

**UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS  
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM IN ANTHROPOLOGY**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The field of anthropology is among the most diverse of academic disciplines because the object of study is to understand our own species—its origin, history, how we have become as we are, where we are going. Anthropology attempts to cover the broad spectrum of human existence. It is divided into four subdisciplines that specialize in particular facets of human nature and behavior. The study of prehistoric archaeology reconstructs evidence of past human behavior through analysis of material culture left by various human groups. Through this study, archaeology provides a perspective on the evolution of human culture which aids in our understanding of the past and the present. Biological anthropology emphasizes human biological evolution, its relationship to the evolution of cultural behavior and the origins of human biological diversity. Topics include the fossil record, primate evolution and behavior, anthropological genetics (molecular and population), human nutrition and dietary adaptation, reproductive biology and behavior, and disease and adaptation. Linguistic anthropology focuses on the articulated universe of language by piecing together the evidence derived from the lips of speakers. The study of languages further strengthens our understanding of diversity, as well as universality, of human conceptualization of the world around us. Sociocultural anthropology provides insights into human culture through analysis of learned behavior. This subdiscipline is concerned with the description and analysis of social and cultural systems across the spectrum of human societies.

Anthropology, in sum, is the study of humankind. Its subject matter crosscuts the humanities, the natural sciences, and the social sciences, to arrive at an understanding of the evolution and behavior of the human species. In doing so, anthropology promotes a more informed awareness and appreciation of human diversity, both past and present.

The Undergraduate Program in Anthropology at the University of Kansas is designed to meet the needs of those students who are interested in the behavior and evolution of the human species from a holistic perspective.

Since anthropologists approach *Homo sapiens* from an archaeological, biological, cultural, and linguistic perspective, all students are required to take courses in these areas. The undergraduate program provides all majors with a general understanding of the primary subdisciplines of anthropology. A broad grounding is especially desirable for those majors planning graduate work, since graduate programs have become increasingly devoted to specialized training. The curricular sequence for a major in anthropology, accordingly, requires students to choose courses in each subdiscipline while providing as much choice as possible between courses in each category. The Department of Anthropology also offers opportunities for student participation in faculty research and for independent study (and a Senior Honor's Thesis) under faculty direction.

## **PLANNING THE PROGRAM**

Prospective majors are encouraged to meet with the Undergraduate Coordinator. In addition to reviewing the major requirements, the Undergraduate Coordinator assists the student in selecting a faculty advisor qualified to assist in developing the student's particular interests.

Students may change advisors at any time by securing the approval of the new advisor, informing the previous one, and asking the secretary to record the change in departmental records.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR**

Majors are required to take a minimum of twenty-seven (27) credit hours in anthropology. A checklist that charts the student's progress toward the completion of the degree is maintained in the department. Following College rules, students are allowed up to 40 credit hours in anthropology. Any hours acquired above this number will not be credited towards CLAS graduation requirements. Majors should consult with their faculty advisors before enrolling each semester.

All majors are required to complete 27-30 hours in anthropology. These will include:

1. One of the following courses in each block:

Block I: ANTH 104, 105, or 304 FUNDAMENTALS OF PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Block II: ANTH 108, 109, or 308 INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Block III: ANTH 110, 111, or 310 INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY

Block IV: ANTH 106 INTRODUCTORY LINGUISTICS OR ANTH 320 OR 321 LANGUAGE IN CULTURE AND SOCIETY

2. Five *additional* courses in anthropology at the 300-level or above (excluding ANTH 301 and 360) that include the following:
  - A. At least one course in archaeology.
  - B. At least one course in biological anthropology.
  - C. At least one course in sociocultural anthropology that does not have a specific geographical focus.
  - D. At least one course in any subdiscipline of anthropology that focuses on a specific geographic area.
  - E. One additional course at the 300-level or above exclusive of 304, 308, and 310.

## **MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

In addition to fulfilling major requirements, students are advised to consider the following *recommendations* and discuss them with their advisor prior to making enrollment decisions.

1. Anthropology majors are encouraged to take at least *two* of the courses in Blocks I-IV at the 300 level.
2. Students who are contemplating graduate work in anthropology should complete at least two additional courses *beyond* the major requirements at the 300-level or above.
3. Students who have maintained an overall GPA of 3.25 and a GPA of 3.5 in anthropology courses should consider undertaking a Senior Honors Thesis under the direction of a faculty member of their choice.

## **MAJOR RESTRICTIONS**

1. The introductory courses ANTH 100, ANTH 160, ANTH 301, and ANTH 360 can be used to fulfill CLAS distributional requirements, but they will *not* be counted toward the requirements for the major in anthropology.
2. Anthropology courses transferred from other institutions cannot be used to fulfill major requirements without the approval of the Undergraduate Coordinator.
3. No more than three hours of independent study (ANTH 496 READING AND RESEARCH) can be used to fulfill major requirements.
4. Courses that provide for six hours of credit (such as ANTH 418 SUMMER ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD WORK) will count as only one course toward fulfilling the major requirement.

