

## Anthropology

### Department of Anthropology

College of Arts and Sciences  
380 Millard Fillmore Academic Center  
Ellicott Complex  
North Campus  
Buffalo, NY 14261-0026

PH: 716.645.2414  
Fax: 716.645.3808  
Web: [anthropology.buffalo.edu](http://anthropology.buffalo.edu)

### Overview

Anthropology combines the biological, historical, and social sciences in a unique study of humankind. It is the only discipline that examines and attempts to understand humankind as a whole. The undergraduate program includes the subfields of archaeology, cultural anthropology, and physical anthropology. Students should specialize in one of these subdisciplines.

### About our Degrees

#### Applications Information

Deadlines: Rolling  
Number of applicants/year: 60  
Number of accepted majors/year: 60  
Total currently enrolled majors: 210

#### Degree Requirements

Please see [Degrees and Policies](#).

### About our Courses

#### The typical class size for:

Freshman/introductory courses is: 36 - 150  
Sophomore/intermediate courses is: 36 - 100  
Upper level/advanced courses is: 10 - 25

#### In the Department of Anthropology, what do teaching assistants (TAs) do?

TAs assist in courses taught by faculty members; in particular, they assist with grading and labs, and they may do some teaching.

#### Suggested Introductory Courses

- [APY 106](#) Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- [APY 107](#) Introduction to Physical Anthropology
- [APY 108](#) Introduction to Archaeology

For course descriptions, please see [Courses](#).

### About our Faculty

Dr. Sirianni and Dr. Stevens have each received awards for excellence in teaching. Dr. Sirianni is a State University of New York Distinguished Teaching Professor. Two faculty members have been recognized with the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Dr. Stevens received the Student Association's Milton Plesur Teaching Excellence Award. Recent internal and external evaluations have given high marks to the department.

See a list of our [Undergraduate Faculty](#).

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### Transfer Policy

Students wishing to transfer into the University at Buffalo must be accepted by the university prior to acceptance by the Department of Anthropology. Criteria for acceptance into the department are the same for transfer students as for UB students.

Evaluation of courses taken at another school for departmental major credit is done by the department. Usually the Student Advising Services advisor, who sees transfer students initially, refers students to the department. Students should bring course descriptions, syllabi, and any other available information that will help the department evaluate anthropology courses for which students are requesting major credit.

### Extracurricular Activities

#### **Undergraduate Anthropology Club**

Serves several academic, social and professional purposes. The club has sponsored field trips to museums in Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and Toronto, and has worked with the faculty advisor in seminars on application to graduate school, resume preparation, and job hunting. For more information, call 716-645-2414.

#### **Lambda Alpha**

The National Collegiate Honors Society for Anthropology, open to students with a minimum GPA of 3.0 overall and a minimum GPA of 3.5 in anthropology.

See the [UB Student Association](#).

### Practical Experience and Special Academic Opportunities

#### **Notable Program Features**

The undergraduate program in anthropology provides many options for students with specific interests.

The Marian E. White Anthropology Research Museum is an integral part of the department's research and teaching program. Its primary purpose is to preserve, organize, catalog, and curate archaeological materials gathered by the field school and the Archaeological Survey, by faculty engaged in research, and through donations of collections. There is an extensive non-circulating library. Internships are available in the museum and in the survey.

UB is one of a select group of universities with access to the Human Relations Area Files, a current, comprehensive database of worldwide cultures. This invaluable resource is an important tool in analyzing the wide variety of social features that are present in different cultures. It is also used for research and training in cross-cultural studies.

The undergraduate program in anthropology provides many options for students with specific interests. The pre-medical/pre-dental concentration is recommended for anthropology majors who are also pursuing the university's pre-medical or pre-dental recommendations in preparation for application to graduate school in one of the health professions.

#### *Honors Program*

Honors in Anthropology is achieved by maintaining a minimum GPA of 3.5 in anthropology courses, and by satisfactorily completing an intensive two-semester research project through regular consultation with one or more faculty members. Interested students must apply in writing to the department by the end of their junior year.

#### *Internships*

Students may serve internships with local agencies, under the supervision of a departmental faculty member. Internships are available in the Archaeology Museum and Archaeological Survey.

#### *Awards*

- Departmental Honors
- Justin R. Van Ness Award
- Klein Family Award in Honor of Viola Odenheimer
- Lucia Maria Houpt Award
- Marion Dickson Scholarship
- Nathaniel Cantor Scholarship

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### Opportunities for Undergraduate Research and Practical Experience

#### *Field School*

An Archaeology Field School may be conducted during the summer. This is a six-week, six-credit course open to both undergraduate and graduate students. Field instruction provides students with the opportunity to participate in archaeological research and to learn techniques of site survey and excavation.

### Career Information and Further Study

Anthropology is the sole discipline that studies both individuals and humankind as a whole - biologically and culturally, in all places, and at all times (past and present). The anthropology student learns to allow for differences in cultures. This is helpful in health careers, social services, business, and urban planning. The ethnic composition of our population is becoming increasingly diverse, and anyone dealing with the public needs some understanding of their languages and cultures.

#### **Skills gained in this program include:**

- Dealing with people of diverse cultures, making allowances for differences in customs and beliefs
- Providing insight into social problems by supplying information as to how problems, such as aging or bereavement, are addressed in our cultures
- Interviewing people to obtain information about their attitudes, customs, and beliefs
- Using statistics and computer science to analyze data
- Adapting approaches used in public relations, marketing, or politics to different population groups
- Working cooperatively with others, adapting to varied conditions
- Using scientific equipment and instruments

#### **Career Choices**

- Anthropologist
- Archaeologist
- Archivist
- Art conservator
- Banking
- Biographer
- Business
- Community recreation development
- Cultural resource management
- Curator
- Dentist
- Economist
- Educator
- Genealogist
- Health administrator
- Historian
- Lawyer
- Librarian
- Museologist
- Nurse
- Paleontologist
- Peace Corps volunteer
- Physician
- Political scientist
- Public advocate
- Research associate
- Social worker
- Technical writer
- and many, many more!

#### **Work settings include:**

Government, education, research, banking, business, human resources, public relations, marketing research, human services.

#### **Career Hints**

To work in any branch of anthropology, an advanced degree is needed, usually a PhD. Most anthropologists work for universities and colleges;

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some for museums or government. There are only a few thousand anthropologists in the entire country and openings are scarce. The BA degree in anthropology, however, has practical applications. The anthropology student learns to develop skills for understanding differences in cultures. This is helpful in health careers, social services, business, and urban planning.

### Salary Information

Salaries range greatly from one occupation, position, and work setting to another.

### Additional Resources

[American Anthropological Association](#)

[American Association of Museums](#)

[U.S. Government Printing Office](#), Anthropology and Archeology, Subject bibliography #205 available from Superintendent of Documents

[National Trust for Historic Preservation](#)

### Degrees Offered

**Undergraduate:** BA

**Graduate:** MA, PhD

### Links to Further Information About this Program

- [Undergraduate Catalog](#)
- [Undergraduate Admissions](#)
- [Graduate Admissions](#)
- [Department of Anthropology](#)
- [College of Arts and Sciences](#)

### **Anthropology - B.A.**

#### **Acceptance Criteria**

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.

Minimum grade of C- in one of the following prerequisite courses:

[APY 106](#), [APY 107](#), [APY 108](#).

#### **Advising Note**

Minimum grade of C- must be earned on all courses taken for major credit.

#### **Prerequisite Courses**

One of the following three courses:

[APY 106](#) Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

[APY 107](#) Introduction to Physical Anthropology

[APY 108](#) Introduction to Archaeology

#### **Required Courses**

[APY 106](#) Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (if not taken as the prerequisite)

[APY 107](#) Introduction to Physical Anthropology (if not taken as the prerequisite)

[APY 108](#) Introduction to Archaeology (if not taken as the prerequisite)

[APY 401](#) Theory in Anthropology

[APY 494](#) Senior Seminar

Practicum

Statistics course (choose from list below)

Seven electives (choose from list below), including two area studies courses and two problem/theoretical courses

#### **Summary**

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Total required credit hours for the major - 39

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements

### Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

#### FIRST YEAR

Fall [APY 106](#), [APY 107](#)

Spring [APY 108](#)

#### SECOND YEAR

Fall One area studies elective course

Spring [APY 401](#), one problem/theoretical elective course, one APY elective

#### THIRD YEAR

Fall One problem/theoretical elective course, one of the following statistics courses: [CEP 207](#), [GEO 211](#), [PSC 200](#), [PSC 408](#), [PSY 207](#), [SOC 294](#), [SSC 225](#), [STA 119](#)

Spring Practicum, one area studies elective course

#### FOURTH YEAR

Fall [APY 494](#), one APY elective

Spring One APY elective

### Electives and Course Groupings

Seven anthropology electives (21 cr) selected through advisement are required, including:

1) Two **area studies courses** (3 cr each), which include (but are not limited to): [APY 238](#), [APY 250\\*](#), [APY 265](#), [APY 325](#), [APY 331](#), [APY 333](#), [APY 343](#), [APY 353](#), [APY 361](#), [APY 364](#), [APY 366](#), [APY 367](#), [APY 369](#), [APY 382](#), [APY 394](#), [APY 402](#), [APY 432](#), [APY 449](#), [APY 476](#), [APY 484](#)

2) Two **problem-oriented or theoretical courses** (3 cr each), which include (but are not limited to): [APY 105](#), [APY 203](#), [APY 209](#), [APY 210](#), [APY 217](#), [APY 246](#), [APY 248](#), [APY 253](#), [APY 261\\*](#), [APY 275](#), [APY 276](#), [APY 280\\*](#), [APY 312](#), [APY 315](#), [APY 323](#), [APY 329](#), [APY 335](#), [APY 338](#), [APY 344](#), [APY 345 /APY 346](#), [APY 348](#), [APY 350](#), [APY 368](#), [APY 377](#), [APY 380](#), [APY 384](#), [APY 393](#), [APY 401](#), [APY 402](#), [APY 404](#), [APY 405](#), [APY 408](#), [APY 409](#), [APY 411](#), [APY 427](#), [APY 429](#), [APY 434](#), [APY 439](#), [APY 441](#), [APY 443](#), [APY 447](#), [APY 448](#), [APY 474](#), [APY 495](#), [APY 499\\*](#)

\*Repeatable course: Topics in Anthropology (variable topics).

### Anthropology Emphasis Area for Pre-medical or Pre-dental Students

May be used in preparation for application to those professional schools. Premedical/predental students are encouraged to specialize in the field most interesting to them and in which they can achieve the best academic results. Anthropology majors in the premedical/predental emphasis area must satisfy all regular departmental requirements.

## Anthropology - Minor

### Required Courses

Students devise plans of study in consultation with their advisors, with a focus in:

#### GENERAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Minimum of seven courses: [APY 106](#), [APY 107](#), [APY 108](#), and four electives at the 200 level or above, including one area studies course at the 200 level or above

#### ARCHAEOLOGY

Minimum of six courses: [APY 105](#), [APY 108](#), and four electives\* at the 200 level or above

#### PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Minimum of six courses: [APY 105](#), [APY 107](#), and four electives\* at the 200 level or above

#### CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Minimum of six courses: [APY 105](#), [APY 106](#), and four electives\* at the 200 level or above

#### MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

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Minimum of seven courses: [APY 106](#), [APY 107](#), [APY 275](#), and four electives\* at the 200 level or above and three chosen from a list of recommended premedical/pre dental concentration courses

\* All Minor APY electives must include at least one Area Studies Course

### APY 105: Introduction to Anthropology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

This class is a general introduction to the field of anthropology, the study of humanity. It is designed to pique your interest in the broad diversity of human behavior and lifestyles across the world and through out time. This course will take a look at our four major subfields - archaeology, linguistic anthropology, physical anthropology, and cultural anthropology - and include discussions on our "youngest" subfield, applied anthropology. The goal of this class is to understand the wide range of issues covered by the fields of anthropology, the ways in which these issues are studied by specialists in the field, and the practical effects of the questions covered by anthropological study. In order to survey such a wide range of issues, the class is structured in a standard lecture format, with small group exercises and class discussions.

### APY 106: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Surveys important ideas about culture and society that have shaped cultural anthropology. Studies the principal institutions of culture - language, social organization, religion, economics, politics, artistic expression, etc. - in their traditional ethnographic context and as they change through cultural contact and modernization.

### APY 107: Introduction to Physical Anthropology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

For centuries preceding modern times, our uniqueness as a species was taken as a sign of special creation; we were not seen to be a part of nature. But as knowledge of human evolution, our closeness to other primates, and our adaptations to specific environments emerged, we have taken our place in the animal kingdom. Here, we learn how those insights developed, and about current methods of understanding human origins and the natural forces that have shaped us.

### APY 108: Introduction to Archaeology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

### APY 203: Anthropology and Film

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Studies culture through the use of visual materials (films, tapes, etc.). Emphasizes learning anthropological concepts, attitudes, and

methodologies, with film as the primary medium for so doing. This is a class in anthropology, rather than a films course.

### APY 210: Musics of the World

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Introduces ethnomusicology; considers musical styles in a variety of cultural contexts.

### APY 217: Warfare

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Intended for students who are interested in learning about the forms of armed combat, which occur in small-scale societies, and the causes of such violence. Focuses upon the 'warfare' of five different societies, and then explores several anthropological theories that address the causes and effects of internal violence and warfare.

### APY 218: Men, Women and War

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Focuses on the experiences of men and women in war, both as members of military organizations and as noncombatants. Students learn (1) how martial values are inculcated into a population, particularly the youth; (2) what it is like to be a member of a military organization; (3) about the activities of military organizations in combat, in the treatment of captured enemy, and in peace; and (4) what it is like to be a member of a society at war.

### APY 226: Human Adaptation

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Examines human subsistence and reproductive behavior from an evolutionary perspective. The course consists of five sections: (1) the theory of evolution, natural selection, and adaptation; (2) what our nearest relatives, the two chimpanzee species, can teach us about being human; (3) recent human evolutionary history in the Pliocene and Pleistocene periods; (4) hunter-gatherers; and (5) special issues related to reproduction.

### APY 238: Near East and Mid East Prehistory

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

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Archaeology of the prehistoric Near and Middle East from the peopling of the region through the emergence of the first villages and the domestication of plants and animals to the emergence of city-states in the 3rd millennium BC.

### APY 239: Archaeology of New York Colonial History

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Covers the archaeology of New York State, from the first human settlement to the nineteenth century.

### APY 245: Survey of the Primates

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Introduces the field of primatology, including primate taxonomy, ecology, and evolution. Uses a variety of visual aids. Encourages primate biology, and visits to the Buffalo Zoo and the Physical Anthropology Laboratory.

### APY 246: Introduction to Primate Behavior

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Behavior, and social organization of non-human primates: current theories, evolutionary processes, and research methods, both in the field and in the laboratories.

### APY 248: Human Genetics

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Examines contemporary human genetics relevant to families and society, including genetic diseases, family planning and demography, genetic counseling and prenatal diagnosis, genetic engineering, and genetics and the law. Provides students with sufficient understanding of contemporary human genetics to intelligently address these issues.

### APY 250: Topics in Archaeology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Topics vary. May be taken more than once for credit.

### APY 253: Special Topics in Archaeology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Course content varies by instructor.

### APY 261: Topics in Cultural Anthropology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Topics vary. May be taken more than once for credit.

