Anthropology

Overview
Anthropology is the systematic, cross-cultural study of human beings in both their cultural and biological aspects. The goal of anthropology is to understand people by studying human behavior and beliefs from all times and places. Because of its broad comparative perspective, anthropology has been called the most liberating of the sciences; it has helped destroy myths of racial or cultural superiority and has expanded our knowledge of the human experience.

The undergraduate anthropology program at Kansas State University provides an excellent background for students pursuing graduate programs in the social sciences or careers that involve interaction with the general public. Basic knowledge of anthropology prepares students for life in today’s world of distinct cultural traditions linked through international trade, migration and communication. It trains students to deal effectively with people from different backgrounds, an important concern of today’s employers.

Professional options
Careers
A bachelor’s degree in anthropology provides a broad general background for more specialized postbaccalaureate study or general career options. Students often combine anthropology with other interests, including double majors in anthropology and another field.

Federal, state and municipal governments are important employers in areas like cultural resource management, museums and parks, public health, medical examiner offices, the U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Education, Social and Rehabilitation Services, Department of Defense and others. Positions are also available in private firms conducting contract archaeology. Students interested in applying anthropological knowledge find jobs in areas such as advocacy for minority groups, culturally appropriate health care delivery, community development administration, international agriculture, refugee services or bilingual education.

Local and international community service opportunities are available at K-State, while a number of universities offer advanced degrees in applied anthropology.

Employers
Business
Successful business careers depend on a broad understanding of cultural environments and cultural and linguistic behavior. A wide range of businesses are increasingly calling on anthropologists to study public and internal subcultures for marketing and globalization in today’s markets and businesses.

Creative arts and design
Students in film, art, theater, architecture and other creative careers can expand their horizons in anthropology. K-State excels in training students to explore visual and digital skills.

Cultural resource/heritage management
Archaeologists and ethnographers trained in anthropology work in private businesses, state and federal agencies, tribal nations, and nonprofit organizations documenting, analyzing, preserving, and protecting cultural resources.

Education
K-12 educators in the social sciences, humanities and sciences find anthropology useful in helping students gain both broad and specialized knowledge and skills in increasingly multicultural classrooms.

International affairs
Anthropology is the most consistent and comprehensive cross-cultural social science. It provides an essential background for overseas employment, particularly in international issues, cultural diversity and social policy, combined with courses in international studies, political science, law and related fields.

Law, forensics, criminology and public affairs
Anthropology students gain varied perspectives and critical-thinking skills. Additionally, students interested in forensic anthropology, forensic sciences and criminology gain in-depth knowledge about anthropological methods applied to criminal investigations, including their strengths and weaknesses. This knowledge is also valuable for those interested in studying law, serving them well in assessing evidence.

Medicine
Anthropology is especially relevant for the health professions. The most effective prevention and treatment of diseases requires good knowledge of human biology and the influences of cultural factors on health and health-care delivery.

Museums
Anthropology provides a solid background for various jobs in museums through studies of material culture, curation and conservation of artifacts and documents, understanding different cultures past and present, and culture change. K-State assists in locating museum internships for students interested in exploring museum careers and relevant graduate study.

Universities
K-State-trained paleoanthropologists, bioarchaeologists, archaeologists, cultural anthropologists and linguistic anthropologists have found teaching and research positions in major universities, adding new knowledge and training others in the many aspects of humanity.

Academics
Degree options
Anthropology majors study in the four major subfields of anthropology and participate in a stimulating program that encourages the development of a broad perspective. Knowledge of the subfields helps students understand the relationship between physical and sociocultural aspects of human beings, as well as prehistoric and contemporary cultures.

Students also develop skills in writing and critical analysis that prepare them for graduate school and careers. Majors can acquire field and laboratory experience in archaeology and biological anthropology, while classes in ethnographic and linguistic methods are also available.

Students are encouraged to participate in study abroad, summer field schools and other experiential learning opportunities in their areas of interest. Subfields of anthropology include:

Cultural anthropology
The study of contemporary cultures. Students interested in human cultural diversity and topics such as religion, politics, ethnicity, gender, marriage and the family will enjoy this specialty.
Archaeology
Archaeology, like cultural anthropology, strives to understand human cultures, but those of the past. Archaeologists study material remains in order to reconstruct previous ways of living and understand cultural change. Courses available at K-State include those emphasizing critical thinking, North American archaeology, and field and laboratory methods.

Biological anthropology
Biological or physical anthropology is the study of humans as biocultural organisms. Students interested in this subfield concentrate on the study of growth and development, osteology, bioarchaeology, genetics, human evolution and the fossil record, criminal forensics methods and nonhuman primate behavior.

Linguistic anthropology:
Linguistic anthropology is the study of the relationship between language and culture, focusing on how language both reflects and creates thought, culture and power relations across societies. This field addresses questions such as: What is language? How do we learn language? How do people, through interactions with others, display their personal and group identities, strengthen relationships, discriminate and stereotype? What role does language play in processes such as globalization and domination? Ultimately, linguistic anthropology explores how language shapes social structures and social life.

Faculty
The anthropology faculty at K-State are actively involved in teaching, research and advising. Together they cover all four major subfields of anthropology. Faculty members are nationally and internationally known for their expertise in such specialties as digital ethnography, Plains archaeology, bioarchaeology, Native American studies and language socialization.

They have been recognized for outstanding instruction with various awards including the CASE/Carnegie Professor of the Year Award, American Anthropological Association/Oxford Press Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching and other university teaching awards.

K-State faculty research represents world culture and cultural traditions of past and present Native Americans of North and South America and around the world. Faculty work closely with students to help them develop individual courses of study, assist with graduate school applications and prepare for future careers.

Transferring
Although courses from other institutions may satisfy general requirements of K-State’s College of Arts & Sciences, all anthropology courses must be reviewed by K-State’s anthropology faculty for approval to fill major requirements for anthropology. At least 18 of the required 30 credit hours in anthropology must be earned at K-State, including ANTH 301 Initiation to Anthropology and ANTH 602 Anthropological Theory.

Activities
Qualified majors may serve as teaching or laboratory assistants in the various subfields.

Financial assistance
Awards for upperclassmen include the P.J. O’Brien Scholarship Award in Archaeology, Ibn Battuta Award for the best anthropology paper, Harriet and Martin Ottenheimer Award to present research at the Central States Anthropological Society Conference, Harriet J. Ottenheimer Linguistic Anthropology Scholarship, and the Prins-McBride Travel Award. Selected students may also have paid opportunities to serve as teaching assistants.

Suggested coursework
Students may earn either a Bachelor of Arts (with a foreign language requirement) or a Bachelor of Science degree in anthropology. In addition to general requirements of the College of Arts & Sciences, anthropology majors take a minimum of 34 hours in anthropology.

Introductory classes

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<th>Hrs.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ANTH 200, 204 OR 210 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ANTH 220 Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ANTH 260 Introduction to Archaeology and World Prehistory</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>ANTH 280 Introduction to Biological Anthropology</td>
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Advanced courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hrs.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ANTH 301 Initiation to Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ANTH 602 Anthropological Theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Credit hours at or above the 300 level in at least three of the subfields. At least nine hours must be at or above the 500 level. (Students are encouraged to take at least one methods course.)</td>
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A GPA of 2.5 or higher in all anthropology courses taken is required to earn the anthropology degree.

The minor
A minor is also available. It requires 18 credit hours, including at least two introductory anthropology courses and four upper-level anthropology courses (300 level or above). A minimum GPA of 2.5 in all anthropology courses is also required.

Curriculum
In addition to the introductory courses for each subfield, majors in anthropology are required to complete advanced anthropology courses in at least three of the subfields. Following is a partial list of some of the advanced anthropology courses from which these may be selected.

Cultural anthropology

| 3    | ANTH 305 Cultures of South Asia             |
| 3    | ANTH 515 Creativity and Culture             |
| 3    | ANTH 516 Ethnomusicology                    |

For more information about anthropology, contact:
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k-state.edu/sasw/anth

For more information about Kansas State University, contact:
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k-state.edu/admissions

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Post-Graduation Statistics
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