

Anthropology

Department of Sociology and Anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences



Program of Study

Anthropology is the study of human beings past and present. A Bachelor of Arts will open you to opportunities in government, private business, community organizations, education, health organizations, research institutions and the media. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of anthropologists is projected to grow 19 percent through 2022, faster than the average for all occupations.

Students can pursue a major or minor in anthropology **in the classroom, online, or in a combination of both formats**. Our program offers coursework in all four subfields of anthropology: cultural anthropology, archaeology, biological anthropology and linguistic anthropology. Our goal is to create critical thinkers and problem solvers who contribute to making the world a better place.

Careers in Anthropology

Today's anthropologists do not just work in exotic locations. They are in corporations, all levels of government, educational institutions and non-profit associations. Anthropologists even work in disaster areas, including along the Mississippi River after the floods of 2008 and in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria.

Anthropologists want to know why things happen. For example, we know how AIDS is spreading but do we know why? Anthropologists tackle big, human problems, such as overpopulation, disease, warfare and poverty.

Faculty

Our faculty members are outstanding teachers and researchers. They work in North America, Latin America, South Asia, the Middle East and Europe. They study topics like avian-human bonds, language and conflict, ancient and forensic DNA and local food systems. Each are nationally and internationally recognized scholars who publish in peer-reviewed journals. Members of the faculty have been recipients of significant grants, including from the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of Education, and they regularly incorporate students into ground-breaking research in all four fields of anthropology.

Scholarships

Detailed information on scholarships is available from the department advising office, (309) 298-2189; Western's Scholarship Office, (309) 298-2001; or on the Web at wiu.edu/scholarship.

Special Opportunities

Anthropology students have an opportunity to work with **mentors** who are actively engaged in applied research. We have developed relationships with regional institutions, including the Field Museum of Natural History and the Dickson Mounds Museum.

Our faculty also teach short-term **study abroad** field schools to Germany, Puerto Rico, India, Peru and Ecuador.

We also offer a summer **archaeological field school** where students explore the prehistoric past.

Our majors and minors have their own student organization—WASC, the Western Anthropology and Sociology Club. WASC sponsors activities like film nights, field trips, ancient metal working and job search workshops throughout the year.

After College

Our graduates further their education at prestigious graduate programs in anthropology, public health, linguistics and public policy. Our students are uniquely prepared to apply their understanding of human relationships to a variety of fields and pursue careers in social work, bi-lingual education, organic farming, green energy, festival management, contract archeology and forensic chemistry. In a time when new employees are expected to have an extensive skill set in many careers, anthropology is an ideal primary or secondary major for WIU students.

For More Information

Call the WIU Department of Sociology and Anthropology at (309) 298-1056 or e-mail the adviser Sharon Hunter at SL-Hunter2@wiu.edu. Learn more about the department by visiting wiu.edu/cas/anthropology.



General Outlook

In addition to completion of the University general education and College of Arts and Sciences curriculum requirements, anthropology majors are required to complete four core courses (ANTH 110, ANTH 111, ANTH 419G and ANTH 380 or EIS 440), two courses in the directed electives (either ANTH 201 or ANTH 249, and either ANTH 305, ANTH 310, ANTH 325 or ANTH 326) plus 15 semester hours of anthropology electives. A total of 33 semester hours are required for a major in anthropology. Like all Western programs, studies in anthropology build upon the general education courses taken during the freshman and sophomore years. **Courses are available in class or online.**

*Sample Course Planning for Anthropology Major (*indicates required course for major)*

- Semester One: Anthropology 110*
- Semester Two: Anthropology 111*, 201,* or 249*
- Semester Three: Anthropology elective, EIS 440* or Anthropology 380*
- Semester Four: Anthropology 305*, 325*, 326*, or 310*
- Semester Five: Anthropology electives
- Semester Six: Anthropology 419G*
- Semester Seven: Anthropology electives
- Semester Eight: Anthropology electives

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