

## **Anthropology BPhil or BSGS**

### Overview

Anthropology is the study of human behavior. The field is wide in scope, addressing itself both to the comparative study of world wide variations in culture and to the development of humankind from prehistoric to contemporary times.

It considers such questions as how peoples' behavior changes over time, how people move about the world, why and how people from distant parts of the world and dissimilar cultures are different and the same, how the human species has evolved over millions of years, and how individuals understand and operate successfully in distinct cultural settings.

Careful record-keeping, attention to details, analytical reading, and clear thinking are taught by anthropological courses. Social ease in strange situations, critical thinking, and strong skills in oral and written expression are cultivated by anthropological training. Using a range of social, behavioral, biological and other scientific research methods, anthropology majors learn to supplement statistical findings with descriptive data gathered through participant observation, interviewing, and ethnographic study. An anthropologist is a trained observer who knows the importance of collecting data, in listening and watching what others are doing, in reflecting on what has actually as well as apparently occurred, in researching the context, in applying various explanatory models, and in adopting a broad perspective for framing an understanding.

### Job Outlook

See <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos054.htm> for more information.

### Compensation

See <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos054.htm> for more information.

### Career Options/Tracks

There are many career and educational options for anthropology majors. Further anthropological study leads to both traditional anthropological careers of teaching and research as well as in applied anthropology. Academic anthropologists find careers in anthropology departments, social science departments, and a variety of other departments or programs, such as medicine, epidemiology, public health, ethnic, community or area studies, linguistics, cognitive psychology, and neural science.

Applying anthropology offers many opportunities to use anthropological perspectives and skills. Jobs filled by anthropology majors include researchers, evaluators, and administrators. Cultural anthropologists have the range of careers filled by other social scientists; biological and medical anthropologists have other skills which are useful in the growing sector of health related occupations. Many archaeologists are employed in American cultural resource management projects which are required by federal and state laws before major building ventures.

### Advanced Education Options

Further studies in graduate or professional school are common paths for anthropology undergraduate majors. Anthropology provides a strong basis for subsequent graduate level education and training in international law, public health, and other areas as well as the social sciences.

The average post baccalaureate time needed to obtain the master's degree is two years and the PhD, about eight years.

### Sample Job Titles

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| *research assistant     | *archeologist          |
| *anthropologist         | *anthropology teacher  |
| *museum technician      | *archivist             |
| *museum curator         | *zoological consultant |
| *archeology fieldworker | *preservationist       |

### Some Employers of Anthropology Majors

- \* hospitals
- \* state/federal government
- \* colleges/universities
- \* international agencies
- \* zoological gardens
- \* research laboratories
- \* U.S. park service
- \* business and industry
- \* museum

Other Sources of Information

American Academy of Forensic Sciences

<http://www.aafs.org/>

American Anthropological Association

<http://www.aaanet.org/>

American Association of Museums

<http://www.aam-us.org>

America's Job Bank

<http://www.ajb.dni.us>

Anthropology Resources on the Internet

<http://www.anthropologie.net>

Anthropology Search Engine

<http://www.anthro.net>

AnthroTECK Virtual Library

<http://vlib.anthrotech.com/guides/>

Federal Jobs Digest

<http://www.jobsfed.com/>

Opportunity Knocks (Jobs in Nonprofit Organizations)

<http://www.opportunitynoocs.org>

Peace Corps

<http://www.peacecorps.gov/indexf.cfm>

Society for Applied Anthropology

<http://www.sfaa.net>

The Riley Guide

<http://www.rileyguide.com>