



ANTHROPOLOGY | COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

B.A. IN ANTHROPOLOGY

The Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology degree program emphasizes a holistic approach to the study of humans both past and present and integrates the study of human cultural behavior, biology and language.

The study of anthropology delves into a variety of subject areas, including Native Americans (historic and prehistoric), medical anthropology, primatology, ethnography, world cultures, linguistics, bioanthropology (including an introduction to forensics), prehistoric archaeology, human paleontology, and food and culture.

Students in the IU Northwest Anthropology program can focus on one of four main areas of the discipline, including:

Physical Anthropology

Focuses on mechanisms of biological evolution, genetic inheritance, human adaptability and variation, primatology, and the fossil record of human evolution.

Cultural Anthropology

Focuses on culture, ethnocentrism, cultural aspects of language and communication, subsistence and other economic patterns, kinship, sex and marriage, socialization, social control, political organization, class, ethnicity, gender, religion, and culture change.

Archaeology

Focuses on prehistory and early history of cultures around the world; major trends in cultural evolution; and techniques for finding, excavating, dating, and analyzing material remains of past societies.

Linguistic Anthropology

Is concerned with the human communication process, focusing on the importance of socio-cultural influences; nonverbal communication; and the structure, function, and history of languages, dialects, pidgins, and creoles.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Completion of a B.A. in anthropology requires 120 credit hours and a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average.

Anthropology majors must also meet the general education requirements as established by the College of Arts and Sciences. Students should consult with the department for additional information concerning prerequisites, course content and academic counseling.

COURSEWORK

Majors in anthropology can choose from more than a dozen courses in archaeology, language and culture, biological anthropology, and cultural anthropology. Required are:

- Two basic courses in anthropology
- Three core courses in anthropology
- One course in methods (quantitative methods or statistics)
- One course in theory
- One seminar course
- Any three additional anthropology courses, at least one at the 300 or 400 level.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The IU Northwest Anthropology Resource Center serves as a display, storage room and work room that contain dozens of real and replica fossils, artifacts, and anatomical specimens used in various courses.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A B.A. IN ANTHROPOLOGY?

Students with a background in anthropology have good employability. As with all arts and sciences degrees, their education assures employers that they have developed critical thinking and communication skills. In addition, some businesses consider anthropology to be good preparation for "corporate culture" and for international business.

Increasing opportunities exist for students trained in ethnographic methods for research and marketing jobs. There is a shortage of archaeological field workers. There are also jobs in social services as well as in Native American relations, archaeology, museum work, and government park services. A degree in anthropology also serves as excellent preparation for graduate study in anthropology and other disciplines.

HANDS-ON LEARNING

Several courses feature field trips to zoos and archaeological sites.

Each year, students from an Introduction to Archeology class turn a small portion of the IU Northwest campus into an official archeological excavation site. The excavation exercise furnishes students with a close look at how an archeological dig is prepared, plotted, dug, researched, and returned back to its original state.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

The Anthropology Club sponsors many activities, including field trips, tours and guest speakers. Recent lectures have covered such topics as forensic anthropology and a demonstration of flintknapping, which is the making of stone tools. The club also sponsors the "Big One-Dollar Book Sale" as a fundraiser each fall and spring.

RELATED DEGREE OPTION

- Minor in Anthropology

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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