

Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures

Undergraduate Coordinator: Dr. Darcy Shane Miller

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Anthropology is the study of humans as biological and cultural beings. Its subfields include archaeology, biological anthropology, cultural anthropology, and linguistics. Students majoring in anthropology may undertake course work in all four subfields, with concentrations offered in archaeology and cultural and biological anthropology.

Anthropology is a particularly broad major, designed for students who are preparing for employment with research organizations or museums, cultural research management for administrative and research positions with state or federal governments (such as state highway departments, medical examiner's offices, and the National Park Service), and with human service agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGO's), or organizations that involve work in both the U.S. and foreign countries. The undergraduate major in anthropology also prepares students for graduate training in professional fields such as environmental and sustainability studies, planning, law, medicine, public health, forensics, and public administration, as well as for graduate training in anthropology leading to college and university teaching and research positions.

A student wishing to pursue a program leading to a Bachelor of Arts with a major in anthropology is required to complete the program of study outlined on this page. Students are encouraged to take elective courses in related fields which will strengthen their academic training and job skills. These may include courses in history, human biology, disease, and anatomy, soils, geology, criminology, and geographic information systems (GIS).

Students are eligible for membership in the Alpha chapter of Lambda Alpha, the national anthropology honor society. In order to be considered, a student must have at least a 2.50 overall GPA, with a 3.00 GPA in anthropology courses, and have earned a minimum of 12 semester hours credit in anthropology. Part-time jobs are available for anthropology majors through the Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures and through the Cobb Institute of Archaeology.

The Anthropology faculty and staff are housed in the Cobb Institute of Archaeology. Facilities include archaeology, bioarchaeology, and forensics laboratories and a museum. The museum houses artifacts from Mississippi and the Middle East, including replicas of large-scale relief sculptures and statues from Assyria and Egypt.

Anthropology may be used as a minor field of study at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Fifteen hours (nine hours must be 3000 level or above), including AN 1103, constitute an undergraduate minor. Requirements for an anthropology minor at the graduate level will be established in consultation with the anthropology graduate advisor. Courses taken for an undergraduate or graduate minor must be taught by anthropology faculty.

General Education and College Requirements

English Composition

EN 1103	English Composition I	3
or EN 1163	Accelerated Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	

Foreign Language

3 semesters	one Foreign Language - see advisor	9
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Humanities

Literature	see General Education courses	3
History	see General Education courses	3
Philosophy	See A&S requirements	3
Humanities Elective	Consult Advisor. Must be from 2 different areas - see A&S Core	9

Mathematics

MA 1313	College Algebra	3
MA /ST 2113	Introduction to Statistics	3

Fine Arts

See A&S Core List		3
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Natural Sciences

Physical Sciences w/lab (CH, GG, PH) ¹		3-4
Life Science w/ lab (BIO)		3-4
Natural Science Elective ²		3-4

Social Sciences

See General Education courses	6
Social Sciences Electives ³	12

Major Core

AN 1143	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3
AN 1344	Introduction to Biological Anthropology	4
AN 1543	Introduction to Archaeology	3
Anthropology Upper Div Electives - see advisor		18
Anthropology Lower or Upper Division Elective		2

Oral Communication Requirement

AN 4123	Anthropological Theory	3
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Writing Requirement

AN 4123	Anthropological Theory	3
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Computer Literacy

AN 4143	Ethnographic Methods	3
or AN 3513	Artifact Analysis	

General Electives

General Electives - Consult advisor	15-24
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Total Hours	124
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Note: Minimum hours required is 123 but based on electives chosen more hours may be taken.

- ¹ See General Education courses.
- ² Consult advisor.
- ³ Must be from 2 different areas and must cross 4 disciplines over the 18 hours. Only one Economics allowed. Two Anthropology courses may be included. Consult advisor.

Middle Eastern Studies Minor

The Middle Eastern Studies (MES) minor is offered to MSU students as formal acknowledgement of the completion of a specialized program of study over and above their normal degree requirements that leads to greater proficiency in areas related to Middle Eastern Studies. The MES minor requires a minimum of 18 credit hours. Students must complete at least 9 hours (3 courses) from the Core Course List, and 9 hours (3 courses) from the Elective Course List. Only one Special Topics (2990, 4990) or Directed Individual Study (4000) in Middle Eastern Cultures, Religion, or Anthropology will be accepted for completion of this minor.

Students must choose three of the following: 9

AN 3553	Near Eastern Archaeology
or MEC 3553	Near Eastern Archaeology
or REL 3553	Near Eastern Archaeology
HI 4403	The Ancient Near East
or MEC 4403	The Ancient Near East
or REL 4403	The Ancient Near East
HI 4413	Ancient Greece and Rome
MEC 3473	Islam
or REL 3473	Islam
MEC 4000	Directed Individual Study ¹

Students must select three of the following: 9

AN 1143	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
AN 3533	Rise of Civilization
AN 3553	Near Eastern Archaeology
or MEC 3553	Near Eastern Archaeology
or REL 3553	Near Eastern Archaeology
AN 3540	Archaeological Travel and Participation Program
FLH 1113	Greek I
FLH 1123	Elementary Ancient Greek II

FLL 1113	Latin I
FLL 1123	Latin II
GR 4283	Geography of Islamic World
HI 4403	The Ancient Near East
or MEC 4403	The Ancient Near East
or REL 4403	The Ancient Near East
HI 4413	Ancient Greece and Rome
MEC 3473	Islam
or REL 3473	Islam
REL 1213	Introduction to the Old Testament
REL 1223	Introduction to the New Testament
REL 2233	Introduction to Old Testament Archaeology
or MEC 2233	Introduction to Old Testament Archaeology
REL 3203	The Prophets of Ancient Israel
REL 4143	Classical Mythology
or FL 4143	Classical Mythology
Total Hours	18

¹ May use only one Directed Individual Study/Special Topic. This also includes AN/REL 2990, 4000, and 4990.