

Department of Anthropology



ANTHROPOS (Human) + LOGIA (Science of)

Anthropology is a discipline committed to describing, interpreting, and explaining the historical, biological, and cultural diversity of the human species. Its unique contribution to the human sciences and humanities is its expansive scope—temporally and spatially—in studying the human species.

▲ Carved bones were one among the artifacts discovered during an excavation in the Kuril Islands.

STUDENTS (AUTUMN 2010)

543 Undergraduate majors
112 Graduate students

DEGREES AWARDED (JULY 2009–AUGUST 2010)

188 Bachelor of Arts degrees
15 Master of Arts degrees
17 PhD degrees

MAJOR STUDENT AWARDS (2009–2010)

- 1 Edwin Sanchez Memorial Graduate Fellowship
- 3 Fulbright-Hayes
- 1 Fulbright Presidential Scholarship Program
- 1 J.K. Javits Fellowship
- 1 Luce/ACLS Dissertation Research Fellowship
- 1 Jacobs Research Funds from UW/Whatcom Museum
- 1 NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant
- 1 NPS Murie Science and Learning Fellowship
- 1 Blakemore Freeman Fellowship
- 1 Alaska Anthropological Association Advanced Graduate Student Scholarship
- 1 NSEP Boren Fellowship
- 1 Chester Fritz Fellowship
- 3 Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships
- 2 NIH/CSDE Training Grants
- 1 Frank Conlon Fellowship in South Asian Studies

Education

The department includes 30 faculty members and three distinct academic programs:

- ▶ **archaeology**, the exploration of human prehistory through evidence of past human activities;
- ▶ **biocultural anthropology**, the study of the evolution and adaptation of the human species, the nonhuman primates, and the modern human populations; and
- ▶ **sociocultural anthropology**, the study of cultural diversity of the human species, including recurrent global flux in languages, practices, and identities.

In addition to these subdisciplinary programs, the department has two areas of emphasis:

- ▶ **environmental anthropology**, the analysis of human-environment interactions across the full range of sociocultural variation, from the earliest societies to the present; and
- ▶ **medical anthropology and global health**, the study of health, illness, healing and medicine as part of social and cultural life.

The undergraduate program leads to the Bachelor of Arts degree. After completing required courses within the anthropology core, students can elect to focus on one area or take courses in different areas within the major, including archaeology, biocultural anthropology and sociocultural anthropology. Additionally, students may complete an undergraduate option in medical anthropology and global health or anthropology of globalization.

The archaeology program usually operates a summer field school providing undergraduate students archaeological field training. In recent years these have been held in Alaska, East Timor, Indonesia, and Corsica. Future field schools are planned for Thailand and other locales.

The department offers PhD programs in archaeology, biocultural anthropology, and sociocultural anthropology. Students may also apply for a concurrent MPH/PhD through the sociocultural or biocultural anthropology programs, in conjunction with one of four MPH tracks: global health, social and behavioral sciences, maternal and child health, or epidemiology.

An anthropology graduate student travels to Kenya for her research.



Faculty

Faculty have received numerous grants and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Fulbright Foundation, the World Health Organization, the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Aging, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institute of Mental Health, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, the Social Science Research Council, the American Council of Learned Societies, the Ford Foundation, and the American Philosophical Society. Faculty awards include:

- 3 UW Distinguished Teaching Awards
- 1 UW Graduate Faculty Mentor Award
- 1 National Academy of Sciences member

Several faculty members currently hold or recently have held positions in professional organizations specific to their areas of expertise, both nationally and internationally. Faculty members conduct research in the United States, Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, Europe, South Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Islands.

Research and Scholarship

While pursuing a wide range of theoretical and methodological approaches, faculty all work toward a common goal, namely to document and understand our many interconnected ways of being human in a world now inhabited by six billion people speaking five thousand languages. This covers our species' evolutionary origins as well as our continual evolution through many millennia of biocultural microevolution. It also covers more recent sociocultural changes including the current global flux in population, genes, languages, practices, and identities.

The Biological Anthropology and Biodemography Lab provides facilities for student and faculty research projects in human and non-human primate ecology, research experience for students working on faculty projects, and classroom training in laboratory methods. The Luminescence Dating Laboratory offers a dating service for ceramics, lithics, and sediments, particularly for research projects in which luminescence can solve archaeological problems not assessable by other dating techniques.

The Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture, with which several Anthropology faculty members are affiliated, contains ethnological, archaeological, geological and zoological collections, is the Pacific Northwest's hub for natural history and cultural heritage.

Outreach

Throughout the year, the department sponsors a variety of colloquia, lectures, and seminar series that are open to the public. Increasingly, anthropology faculty are taking the classroom and students into communities near and far. Each spring, an annual outreach event provides a forum for the department to share its research with the wider community. Each year the department's electronic newsletter, *e-AnthropoLog*, reaches out to friends and alumni.

Courses with an outreach component have involved students working with the local Marshall Islands community (top) and collaborating with seniors from the Pike Market Senior Center (right).



FACULTY (AUTUMN 2010)

13	Professors
9	Associate Professors
5	Assistant Professors
1	Lecturer
3	Research Associate Professors
12	Emeritus Faculty

AREAS OF RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

Colonialism and Post-colonial Theory
Critical Development Studies
Demography
Environmental Anthropology
Ethnicity and Nationalism
Evolutionary Ecological Theory
Gender
History of Archaeology
Human Reproductive Ecology
Medical Anthropology and Global Health
Place and Space
Primatology
Science and Technology Studies
Social Movements
Visual Anthropology

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