Anthropology

View Anthropology Department website

Anthropology, the broadest of the social science disciplines, is the study of human culture and social experience through space and time—from early hominid ancestors to post-industrial societies. The major consists of a four-field approach: cultural anthropology and the study of historic and contemporary societies (ethnography, ethnology and ethnohistory), archaeology and the study of material culture (prehistoric, historic and underwater archaeology), biological anthropology (biology, human evolution and culture), and linguistic anthropology (language and culture). Course offerings address topical areas that include applied anthropology, Chesapeake archaeology, ecological and economic anthropology, kinship and social organization, food, Tourism, and historic preservation. Many courses address issues of gender, ethnicity and globalization.

Affiliations with Historic St. Mary's City and nearby Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum/Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory provide adjunct faculty and generate rich opportunities for majors to engage in internships, independent studies, St. Mary's Projects and hands-on professional research, laboratory work and fieldwork. Several study tour and exchange programs offer exciting possibilities for study and research abroad. A degree in anthropology prepares students for graduate work in the social sciences and professions and provides an excellent liberal arts foundation for a wide range of career options—working in educational institutions, museums, business, private industry or government.

Learning Outcomes

- Employ appropriate anthropological concepts, theories or methodologies to understand the development and diversity of human cultures.
- Explain the contributions of biological, archaeological, cultural or linguistic anthropology for understanding human and cultural diversity in the modern era.
- Apply anthropological knowledge and skills to understand or address human challenges,

issues or problems.

- Demonstrate in written form effective articulation of anthropological knowledge at a level appropriate to the audience.
- Orally communicate anthropological knowledge at a level appropriate to the audience.
- Identify, locate and use appropriate sources to support anthropological investigation, analysis or interpretation.
- Construct a critical review of information associated with a particular issue or topic.
- Design and successfully carry out an anthropology project.
- Seek connections between anthropology and other intellectual disciplines and professions.
- Employ the use of anthropological knowledge as a foundation for personal and professional engagement for making positive contributions to community and society.

Degree Requirements for the Major

General College Requirements
General College Requirements (see Curriculum section), including the following requirements to satisfy the major

Required Core Courses
- ANTH 101: Introduction to Anthropology
- ANTH 201: Anthropology Toolkit or ANTH 202: Archaeology Practicum

Two Subfield Anthropology Courses
Two courses chosen from the following to incorporate two subfield anthropology courses

- ANTH 230: Cultural Anthropology
- ANTH 243: Biological Anthropology
- ANTH 250: Language and Culture
- ANTH 281: Archaeology and Prehistory
- ILCT 300: Introduction to Linguistics

Required Upper Division Courses
- ANTH 349: Anthropological Theory
- ANTH 385: Anthropological Research Methods

Elective Courses
Three elective courses in anthropology at the 300- or 400-level

Capstone Experience

All students must select one of the following options as the capstone experience of their education

- ANTH 490 Senior Tutorial (plus one additional 300- or 400-level course)
- ANTH 493/494: St. Mary's Project (8 credit hours)
- ANTH 497: Directed Research (4 credit hours, plus one additional 300- or 400-level course)

Minimum Grade and GPA Requirements

Students must complete a minimum of 44 credit hours, and all courses presented for the major must have a grade of at least C-.

Sequence of Study

Each student will plan an individual program with an adviser to arrive at a combination of courses that will meet the requirements for the major and be most meaningful for the student's goals and interests. The anthropology faculty strongly recommends that the student obtain an adviser from among the faculty in the student's area of concentration by the beginning of the junior year. The following model is suggested as a possible basic program to satisfy the above requirements:

- First Year:
  ANTH 101 and one subfield course
- Second Year:
  ANTH 201 or ANTH 202, one subfield course, and two anthropology electives
- Third Year:
  ANTH 385, ANTH 349, one anthropology elective
- Fourth Year:
  St. Mary's Project or ANTH

  THE ST. MARY'S PROJECT IN ANTHROPOLOGY

  Students must complete all upper level major requirements (ANTH 349 and ANTH 385) before submitting a St. Mary's Project (SMP) proposal to the department chair for review by the department faculty. SMP proposals must follow a format established by the Department, and are due to the Department Chair on June 1 to begin an SMP in the fall semester, or December 15 to begin an SMP in the spring semester. Projects approved by the department and successfully completed and presented by the student will receive eight hours of credit to be counted towards the major and fulfill the capstone requirement. Students contemplating an

SMP in another discipline should follow the department's SMP guidelines and submit their SMP proposal to the department chair for review in order to receive credit for the senior capstone experience.