## **HONORS IN ANTHROPOLOGY**

To qualify for graduation with Honors in Anthropology, the student must achieve an in-residence and combined minimum GPA of 3.25 overall and 3.5 in anthropology. Students seeking Honors in Anthropology must file a declaration of intent form with the instructor with whom they choose to work. The completed form is kept in the department, and a copy is forwarded to the College Honors Office. The form is available in 622 Fraser Hall. In addition to the hours required for the major, the student must enroll in 3-6 hours of ANTH 499 SENIOR HONORS RESEARCH and complete a senior thesis based on this work. It is recommended that

all candidates make an oral presentation of their research results. One copy of the thesis must be bound and placed in the departmental thesis library.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE UNDERGRADUATE MINOR**

Students wishing to pursue a minor in anthropology should seek guidance in course selection from faculty in anthropology. They are required to complete 18-20 hours in one of the two options listed below. 12 of these hours must be numbered 300 or above and a 2.0 grade-point average in anthropology is required.

1. Option I provides a grounding in two of the four sub-disciplines of the field. Complete any two of the following:
  1. Biological Anthropology: ANTH 104, 105, or 304 **and** two courses in the following number blocks: 340-359, 440-459, 503, 540-559, 640-659;
  2. Linguistics: ANTH 106, 320 or 321 **and** two courses in the following number blocks: 322-339, 420-439, 502, 527-539, 620-639;
  3. Sociocultural Anthropology: ANTH 108, 109, 160, 161, 308, or 360 **and** two courses in the following number blocks: 361-395, 460-495, 501, 560-595, 660-695;
  4. Archaeology: ANTH 110, 111, or 310, **and** two courses in the following number blocks: 311-319, 406-419, 500, 504-526, 604-619.
2. Option II allows the student more flexibility in designing his or her program either for maximum breadth in general anthropology or for depth in one of the subdisciplines. The requirements are: ANTH 100 or 300 and five additional courses. At least four of those courses must be numbered from 313 to 695, excluding ANTH 360. One of the five may be any one of the following: ANTH 104, 105, 106, 108, 109, 110, 111, 160, 304, 308, 310, or 360.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDEPENDENT STUDY, FIELD WORK, AND LABORATORY RESEARCH**

Undergraduates may take a maximum of three (3) hours work in ANTH 496 READING AND RESEARCH for credit in the major. Students are encouraged to participate in field work or laboratory research opportunities. These opportunities will be announced as they become available or may be initiated by the student in consultation with an advisor.

## **SEMINAR WORK**

Undergraduate majors planning to do graduate work are urged to enroll in a seminar or a course taught as a seminar. Since much of graduate study involves such coursework, participation in a seminar at the undergraduate level provides preparation for post-BA studies.

## **FURTHER COURSE OPTIONS**

Students should note that undergraduates are welcomed and, in fact, encouraged to enroll in many graduate courses. They should also be aware that undergraduate seminars and special topical courses may be offered at the suggestion of a number of students, providing an instructor consents to offer such a course.

## **INVOLVEMENT IN RESEARCH**

The Department of Anthropology believes strongly that the teaching of anthropology should include direct student involvement in research. The Museum of Anthropology, primarily a research facility, contributes to the teaching and training of undergraduate students. A Senior Honors thesis is sometimes initiated after student involvement in a museum research project or in research conducted by individual faculty members of the department.

Many classes make regular use of the ethnographic collections of the museum. Archaeological field work involving excavation and survey provides practical experience in techniques of archaeological data collection and analysis.

Similarly, the Laboratory of Biological Anthropology and the primate/hominid cast collections in the department provide opportunities to students who are interested in pursuing topics in biological anthropology. Sociocultural field research opportunities occur on a project basis and are offered to advanced undergraduates.

## **ADVICE FOR FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORES**

Prospective majors in anthropology are advised to take the required introductory level courses before their junior year. Further courses taken in the major will depend, to a great extent, on the student's individual interests. Students are encouraged to consult with the Undergraduate Coordinator or other faculty advisors for guidance. The printed Curriculum in Anthropology is available in the departmental office, 622 Fraser Hall.

## **COURSES FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS MAJORING IN OTHER FIELDS**

Coursework in anthropology may be elected as a supplementary part of any program of study. Majors in other fields are urged to consult with the Undergraduate Coordinator should there be any problem in selecting courses in anthropology.

## **HARLEY S. NELSON FAMILY FUND SCHOLARSHIP IN ANTHROPOLOGY**

The Harley S. Nelson Family Fund, through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Department of Anthropology, established a \$1000.00 scholarship in 1989 to honor an anthropology junior who has a record of outstanding academic achievement both in general studies and in the major. The recipient should have at least a 3.0 overall grade point average and at least a 3.5 in the major. Announcements for the award are posted in the Spring semester. Eligible students (juniors) are encouraged to apply.

