Cultural anthropologists seek to comprehend how and why people think, feel, and act in cultures all over the world, how cultural changes occur, and the role power plays in our lives. Research in cultural anthropology includes ethnographic methods as well as comparative and historical analyses. The undergraduate program in cultural anthropology offers a wide range of introductory and advanced courses that can be grouped into three different clusters – Inequality and Power, Engaging Communities, and Global Cultural Connections. Students who choose the cultural anthropology concentration gain a better understanding of themselves, their cultures, and their world-views and become empowered to work for positive change in their society and beyond.

Top 5 reasons to study Cultural Anthropology

1. Understand the extraordinary diversity of human culture and behavior.

2. Understand human behavior from a cross-cultural and cross-societal perspective.

3. Understand how inequalities exist and how they arise within and between societies.

4. Understand how to make a more equitable and inclusive world.

5. Prepare yourself for a variety of career paths that require understanding human differences.

Where can I go?

A degree in Anthropology can take you in multiple directions. Students in Anthropology may choose to pursue a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BS), a Master of Science (MS), or a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

Anthropology provides students with a foundation for employment in:
- Colleges and universities
- Research institutes (academic, governmental, private, etc.)
- Museums and archives
- State and local government
- Federal government agencies
- Non-profit or non-governmental organizations
- Libraries and special collections
- Historical preservation societies
- Social service and human rights agencies
- Media, communications, newspapers and magazines

Alumni jobs

- Museum curator
- Public and social policy developer and administrator
- Immigrant and refugee settlement specialist
- Human rights worker
- International adoptions specialist
- National and international business manager or consultant
- Foreign service specialist
- Human resources manager
Courses you may need

1ST YEAR
ANTH 145 or 150; ANTH 161; ANTH 270

2ND YEAR
ANTH 1xx-4xx (Biological Anthropology); ANTH 1xx-4xx (Cultural Anthropology); ANTH 3xx-4xx (Geographic-Area Anthropology)

3RD YEAR
ANTH 3xx/4xx, ANTH 3xx/4xx, ANTH 3xx/4xx (all in Cultural Anthropology)

4TH YEAR
ANTH 441 or 488 (Cultural Theory), ANTH 3xx/4xx (Elective), ANTH 3xx/4xx (Elective)

What will I learn?

A degree in Anthropology can give you skills in:

• Critical thinking and reasoning
• Communication - written, oral, cross cultural
• International relations
• Fieldwork
• Cross-cultural communication and collaboration
• Cultural resource management
• Museum conservation
• Policy analysis
• Grant writing and fundraising
• Program management and development

Specialized courses

In addition to the overall skills you will gain from the major in Anthropology, at the Department of Anthropology at the University of Oregon you can take specialized courses in areas such as the following:

• Anthropology of Pirates and Piracy
• Anthropology and Aliens
• Medical Anthropology
• Immigration and Farmworkers Political Culture
• Anthropology of Chocolate
• Anthropology of Globalization
• Activist Anthropology
• Feminist Methods in Anthropology

Major credits

Required 40 credits
Electives 8 credits
Total 48 credits

Core Education Requirement

BS or BA Degree
Minimum = 180 credits
Core Education is approximately 71-83 credits depending on transfer credits and placement scores and requires courses in:

Writing
Math and/or CIS (BS) or Language (BA)
US: Difference, Inequality, Agency
Global Perspectives
Areas of Inquiry in:
  Arts and Letters
  Social Science
  Science

Add a minor or certificate

Minors: Environmental Studies; Food Studies; Folklore; Geography; Global Health; International Studies; Political Science; Psychology; Sociology; Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS)