What Can I Do With a Major In...

Major: Anthropology

What is Anthropology?
Anthropology is the study of human diversity around the world. Anthropologists look at cross-cultural differences in social institutions, cultural beliefs, and communication styles. They often seek to promote understanding between groups by "translating" each culture to the other, for instance by spelling out common, taken-for-granted assumptions. An anthropology class can be useful for students in a variety of majors, such as education, business, medicine, and law. Knowledge about human diversity is helpful in many careers. It is often an advantage to have developed an approach for learning about and interacting with people who are different. Because the study of human diversity is such a broad topic, anthropology is made up of four subfields:

- Sociocultural anthropology – the study of present-day cultures around the world
- Linguistic anthropology – the study of communication practices in present-day cultures around the world
- Archeology – learning about earlier cultures by examining the artifacts that they left behind
- Physical anthropology – learning about humans' biological aspects by examining their skeletal and other physical remains; it includes research on human evolution as well as forensic studies

Anthropology at UNT: An Applied Department in an Applied Social Science School
Our department emphasizes the practical use of anthropology to solve problems and improve people's lives. All faculty members are applied anthropologists. Furthermore, the department is located within UNT's College of Public Affairs and Community Service. This school houses applied social sciences at UNT, such as gerontology, public administration, and social work. However, our identity as a department is broader than just applied anthropology. UNT’s undergraduate major in anthropology exposes students to the full range and breadth of what this field can be. The faculty also actively engages in traditional academic activities such as publication. Our faculty members cover a broad range of interests, from diversity to culture change. In terms of geographic region, faculty members focus on Africa, Oceania, North America, Latin America, the Middle East, and Europe. In addition, we are especially well represented in these areas: Business, Technology, and Design Anthropology; Migration and Border Studies; Medical Anthropology; Anthropology of Education; Environmental and Ecological Anthropology; Archeology; Physical Anthropology. Anthropology majors at UNT receive a broad range of training in theory and methodology: ethnography, in-depth interviewing, survey research and quantitative analysis. Courses require intensive writing, and all students are encouraged to become proficient in a second language. UNT places emphasis on training students in the application of anthropological knowledge in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, in local, regional and international arenas. Students are encouraged to travel abroad and often get hands-on experience while working in UNT's international field schools.
Related Career Titles (with OnetOnline links)
Entry-Level (Bachelor’s Degree):
Analyst
Caseworker
Community Development Specialist
Community Service Administrator
Curatorial Assistant
Ecotourism Director
Employment Recruiter
Exhibitions Officer
Field Archaeologist
Friend of the Court Case Worker
Immigration Inspector
Information Officer
Insurance Claims Adjuster
Laboratory Technician
Legislative Aide
Loan Officer/Bank Officer

Management Trainee
Market Research Analyst
Multicultural Program Leader
Museum Technician
National/State Park Interpreter
Probation Officer
Program Coordinator/Assistant
Public Relations Specialist
Research Associate
Social Worker
Teacher/Trainer
Translator
Travel Agent
Travel Guide
Writer/Editor

Jobs Requiring Additional Education or Experience:
Advocate
Anthropologist
Archaeologist
Archivist
Art Conservator
Behavioral Science Advisor
Bilingual/Bicultural Program Specialist
Biographer
Collections Manager
College Professor
Community Development Officer
Community Planner
Congressional Committee Staff Director
Contract Archaeologist
Coroner/Medical Examiner
Cultural Anthropologist
Cultural Artifact Specialist
Cultural Resource Manager
Curator
Development Director
Employee Relations Specialist
Environmental Impact Assessment Researcher
Environmental Resource Specialist
Ethnologist
Excavator

Family Service Counselor
Foreign Affairs Officer
Forensic Anthropologist
Forensic Archaeologist
Foundation Program Manager
Genealogist
Genetic Counselor
Geographer
Head Start Program Director
Health Science Administrator
Historian
Human Resources Manager
Industrial Psychologist
International Agency Representative
Job Counselor
Journalist
Legislative Compliance Officer
Librarian
Linguist
Management Analyst
Marketing Manager
Media Planner
Media Specialist
Medical Anthropologist
Multicultural Education Specialist/Director
Museum Conservator
Museum Education Director
Paleontologist
Park Service Supervisor/Director
Peace Corps Area Director
Physician
Policy Analyst
Political Scientist
Public Health Educator
Public Relations Specialist
Researcher
Rural Development Officer
Scientific Linguist
Site Manager
Social Anthropologist
Social Insurance Representative
Social Science Analyst
Social Service Agency Planner
State/Federal Government Agency Analyst
Surveyor
Teacher, Elementary/Secondary
Teacher of English as a Second Language
Technical Writer
Union Legal Counsel
Urban Planner
Vocational Teacher