### APY 262: Anthropology and Justice

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Examines comparative studies of justice from the perspectives of local and global human problems, including analyses of the causes of conflict and dispute: inequality, poverty, racism, war and aggression, colonialism, sexism, economic exploitation, and so forth. Considers justice in the context of related cultural concepts and values (such as truth and harmony) and in a variety of institutional settings (such as the community, workplace, and nation). In addition, the course investigates aspects of crime, deviance, punishment and rehabilitation, and restitution.

### APY 265: People of South East Asia

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Examines the history and culture of both mainland and island Southeast Asia, emphasizing kinship, religion, and political systems, as well as art forms.

### APY 275: Introduction to Medical Anthropology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

This course uses ecological, evolutionary, and cultural perspectives to study human health. Topics covered include the ecology and epidemiology of disease; genetic, physiological, and cultural adaptation; nutrition; pregnancy and childbirth; stress; culture change; and health disparities in both developing and developed countries. Health issues associated with globalization and increased military conflict will also be covered. Supplementary readings deal with maternal health, midwifery, and children's health and nutrition in Africa and illustrate the biocultural approach to health.

### APY 276: Introduction to Ethnomedicine

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Cross-cultural survey of beliefs and practices relating to health, illness, and treatment. Emphasizes understanding the cultural and social foundations of ethnomedical systems, including ethnomedical systems in the United States. Examines contemporary biomedicine as a cultural system.

### APY 280: Topics in Physical Anthropology

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**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Topics vary. May be taken more than once for credit.

### **APY 283: Peasant Societies and Cultures**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Introduces anthropological thought on peasants and peasantries in complex society, including the nature of peasant communities, relations between peasants and non-peasants, agrarian/peasant movements, and depeasantization.

### **APY 302: Ancient Art and Cities of Central America and Yucatan**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Involves field exploration of some of the most important cities of the ancient Maya. Together with the instructor, students visit the vast and mysterious ruins of ancient Maya: Tikal, Iximiché (Guatemala), Copan (Honduras), Tulum, Cobá, Chichén Itzá, Uxmal, Labná, Kabáh, Sayil, Dzibilchaltún, and Edzná (Mexico). Students meet and discuss recent investigations at these sites with Mexican and North American archaeologists who work in the Maya area. Important museums in Guatemala and Mérida are also visited, along with contemporary Maya communities. The overseas portion of this course lasts approximately two weeks and is conducted in January, before the beginning of spring semester.

### **APY 303: Physical Research**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

A first-level step-by-step introduction to research, which involves coming up with a question, background reading, methods design, data collection, and data analysis. The course is open to anyone with an interest in learning how to do research. Fulfills the practicum requirement for anthropology majors.

### **APY 304: Food and Culture**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

### **APY 309: Social Organization of Animals**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Studies systems of social organization throughout the animal kingdom; general principles of social behavior that may have relevance to humans.

### **APY 310: Early Social Development: Biological Bases**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Involves an overview of ways research on the social development of animals contributes to current approaches to the study of early human social development.

### **APY 311: Culture and Personality**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Social scientific, psychological, and psychiatric materials on normal and abnormal behavior in a variety of cultural settings; social and cultural change and personality; group functioning; forms of deviancy.

### **APY 312: Culture and Reproduction**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Involves a cross-cultural and cross-national survey of human reproduction. Patterns of fertility regulation, pregnancy, birth, and early infant care.

### **APY 315: Cross-Cultural Study of Women**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

Examines political, economic, and social systems of various non-Western societies in relationship to the roles women take as reproducers of cultural values or as activists working for change.

### **APY 320: Seminar in Cognitive Anthropology**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

Examines human thinking as a cultural and social, as well as a psychological (or computational), phenomenon. Regards cognition as closely interconnected with cultural forms, social systems, and everyday activities. The course also addresses the very concept of 'cognition' as a cultural product whose social and historical origins require investigation.

### **APY 321: Special Topics in Cultural Anthropology**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Special topics in cultural anthropology. May be taken more than once for credit.

### **APY 323: Anthropology and Education**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

This course takes a global perspective on human teaching and learning in a variety of cultural contexts. We explore ethnographic

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methods in educational research and anthropological approaches to education in its widest sense, both in and out of schools. Such forms of socialization as apprenticeship and initiation will be discussed alongside of the formal educational institutions of North American and European nations. This course will also address the educational issues facing immigrants and minority populations in contemporary societies. Readings and discussion will emphasize research and practice. We will work with various qualitative methods, including autoethnography, and will also explore depictions of teachers and students in both ethnographic and feature films. Students interested in teaching careers, as well as Anthropology majors, will find this course useful. There are no prerequisites.

### APY 324: Approaches to the Study of Religion

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Introduces different approaches to the study of religion, their main contributions and shortcomings, and the debates within the study of religion. Students become familiar with contemporary issues in the study of religion and apply theory with critical awareness in the analysis of religious phenomena.

### APY 325: Contemporary Afro-Caribbean Religion

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC/SEM

Familiarizes students with the rich cultural syncretisms of Afro-Caribbean culture from a Latin American perspective, challenges the miasma of mysticism surrounding the religions as viewed by developed nations, and provides students with the basic skills necessary to conduct field research from an anthropological perspective.

### APY 328: Biology Society & Culture

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

### APY 330: Prehistory of Europe

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Examines European prehistory from the Paleolithic period through the formation of the earliest states in Europe.

### APY 331: Archaeology of New World

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Examines prehistoric development of Indian cultures in North and South America, from the initial aboriginal occupation of the Americas.

### APY 332: Archaeology of the American Southwest

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

The American Southwest, a striking arid land, is rich in

archaeological remains of mammoth hunters, cave dwellers, and Pueblo Indians. Reviews the evidence concerning those ancient people and their migrations, invasions, droughts, and abandonments. Also discusses field and laboratory techniques.

### APY 333: North American Archaeology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Studies the peopling of the continent, landscape evolution, origins and spread of agriculture, and the rise of chiefly forms of social organization. Also examines Meso-American influences, and the effects of European conquest.

### APY 338: Field Research Archaeology

**Credits:** 6  
**Type:** LAB

*Six weeks. Open to undergraduate and graduate students. May be taken more than once for credit. Contact the department for further information.*

Field Research Archaeology provides an intensive and rewarding archaeological field and lab experience for graduate and undergraduate students interested in archaeology. Field school is geared towards college students with some interest in North American Archaeology. The goal is to introduce college students to the techniques of archaeological site location, artifact identification, excavation, mapping, and material analysis in a fun but rigorous academic setting. Students will locate, excavate, document and interpret a major archaeological site in western New York while learning professional techniques and using the latest technology available including a laser transit and total station. This exciting six week experience includes hands-on instruction and active participation by all students and instructors. Students will take away the skills of site survey, mapping, excavation, soil sampling, artifact processing, artifact identification and analysis, and in the interpretation of a Native American archaeological site. Secondary goals of the course include discovering how people made and used stone tools and some of the earliest pottery in western New York. The team will reconstruct ancient artifacts and life ways while exploring what kinds of foods were collected and processed at the site, and try to answer how and why people came to live at certain locations. Participants will learn to present archaeological information through multimedia platforms including video and web-based applications. The experience is made more comprehensive through a series of guest lectures regarding the current state of western New York archaeology, and of archaeology around the world.

### APY 344: Animal Communication

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Surveys natural communication systems within the animal kingdom, including the structure, functions, development, and evolution of natural communication systems among both human and non-human animals.

### APY 345: Comparative Primate Anatomy

**Credits:** 1

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**Semester(s):** Spring  
**Type:** LAB

Studies descriptive and functional primate anatomy, with relevance to the origin and adaptation of groups within the order of primates.

### **APY 346: Dissections in Comparative Primate Anatomy**

**Credits:** 2  
**Semester(s):** Spring  
**Type:** LAB

*Students register for lab of their choice and are automatically registered for [APY 345](#).*

Covers basic primate gross anatomy learned by dissecting and making comparative observations of various species of primates.

### **APY 348: Forensic Anthropological Osteology**

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall  
**Type:** LAB

Covers fundamentals of human skeletal anatomy through lecture, demonstration, and laboratory work. Considers procedures and applications in contemporary and historical human biology and in archaeology, stressing both technical approach and theoretical application. This lecture and laboratory course demonstrates the fundamentals of human skeletal biology and anatomy. Stresses procedures and applications used in evaluating archaeological and contemporary human populations. Considers forensic applications.

### **APY 350: Human Behavioral Ecology**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Examines subsistence and social behaviors from an evolutionary perspective. Discusses how ecological variation patterns affect behavioral variability between and within human populations. The course appeals to students in human ecology, cultural anthropology, archaeology, primatology, and human paleontology.

### **APY 353: Old World Prehistory**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Studies the archaeology of Africa, Asia, and Europe, from the Paleolithic period through the appearance of the earliest civilizations.

### **APY 361: Anthropology of the Middle East**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Examines Middle Eastern society from a cultural perspective. Topics include kinship, gender, popular and orthodox Islam, nationalism, mass media, urbanization, and historical relations with the West.

### **APY 362: People and Culture of Japan**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Examines the development of Japanese culture patterns, their relationship to the Asian mainland, and changes of traditional patterns accompanying modernization.

### **APY 363: Cultural History of Oceania**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Involves an archaeological and ethnographic survey of Oceania, emphasizing Polynesia; also examines a critical review of trans-Pacific migration theories.

### **APY 364: Peoples of Eastern Asia**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Deals with the peoples of East and Southeast Asia (though not northeastern peoples such as the Japanese or Koreans). Focuses mainly on Southeast Asia, especially Malaysia, and on social structure, ecology, and literature.

### **APY 366: Peoples of Asia**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Provides students with an anthropological introduction to the early periods of Chinese and Indian civilizations through lectures, audiovisual materials, and discussion. Compares these cultures with the West in terms of religious ideas, archaeological materials, political forms, family systems, and basic values.

### **APY 367: Meso-American Archaeology**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Examines art, iconography, architectures, and archaeology of ancient Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize; also covers religious, political, and economic development from its beginning, around 2000 B.C.E., to its decapitation by the Spaniards in 1521.

### **APY 368: Theories in Archaeology**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Introduces archaeological theory and methods; including the proper design of archaeological research projects, data analysis, and interpretation of results.

### **APY 369: Peoples and Cultures of Sub-Saharan Africa**

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

## Anthropology

Explores cultures of hunting, pastoral, and agricultural societies, including history, social structure, political and economic systems, religion, and aesthetics. Also considers the impact of colonialism, industrialization, urbanism, and political independence upon African societies and cultures.

### APY 371: African American Culture

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Analyzes societies and groups in the Western Hemisphere derived from Africa; covers transplanted and emergent institutions, religions and aesthetics, and the role of African Americans in broader regional and national societies in the Americas.

### APY 372: Maritime Anthropology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Investigates maritime orientations and adaptations in human societies past and present. We look at the symbolic, cognitive, technological, and ecological aspects of maritime orientations using materials from ethnography, archaeology, history, and literature.

### APY 373: Indians of North America

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Examines native North American cultures, including contact history, impact of political relations with Euro-Americans, and contemporary realities. Also studies revitalization movements, pantribalism, and land claims actions.

### APY 374: Anthropology and Health Careers

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Reviews anthropological concepts and methods for students preparing for community service careers and health professions; also applies anthropological methods to contemporary health concerns of North America.

### APY 377: Magic, Witchcraft and Sorcery

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Understanding the nature of magic and the anthropology of sorcery and witchcraft beliefs around the world and throughout history offers insights into some fundamental aspects of human belief and behavior. Considers 'primitive' beliefs as representative of universal beliefs and as background to the course's consideration of 'occult' interests and fears in contemporary America.

### APY 380: Myth, Ritual, Symbolism

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

Explores the ethnography of symbolic form and process in myth and ritual. Also examines metaphor and the problem of meaning in the structuralist, dramaturgic, hermeneutic, and semantic approaches of Claude Levi-Strauss, Victor Turner, Clifford Geertz, Edmund Leach, and others.

### APY 382: Indians of South America

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Surveys the indigenous societies of cultures and South America, including both highland Andean and lowland Amazonian people. Provides a perspective on the prehistory, history, and contemporary situation of native South Americans, examining traditional anthropological topics as well as current political issues surrounding indigenous rights, integration into national societies, and environmental destruction.

### APY 383: South American Workers and Peasants

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Explores the development of modern Latin American culture, from aboriginal southeast European and African roots; gives attention to community studies and other approaches to the study of contemporary people.

### APY 393: Anthropology of Religion

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Compares religious beliefs, rituals, and organization; also considers relationships of religion to other aspects of culture and society, and religion as a dynamic system.

### APY 394: Religion and Healing in Native South America

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Surveys the contemporary religions and healing practices of Native South Americans through the ethnographies of a variety of South American groups. Explores Native South American concepts of time, space, power, order, destruction, and renewal and their manifestations in birth, initiation, healing, and death rituals. Attempts to understand different worldviews and practices that help us rethink our way of conceiving the world and our role in it.

### APY 396: Methods in Urban Anthropology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

For those with some background in anthropology and, particularly, urban anthropology. Involves research projects formulated, planned, and carried out in the Buffalo area. LEC

### APY 401: Theory in Anthropology

**Credits:** 3

## Anthropology

Type: LEC

Reviews the growth of anthropology as a scientific discipline. Analyzes in detail major anthropological approaches and theories.

### APY 402: Modern Europe: Anthropological Perspectives

Credits: 3  
Type: SEM

In recent decades, Europe has become a major area of investigation for cultural anthropologists. In this seminar, we ask both what an anthropological perspective can contribute to our understanding of European peoples and also what a consideration of European peoples can contribute to anthropological theory and method. Europe is not the kind of place traditionally associated with anthropology; it is not 'non-Western,' it is not 'nondeveloped,' it is not 'nonliterate,' it is most certainly not 'without history,' and perhaps most significantly, it is not the exclusive investigatory turf of anthropologists. The course focuses on issues of identity, history, and power as these shape and are shaped by social forms and local practices.

### APY 403: Comparing Cultures Worldwide

Credits: 3  
Type: LEC

Studies various comparative methods in detail, including the cross-cultural survey method. Students learn to derive and test hypotheses using both large and small samples of cultures drawn from the Human Relations Area Files.

### APY 404: Designing Material Culture

Credits: 3  
Type: SEM

Seminar in interpreting the form of material culture. Acquaints students with some forms of inferences used in analyses of material culture, familiarizes them with some questions addressed through analyses of material form, and provides them with an opportunity to design and implement an analysis of an artifact form.

### APY 406: Advanced Social and Cultural Theory

Credits: 3  
Type: LEC

Considers both traditional and new methodological approaches to the diachronic and synchronic analyses of societies and cultures. For majors planning graduate study in anthropology.

### APY 409: Primate Social Behavior and Organization

Credits: 3  
Type: SEM

Examines systems of social organization among primates; also studies general principles of social behavior that may have relevance to humans.

### APY 410: Special Topics

Credits: 3  
Type: LEC

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Course content varies by instructor.

### APY 411: Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse

Credits: 3  
Type: SEM

Studies the four horsemen in all their guises. Examines their importance historically and at present. They have been and are religious icons, symbols of the major processes of warfare, disease, famine, and death, as well as cultural, literary, and artistic symbols throughout the generations. The course traces one of the horsemen through both time and space in the intellectual area of the students' choice.

### APY 412: Culture and Astronomy

Credits: 3  
Type: SEM

Involves a cross-cultural and historical examination of a variety of astronomies focusing on practices and empirical realities. Compares in detail Medieval Western astronomy, Mayan calendrical astronomy, and Pacific Islanders' navigational astronomy. Students participate in an in-class workshop dealing with an artifact from each of these systems, and research, report, and write on these and other astronomical systems. Students have the opportunity to use computer-based planetarium programs to simulate the sky at other times and places.

### APY 414: Museum Management

Credits: 3  
Type: SEM

Museum and collection management and research is motivated by two things: a love of objects, and a fascination with the ways in which they speak about the past and present. The care of artifacts cannot stop at identification, physical conservation and exhibition. Research about museum and collection objects must be seen as part of a larger task: an exploration of the social and cultural significance of objects in relation to each other and to the people who made, used, and kept them as well as who collected them. Conservation must include preservation of the information accompanying an object, information beyond provenance, or artifact type. Finally, curatorial research entails a critical awareness of our own culturally-bound responses to artifacts. This course prepares students for research in the museum environment, and for the challenge of developing meaning and value for those collections in the context of the Cravens Collection housed since March 2010 in the Anderson Gallery of the UB College of Arts and Sciences where the course will be held. Each class integrates presentations, group work and discussion, case studies, and independent research. In addition, the instructor will facilitate visits from guest lecturers. At the end of the course, the students will curate together their own public exhibition of objects from the Cravens Collection and will write up short narratives about the objects they have studied during the course. The narratives will then be included in an exhibition catalogue. N.B.: Please note that the course will take place in the Anderson Gallery of the UB College of Arts and Sciences (1 Martha

## Anthropology

Jackson Place).

### APY 416: Human Evolutionary Ecology I: Reproduction

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

Examines human reproductive and social behaviors from an evolutionary and ecological perspective. Discusses patterns of behavioral variability between and within human populations. Topics include sexual selection, mate choice, life history theory, parenting, and sexual coercion. For students interested in human ecology, cultural anthropology, archaeology, primatology, and human paleontology. One of a sequence that includes [APY 417](#), although students can take one seminar without having taken the other.

### APY 417: Human Evolutionary Ecology II: Subsistence

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

Examines human subsistence behavior from an evolutionary and ecological perspective. Discussion focuses on patterns of behavioral variability between and within human populations. Topics include issues of reciprocity, foraging theory, the sexual division of labor, and evolutionary economics. Designed for students interested in human ecology, cultural anthropology, archaeology, primatology, and human paleontology. Seminar is designed to be one of a sequence that includes [APY 416](#), although students can take one seminar without having taken the other.

### APY 418: Understanding China: Culture, Society, and Transformation

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

This course gives an overview of Chinese society and culture, particularly in its tremendous transformation over the past three decades. It links the transformation to the previous era of Maoist socialism and to the history of Chinese society in modern times and in pre-modern times. It can serve as an introductory course to Chinese studies.

### APY 420: Special Topics

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Course content varies by instructor.

### APY 421: Special Topics

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Course content varies by instructor.

### APY 427: Comparative Urbanism

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Considers the origin of the city, starting with Mesopotamia. Defines urban and civilization, examines the urban environment, and compares the archaeological city to the modern city.

### APY 429: Anthropology of Architecture

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Examines the material culture of eastern North America from 1620 to the present. Focuses on the house and its contents as a means by which the settlers of the North American continent adapted to their environment. Uses a developmental perspective to organize the materials.

### APY 432: Peoples of the Arctic and Subarctic

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Anthropological survey of arctic and subarctic populations, primarily focusing on Canada and Alaska, with some comparative coverage of Greenland, Siberia, and the Lapps of northern Europe. Develops multidisciplinary models using ethnographic, historical, and epidemiological sources to analyze traditional patterns and contemporary changes in northern communities. A variety of ecological and cultural systems have emerged in the North since the period of contact and settlement by Europeans, and the course encourages students to do comparative analyses of national, regional, and ethnic differences and similarities.

### APY 433: Archaeology of Eastern North America

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Traces the variety of Native American cultures developmentally and regionally from the earliest occupation through the early historic period.

### APY 434: Approaches to Archaeology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Surveys the literature to identify the strategies and techniques of gathering and analyzing information in archaeology.

### APY 435: Archaeological Techniques

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

Skills course emphasizing the use of photography and drawing,

## Anthropology

both in the field and in illustrating site reports. Intended primarily for students with an archaeological career orientation, the course deals with factors in the preparation of art manuscripts: draftsmanship, work on drawings, maps, and plans, including line work and photography. Also considers artifact drawing, and processes of printing and production.

### APY 439: Laboratory Techniques in Archaeology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

Involves individual instruction and guidance in the study of artifacts through lab projects.

### APY 440: History of Archaeology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Summarizes the history of archaeology, beginning with its classical and European antecedents. Examines the major trends of seventeenth- through twentieth-century archaeology. Explores major archaeologists and sites, emphasizing the New World. Relates history of archaeology to history of science.

### APY 441: Anthropological Demography

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

Examines the development and demographic characteristics of human populations in the prehistoric and ethnographic record.

