argument and Debate	3
STAT:1010	Statistics and Society	3
STAT:1020	Elementary Statistics and Inference	3
STAT:2010	Statistical Methods and Computing	3
STAT:3510	Biostatistics	3

Allied Topical Field

Students complete a topical concentration in one of the following allied fields: biology, chemistry, computer science, earth and environmental sciences, economics, geographical and sustainability sciences, global health studies, health and human physiology, linguistics, mathematics, psychology, science studies, sport studies, or statistics and actuarial science. Minors (or at least five courses) in other fields, chosen in consultation with a student's advisor, also may be applied toward this requirement.

Students are strongly encouraged to take courses and participate in archaeological field and laboratory research, biological anthropology laboratory research, ethnographic research methods in sociocultural anthropology, and multimedia research in linguistic anthropology.

Optional Undergraduate Tracks

Students have the option of adding a particular focus to their study plan by completing a specialized track. They may choose one of two options: archaeology [p. 2] or medical anthropology [p. 3].

The optional tracks reflect broad issues bridging subfields in and outside of anthropology. Completion of a track indicates the acquisition of considerable expertise and is noted on a student's transcript.

The optional tracks each require 15 s.h. (typically five courses). By selecting courses carefully, students majoring in anthropology can complete a specialization track without adding to the semester hours required for graduation.

Archaeology

In North America and throughout much of the rest of the world, modern land use continually threatens evidence of past land use. Most archaeological excavations are conducted as cultural resource management (CRM), so it is essential that all researchers who work with archaeological data and individuals committed to site preservation have a basic understanding of CRM. Students who choose this emphasis learn about the field, how to address related ethical issues, and technical and theoretical challenges.

The archaeology track requires a fundamental overview course, two area electives, a technical/practical elective, and a field school course.

Course #	Title	Hours
Overview		
This course:		
ANTH:3240	Cultural Resources Management Archaeology: Practice and Practicalities	3

Area Electives

Two of these:

ANTH:2165	Native Peoples of North America	3
ANTH:3243	Archaeology of the American Midcontinent	3
ANTH:3257	North American Archaeology	3
ANTH:3260	Pleistocene Peopling of the Americas	3
ANTH:3265	Archaeology of the Great Plains	3

Technical/Practical Elective

At least 3 s.h. from these:

ANTH:2208	Archaeological Methods	3
ANTH:2290	Practicum in Archaeology	arr.
ANTH:3207	Animal Bones in Archaeology	3
ANTH:3237	Politics of the Archaeological Past	3
ANTH:3255	Introduction to Archaeological Ceramics	3
ANTH:3305	Human Osteology	3

Field School

At least 3 s.h. from these:

ANTH:3295	Field Research in Archaeology	arr.
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An equivalent course from another university

Medical Anthropology Track

Human experiences of sickness and suffering are universal yet profoundly shaped by cultural and historical contexts. Medical anthropology explores cultural and biological diversity in sickness, health, and healing through approaches that include examining individual experiences of disrupted well-being, considering how biological and cultural factors interact to promote health or produce sickness, analyzing political/economic causes of health inequalities, and applying research to improve health research and services in an increasingly global world. Coursework in medical anthropology helps students prepare for a range of health professions and social services careers and for work in diverse settings that increasingly include nongovernmental organizations devoted to improving health. Future health professionals are increasingly called upon to understand how sociocultural and biological factors intersect to produce experiences of health, sickness, and healing.

The medical anthropology track requires an introductory course plus four electives that focus on health-related topics. Elective options include courses numbered 2000-3999 that apply medical anthropology to specific topics, as well as a course numbered above 4000 that helps students engage with more complex topics in this field.

Course #	Title	Hours
Overview		
This course:		
ANTH:2164	Culture and Healing: An Introduction to Medical Anthropology	3
Electives		
Four of these:		
ANTH:2160	Culture, Health, and Wellness: Southeast Asia in Focus	3
ANTH:2181	The Anthropology of Aging	3

ANTH:2182	Africa: Health and Society	3
ANTH:2320	Origins of Human Infectious Disease	3
ANTH:3110	Colonialism and Indigenous Health Equity	3
ANTH:3118	Politics of Reproduction	3
ANTH:3152	Anthropology of Caregiving and Health	3
ANTH:3199	Understanding Health in an Unequal World: Anthropology and Global Health Policy	3
ANTH:3328	Molecular Genetics of Human Disease	3
ANTH:4140	Feminist Activism and Global Health	3

Teacher Licensure

Students interested in teaching in elementary and/or secondary schools should seek admission to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) in the College of Education.

To qualify for licensure in secondary teaching, students in the TEP complete a degree in education as well as a related College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree. See Apply on the College of Education website for details on requirements and deadlines for applying to the College of Education and about TEP choices of majors leading to licensure.