

80 Anthropology

Definition

Anthropology is a scientific discipline which studies humans and human behavior. The subject is typically divided into two broad fields—physical and cultural anthropology. Physical anthropology is concerned with the evolution and biological features of human populations. Cultural anthropology deals with a wide variety of learned forms of behavior, such as language, kinship, religion, economics, technology, values, and personality. As both a biological and social science, anthropology seeks to order and explain humankind and our bio-cultural history.

Staff

To access faculty and staff, dial (661) 722-6300, then the 4-digit extension.

Program Advisement:

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Cindy Kline ext. 6482

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Adjunct Faculty:

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V.M.

David Earle

2170

Program Description

The anthropology program has been developed to provide the student with a broad perspective of human biological and cultural origins, evolution, and variations. This is achieved by offering basic survey courses which include a wide variety of anthropological topics and perspectives.

Distinctive Features

As with most college courses, a significant amount of time in the anthropology courses is devoted to lectures and discussions. However, anthropology also includes presentations such as movies, filmstrips, slide shows, artifact collections, fossil skeletons, etc., which are used to illustrate the topics being discussed.

Career Options

Archaeologist—Federal/State/Private
College Instructor
Cultural Anthropologist
Cultural Resource Management
Environmental Impact Analyst
Ethnic Relations Specialist
Ethnologist—Federal/State/Private
Exhibit Designer
Expedition Guide
Film Ethnographer
Health Researcher
Industrial Consultant
Linguist
Medical Anthropologist
Museum Curator
Physical Anthropologist
Population Analyst
Public Information Officer
Recreation Specialist
Redevelopment Specialist
Social Gerontologist
Social Services Consultant
Transcultural Nursing
Travel Consultant
Urban Planner
(Most of these careers require education beyond the two-year college level.)

Certificate Program

Certificate not applicable.

Associate Degree

An associate degree with a major in Anthropology is not available. Anthropology courses can be included in the 18 units necessary for an associate degree with a major in Liberal Arts and Sciences. (See Graduation/Associate Degree Requirements.)

Transfer

Students planning to continue studies at a four-year college or university after AVC should visit the Transfer Resource Center and consult with a counselor as soon as possible. Additional information on official transfer articulation agreements from AVC to many CSU/UC campuses can be found at the following Web site: www.assist.org

Prerequisite Completion

If a course is listed as a prerequisite for another course, that prerequisite course must be completed with a satisfactory grade in order to enroll in the next course. According to Title 5, Section 55200(d), a satisfactory grade is a grade of "A," "B," "C" or "P". Classes in which the Pass/No Pass option is available are indicated with an asterisk (*) before the course title. See "Pass/No Pass Option" in the catalog for full explanation.

Anthropology Courses

ANTH 101 *INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 099.

This course provides an introduction to the study of humankind as a biological and "cultural" animal. General emphasis is placed on scientific explanations for human origins, modern human diversity, and the place of our species in the natural world. Specifically, emphasis is placed on the biological processes involved in organic evolution, fossil evidence of human evolutionary change, interpretations of the fossil record, physical and behavioral characteristics of primates, human genetics, modern human biological diversity, the biological significance of "race," and interpretations of the archaeological evidence for the origin of culture. (CSU, UC, AVC)

ANTH 102 *INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 099.

This course provides an introduction to the study of human culture. It is a general survey of human culture and variation the world over. Emphasis is placed on identifying the basic elements

common to all human cultures and developing an understanding of the significance of both similarities and differences in cultural expression. An appreciation of the significance of ethnic and/or cultural diversity is stressed, as well as a basic understanding of the fundamental characteristics shared by all human cultures. The course provides an explanatory framework for cultural difference, both in the past and in the modern world. It also discusses ethnocentrism as a barrier to cross-cultural understanding. All of this provides an important basis for discussions of ethnic diversity within our own society as well as around the world. (CSU, UC, AVC)

ANTH 103 *INTRODUCTION TO PREHISTORY

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: *Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 099.*

This course is an introduction to world prehistory, archaeology, and anthropology. Emphasis is placed on a general survey of human cultural development and prehistory throughout the world. The broad history of the human species is traced from its earliest beginnings through the advent of written history and early state political systems. Examples of various stages of cultural evolution, major cultural and social developments, and historical events will be drawn from all parts of the world. Methods and theories used by archaeologists in the identification of prehistoric and ancient cultural sequences in different culture areas of the world are discussed. (CSU, UC, AVC)

ANTH 112 *NATIVE NORTH AMERICANS

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: *Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 099.*

This course is a general survey of the origins and development of Native American culture in North America from prehistoric times to the present. Ethnohistory, archaeology, language studies, and cultural anthropology are used to understand the complex cultural processes, which combined over thousands of years of cultural development to produce the rich and diverse cultural systems encountered by Europeans beginning in the sixteenth century. Emphasis is placed on understanding the nature of Native American and European contact and the impact of the contact on both Native American and European culture. Students are expected to develop a substantial general knowledge of Native American peoples and their cultural history and diversity. (CSU, UC, AVC)

ANTH 130 *FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY IN LATIN AMERICA

(formerly Archaeology in Peru)

5 units

168 hours total

Advisory: *Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 099.*

This course is a summer archaeology field school course held at an archaeological field site in Latin America. The Latin American archaeological field site may be located in the south coast of Peru, Belize, or another Latin American location. Students travel to the field site for the duration of the field school, during which they participate in the archaeological mapping, excavation, and cataloguing of artifacts from prehistoric and/or historic

archaeological sites. The field school program includes archaeological training in recording environmental context, field mapping, site survey, excavation techniques, use of survey and excavation forms, cataloguing, and photography. Lecture topics covered during the field school include regional prehistory and the archaeology and history of the field site area. Students will also have the opportunity to experience local Latin American culture and to interact with members of local communities in the field school region. Students will consult with the instructor regarding costs and requirements. (CSU, AVC)

ANTH 140 *INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY

4 units

6 hours weekly

Advisory: *Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 099.*

This course provides an introduction to archaeological field work and laboratory analysis, and involves student field work at off-campus archaeological sites. It also provides an introduction to the theoretical basis of archaeological field research, in which artifacts and archaeological sites are examined in order to understand how culture has changed over time. Students will gain practical experience in field and laboratory research and methods. They will be exposed to a variety of real research situations in archaeology and will be taught to recognize and solve problems commonly arising in such situations. (CSU, AVC)