### APY 442: Work Anthropology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Work is important because it produces the goods and services that make our lives possible, including raising children, growing food, producing knowledge and meaning, and making things. Nothing we strive to understand is more important, and this is one of those areas of research that is intuitively understood by those we study. Considers how work output is measured, work as it relates to illness, physical work capacity, fertility, food, and behavior. Course format is mixed lecture, laboratory, and seminar.

### APY 443: Advanced Physical Anthropology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Topics vary. May be taken more than once for credit.

### APY 444: Ethology Practicum

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

Semester long, quantitatively based research project on the behavior of animals at the Buffalo Zoo. Goals include: becoming familiar with a range of techniques used to study animal behavior in the field and in captivity, learn to observe animal behavior in a scientific manner, gain experience in all aspects of scientific research - generating an interesting question, researching what is already known about the topic and species, designing a protocol to answer the question, collecting data at the Zoo, analyzing the data, and reporting the results and conclusion both in an oral presentation and in a written scientific report.

### APY 448: Human Genetics/Legal and Ethical Issues

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

Recent advances in genetic technology have presented the scientific and lay community with ethical and legal problems, yet to be resolved. The objective of this course is to provide an opportunity for informed discussions of such issues relating to contemporary human/medical issues.

### APY 449: Mayan Civilization: Past and Present

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

Explores Mayan civilization from its earliest beginnings to the current situation. The seminar begins with the pre-classic roots of Mayan civilization, then moves through classic splendor, post-classic turbulence, the European invasion, and into the current period of rebellion and ethnic resurgence. Students select a particular geographically and linguistically distinctive Mayan population and trace the group historically through artifacts, written records, life histories, and ethnographies. Student activities include active class participation in discussions and preparation of an annotated bibliography on a key aspect of Mayan civilization.

### APY 457: Evolutionary Biology of Humans

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

Explores the application of evolutionary theory and method to modern human populations. Among the topics are heritability of biological and behavioral variables, developmental biology and natural selection, biological distance, biogeography and race, adaptive theory, adaptation to environmental change, and such emergent problems as crowding, hunger, epidemic disease, and global warming. Specific topics may vary depending on developments within the profession.

### APY 474: Urban Anthropology

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** LEC

Explores anthropological perspectives to contemporary cities in a global context; also analyzes the history of ethnographic approaches to the study of urbanization processes.

### APY 475: Ecology and Cultural Adaptation

**Credits:** 3

## Anthropology

Type: LEC

Introduces ecological anthropology or cultural ecology. Examines interrelations of social and cultural systems with the biotic and physical environment, including exploitative and subsistence systems (such as land use, land tenure, and settlement patterns).

### APY 476: Health Care in the United States

Credits: 3  
Type: LEC

Explores the culture and social organization of health-care systems in the United States, including mainstream allopathic medicine and nursing, as well as more 'alternative healing' modalities, such as faith healing, chiropractic, 'New Age' healing, and so forth. Gives students a specifically anthropological understanding of health care in American society. This anthropological perspective draws attention to the many diverse components of health care in the United States, from high-tech advanced medical science to faith healing.

### APY 477: Topics in Medical Anthropology

Credits: 3  
Type: SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

### APY 480: Collapse of Civilization

Credits: 3  
Type: SEM

Explores the causes of societal disintegration from an archaeological perspective. The ancient Mayan and pre-Aztec civilizations of Mexico, as well as that of ancient Shang China, are the focus for analyzing various factors that might lead to the destruction of complex social and political systems.

### APY 482: Peruvian Culture/Society

Credits: 3  
Type: LEC

Studies the complex society of Peru as the focus of social anthropological analysis. Considers the country's history and ethnohistory, economy, organization, development problems, and contemporary violence. Requires no knowledge of Spanish.

### APY 488: Kinship and Social Structure

Credits: 3  
Type: LEC

Examines kinship and family patterns in simple and complex societies. Also examines the role of kinship in society and the human quality of kinship patterns, including plural marriage, divorce, the incest taboo, gender, clans, lineages, and joint families.

### APY 490: Economic Anthropology

Credits: 3  
Type: SEM

Examines the production, distribution, exchange, and consumption systems of non-Western peoples; the integration of economic systems with other aspects of culture; and problems of underdeveloped areas.

### APY 492: Political Anthropology

Credits: 3  
Type: LEC

This course examines politics and power in local, national, and transnational contexts. It considers both formal political institutions and everyday forms of power and influence. We trace the historical development of this field as well as its current focus on issues of identity, the nation-state, bureaucracy, citizenship, and questions of power, domination and resistance. Case studies examined range from small-scale nonwestern societies to the institutions of the European Union. Considers systems of government and control in the non-Western world, emphasizing tribal organization. Focuses upon law and warfare, the two most important political functions or tasks engaged in by a political community.

### APY 494: Senior Seminar

Credits: 3  
Type: SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Topics vary. Seniors have registration priority.

### APY 495: Supervised Teaching

Credits: 1-6  
Type: SEM  
APY 496: Internship

Credits: 1-6  
Type: TUT

Students wishing to complete an internship with a host agency may register for this course with the agreement of the agency supervisor and the faculty advisor.

### APY 499: Independent Study and Research

Credits: 1-8  
Type:

Individually designed program of reading, research, or skills development in close association with an instructor.