Requirements for Archaeology Concentration

1. General College Requirements and anthropology major requirements, including the following requirements to satisfy the major with a concentration in archaeology:

2. Required core courses:

a. *Five core courses:*
   - ANTH 101: Introduction to Anthropology
   - ANTH 202: Archaeology Practicum
   - ANTH 281: Archaeology and Prehistory
   - ANTH 385: Anthropological Research Methods
   - ANTH 349: Anthropological Theory

b. *At least one archaeology field school:*
   - ANTH 377: Archaeological Field Study
   - ANTH 410: Historical Archaeology Field School
   - ANTH 454: Archaeological Survey
   - An Archaeology Field School Approved by the Chair

c. *One additional sub-field course:*
   - ANTH 230: Cultural Anthropology
   - ANTH 243: Biological Anthropology
   - ANTH 250: Language and Culture
   - ILCT 300: Introduction to Linguistics

d. *Two Elective 300-level Courses in Archaeology:*
   - ANTH 311: Native American Culture and History
   - ANTH 337: Atlantic World Archaeology
   - ANTH 351: Underwater Archaeology
   - ANTH 352: Topics
   - ANTH 357: Archaeological Analysis and Curation
   - ANTH 323: Introduction to Historic Preservation
   - ANTH 334: Archaeology of the African Atlantic

- ANTH 339: Archaeology of Status and Identity
- ANTH 454: Archaeological Survey

e. *One Elective 300-Level Course in Cultural Anthropology:*

- ANTH 302: Food and Culture
- ANTH 306: Principles of Applied Anthropology
- ANTH 336: The Cultured Body
- ANTH 341: Economic and Ecological Anthropology
- ANTH 346: Analysis of Material Culture
- ANTH 348: African American Culture
- ANTH 360: Kinship and Social Organization
- ANTH 390: Cultures of Africa
- ANTH 326: Anthropology of Tourism

3. All students must elect one of the following options as the capstone experience of their education:
   - ANTH 490: Senior Tutorial (plus one additional 300- or 400- level course)
   - ANTH 493/494: St. Mary's Project (8 credit hours)
   - ANTH 497: Directed Research (4 credit hours, plus one additional 300- or 400-

4. Students must complete a minimum of 44 credit hours, and all courses presented for the major must have a grade of at least C-.

5. Students who plan to complete an anthropology major with a concentration in archaeology should obtain an adviser from the faculty in the student's area of concentration by the beginning of the junior year. The following model is suggested as a possible basic program to satisfy the above requirements:

- First Year:
  ANTH 101
- Second Year:
  ANTH 281, ANTH 202, one subfield course, and one anthropology electives
- Third Year:
  ANTH 349, two anthropology electives, Archaeological Field School (summer)
- Fourth Year:
  St. Mary's Project, or ANTH 497, or ANTH 490 and one anthropology elective (300- or 400-

level)

Degree Requirements for the Minor

Core Curriculum
Completion of Core Curriculum requirements.

Course Requirements
At least six courses in anthropology and a minimum of 22 credit hours:

Required Courses

- ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology
- ANTH 201 Anthropology Toolkit or ANTH 202 Archaeology Practicum

Two Courses at the 200-level

- ANTH 230 Cultural Anthropology
- ANTH 243 Biological Anthropology
- ANTH 250 Language and Culture
- ANTH 281 Archaeology and Prehistory

Two Elective Courses

- Any two elective anthropology courses at the 300 or 400 level

Grade Requirements
All courses presented for the minor must have a grade of at least C-.

Requirements for Teacher Certification

A Master of Arts in Teaching program is available at St. Mary's College of Maryland after completion of the baccalaureate degree. Students who are interested in becoming teachers should contact the chair of the Department of Educational Studies or an education adviser in their major field of study for suggested coursework in Educational Studies and their specific major. These consultations should take place during the first semester of the sophomore year.

Faculty

Bill Roberts (department chair), Iris Carter Ford, Liza Gijanto, Julia King. Adjunct faculty: Silas Hurry, Susan Langley, Stephan Lenik, Henry Miller, Travis Parno, Patricia Samford, Scott Strikland