Related Work Sites
Advertising Agencies
Art Galleries
Bureau of Land Management
Business Firms
Central Intelligence Agency
Colleges
Construction/Architectural Companies
Consulting Firms
Cultural Heritage Organizations
Department of Conservation
Department of Health and Human Services
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Department of Natural Resources
Department of Transportation
Environmental/Engineering Companies
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Federal, State, and Local Government Agencies
Financial Institutions
Forensic Laboratories
Historic Preservation Societies
Historical Sites
Hospitals and Medical Centers
Human Resources
Insurance Companies
Investigative Firms
Laboratories
Libraries
Manufacturers
Medical Examiner’s/Coroner’s Office
Museums/Archives
National Archives and Records Administration
National Institutes of Health
National Park Service
Nature Centers
Nonprofit Organizations
Private Foundations
Property Management Firms
Public Health Service
Public Relations Departments
Publishers
Real Estate Companies
Refugee Services Providers
Research Institutes
Retail Agencies
Service Providers
Smithsonian Institute
Social Service Agencies
Special Interest Groups
Trade or Professional Associations
Urban and City Planning Offices
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Bureau of the Census
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Department of State
U.S. Forest Service
Wholesalers
Zoo
Skills to Develop to Include on a Resume
Ability to meet deadlines
Ability to work/live in adverse conditions
Active listening
Attention to detail
Budget and fiscal management
Examining data and artifacts
Competency in cultures/languages
Complex problem solving
Conducting field studies
Develop research ideas
Field experience
Interpersonal skills
Knowledge of cultural histories
Leadership
Organizational skills
Patience and perseverance
Planning projects
Presenting information
Public speaking
Quantitative research
Recognizing cultural differences/similarities
Sampling, gathering, and organizing data
Statistical and analytical skills
Strong computer knowledge
Summarizing results
Surveying
Understanding of environmental factors
Willingness to travel/relocate
Work well under pressure
Work well with different types of people
Writing grant proposals
Written and oral communication skills

Exploring Careers in Anthropology
American Anthropological Association Career Paths
Anthropological Center for Training and Research on Global Environmental Change
Anthropology in the News
Bureau of Land Management
Careers in Archeology
Career Paths in Anthropology

Professional Associations
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
American Academy of Forensic Sciences
American Anthropological Association
American Association for State and Local History
American Association of Museums
American Association of Physical Anthropologists
American Board of Forensic Anthropology
American Cultural Resources Association
American Ethnological Association
American Public Human Services Association
American Research Center in Egypt
American Society for Public Administration
Archaeological Conservancy

Consortium of Practicing and Applied Anthropology Programs
Finding a Career in Anthropology
Forensic Anthropology
Non-Academic Careers in Anthropology
The Practice of Anthropology
UNT Anthropology Department
Why Major in Anthropology?

Archaeological Institute of America
Association for Social Anthropology of Oceania
Center for American Archeology
Council on Anthropology and Education
Food and Agriculture Organization
National Association for the Practice of Anthropology
National Genealogical Society
National Geographic Society
National Organizations for Social Services
National Recreation and Park Association
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Society for American Archaeology
Society for Applied Anthropology
Society for Archaeological Sciences
Society for Historical Archaeology
Society for Linguistic Anthropology
Society for Medical Anthropology

Student Organizations
Anthropology Student Association at UNT
Engaged Beyond Borders
National Association of Student Anthropologists

Job Search Links
African Development Foundation
American Academy of Forensic Sciences
American Anthropological Association
American Association for State and Local History
American Association of Physical Anthropologists
American Museum of National History
Archaeological Institute of America
Archeology Field Work
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Cultural Resource Network
Defense Language Institute
EarthWatch Institute
Idealist
Independent Sector
International Center for Research on Women

Internship Search Links
Archaeological Institute of America
Carter Center
Center for Strategic and International Studies
Center for World Indigenous Studies
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
Cultural Anthropology
Cultural Survival

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Jane Goodall Institute
Museum Employment Resource Center
Museum Job Resources
National Archives
National Association for the Practice of Anthropology
Opportunity Knocks
Organization of American States
Preserve Net
Sierra Club
Sister Cities International
Society for Applied Anthropology
USA Jobs
US Agency for International Development
World Wildlife Fund

Eagle Network
Ford Foundation
International Fund for Agricultural Development
National Park Service
Organization of American States
Smithsonian Institution
Find a Mentor
LinkedIn
National Association for the Practice of Anthropology
University of North Texas Career Center

Additional Resources
Bankrate Cost of Living Calculator
CareerOneStop
CareerRealism
CareerRookie
CollegeGrad
Eagle Network
GlassDoor
Going Global
LinkedIn
mySkills myFuture
NACE Salary Calculator
Occupational Outlook Handbook
O*NET OnLine
Optimal Resume
PayScale Salary Survey
Sperling’s Compare Cost of Living

Need help figuring all this out? Call the Career Center and make an appointment with your Career Advisor! You can also get help with resume and cover letter writing and interview skills preparation.

*Information for this handout compiled from the following Career Services Departments:
Central Washington University, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, Texas State University,
University of North Carolina Wilmington, University of North Texas, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire