

ANTHROPOLOGY, BA: ARCHAEOLOGY

Anthropology is the global social science. It is the study of the human condition everywhere; its cultural, linguistic, and biological diversity; and how it evolved and developed from the prehistoric past into the globalizing present. Anthropology is an interdisciplinary 14 credit major that intersects with programs and departments across the University. Students may major in anthropology as a whole (General Anthropology), or choose to concentrate in Biological Anthropology, Archaeology, Cultural and Linguistic Anthropology, or specialize in two thematic concentrations: Medical Anthropology and Environmental Anthropology.

Archaeology is the study of past societies through the excavation of material culture, from the Paleolithic into the early Historical periods. Students study excavation methods and techniques of analysis, and have opportunities to work with collections in the Penn Museum and its Center for the Analysis of Archaeological Materials (CAAM). Archaeology majors take introductory courses in all sub-fields of Anthropology, and complete the remainder of their coursework primarily in Archaeology.

The minimum total course units (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/credits-needed-major/>) for graduation in this major is 34. Double majors may entail more course units.

For more information: <https://www.sas.upenn.edu/anthropology/>

For information about the General Education requirements, please visit the College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/curriculum/>) page.

Code	Title	Course Units
College General Education Requirements and Free Electives		
Foundational Approaches + Sectors ¹ + Free Electives		20
Major Requirements		
<i>Block I: Introductory courses</i>		
ANTH 0050	Great Transformations	1
or ANTH 1480	Food and Fire: Archaeology in the Laboratory	
ANTH 0020	Anthropology, Race, and the Making of the Modern World	1
or ANTH 0040	The Modern World and Its Cultural Background	
ANTH 0030	Human Origins, Evolution and Diversity	1
<i>Block II</i>		
Select 1 course unit in Biological Anthropology		1
Attribute AABI - Biological Anthropology (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/aabi/)		
Select 1 course unit in Cultural and Linguistic Anthropology		1
Attribute AACL - Cultural and Linguistics (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/aacl/)		
<i>Block III</i>		
Select 3 course units in Archaeology. ²		8
Attribute AAAR - Archaeology (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/aaar/)		
Select 2 course units in Anthropology		

Attribute AAAR - Archaeology; Attribute AACL - Cultural and Linguistic; Attribute AABI - Biological Anthropology; Attribute AAEA - Environmental Anthropology; Attribute AAMA - Medical Anthropology

Attribute AAAR (<http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/aaar/>)

Attribute AACL (<http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/aacl/>)

Attribute AABI (<http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/aabi/>)

Attribute AAEA (<http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/aaea/>)

Attribute AAMA (<http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/aama/>)

Select 3 Anthropology or Anthropology-related courses in another department²

Capstone Seminar

ANTH 4000	Research Seminar in Anthropology	1
Total Course Units		34

¹ You may count no more than one course toward both a Major and a Sector requirement. For Exceptions, check the Policy Statement (<http://www.college.upenn.edu/sectors-policy/>).

² For up to three of these, non-ANTH courses with anthropological content may be requested. All non-ANTH courses must be approved by the Undergraduate Program Chair.

Honors

Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 in the major and write a senior thesis.

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2025 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.