## **THE MARK KAPPELMAN AWARD**

Mark Kappelman was a 1980 graduate of the University of Kansas College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. From his early childhood he was curious about the world around him and was an explorer by his very nature. His untimely death in 1990 is deeply regretted by his family and many friends.

It was Mark's desire, and his family's, that the quest for knowledge he had begun not die with him. To honor Mark's memory, his parents Glenn and Elizabeth Kappelman, his sister Melanie Kappelman-Steer, his brother Matthew Kappelman, and his many friends have established a fund to benefit future University of Kansas anthropology students.

The Mark Kappelman Award is intended to provide resources that will encourage and assist undergraduate students majoring in anthropology to do archaeological field work. It is the hope of Mark's family and friends that such an award in the field of archaeology will provide a lasting tribute to Mark's memory. In so doing, KU students who share Mark's interest in archaeological excavations and other field explorations will benefit from the learning process begun by Mark.

Qualified students are encouraged to apply following announcement of competition for the Mark Kappelman Award. Application materials should include a letter of application, an official transcript, and letter of recommendation. These should be addressed to the Mark Kappelman Award Committee, Department of Anthropology, University of Kansas. The letter of application should describe briefly the project in which the student intends to participate and include an explanation about how participation in such field work will benefit his/her education and career goals. The committee will generally arrange interviews of at least the top two or three candidates.

Candidates will be evaluated on the basis of their grades, experience, and demonstrated interest in archaeological field work as indicated by the application materials. Each award will be at least \$500.

The committee will be composed of the archaeology faculty of the Department of Anthropology. The first award was presented in December 1991.

## **THE DAHL OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT IN**

## **INTRODUCTORY ANTHROPOLOGY CLASSES AWARD**

Each Fall and Spring semester a cash award (currently set at \$50.00) will be given to the top student in each of the following classes: Fundamentals of Physical Anthropology (ANTH 104/304), Language in Culture and Society (ANTH 320) or Introduction to Linguistics (ANTH 106) when taught by a member of the department, Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (ANTH 108/308), and Introduction to Archaeology (ANTH 110/310). The “top student” in each class will be determined by the faculty member teaching the course based on the final grade and in consultation with graduate teaching assistants for the course. Students may win the award more than once and are not required to be a major (or become a major) in anthropology to receive the award. At the end of each semester, faculty are to submit names, addresses, and the student I.D. numbers of the winning students to the department chairman who arranges for payment and mailing of the certificate(s). Names of the Dahl Outstanding Student in Introductory Anthropology Classes will be published in the *Anthropology Newsletter* each semester and reported to University Relations.

## **THE DAHL OUTSTANDING SENIOR HONORS THESIS IN ANTHROPOLOGY AWARD**

In the Spring semester of each academic year, the Undergraduate Coordinator announces to faculty and undergraduate students the competition guidelines and deadline of the Dahl Outstanding Senior Honors Thesis in Anthropology. The deadline for application for the Honor’s Thesis Award will be two weeks before the last day of classes. Students are required to submit (1) a one-page abstract which includes the title, focus, findings, and conclusions of the Senior Honors thesis and (2) one copy of the *completed* thesis. No evaluations or endorsements by faculty are accepted. A thesis may be submitted only once, but students who miss the submission date for the previous year may apply for the following year’s competition. The Undergraduate Committee evaluates all submissions and, based on merit, announces the recipient of the award at the final faculty meeting of the Spring semester. If no award is given, funds for the year are reserved for subsequent awards. When funds permit, multiple awards may be given.

## **THE UNDERGRADUATE ANTHROPOLOGY ASSOCIATION**

The Undergraduate Anthropology Association functions to increase the academic involvement of its members through interactions with anthropology faculty, graduate students, the university community and interested members of the general public. Although the association is created by and primarily for undergraduates, its benefits go beyond the organization. A variety of activities and programs are designed to promote academic and social relations between members and other persons within and outside of the Department of Anthropology. Undergraduate Anthropology Association activities may include sponsoring film-lecture series, career development workshops, annual picnics, participation in the university orientation program, field trips, and other activities. Membership is open to all majors and prospective majors in anthropology and to all other students who have an interest in this discipline and may wish to interact with students in this field.

## **GRADE APPEALS**

For the specifics of Grade Appeals, undergraduate students should consult the formalized grade appeal policy in the Department of Anthropology Policies and Procedures. Copies are available in 622 Fraser Hall.

## **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

For the specifics of Grievance Procedures, undergraduate students should consult the formalized grievance policy in the Department of Anthropology Policies and Procedures. Copies are available in 622 Fraser Hall.

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