

Anthropology and the Modern World

An invitation from Greg Urban

The Anthropology Department at Penn is embarking upon an exciting experiment. We are building a new and innovative Undergraduate Program around the theme—"Anthropology and the Modern World." Our aim is to generate an understanding of the cultural background of the world as we experience it in our everyday lives and as it informs the careers we choose.

Did you know, for instance, that corporations such as Intel have hired anthropologists to conduct "design ethnography" research, figuring out how people use electronic equipment in their daily lives in order to more intelligently design new technologies? Corporations today are discovering the relevance of anthropology to doing business, and this is one area in which you can be in the vanguard.

Did you know that anthropologists work as forensic experts, identifying people from physical remains or even convenience store video images? Did you know that we study human behavior under conditions of conflict and other extreme situations around the globe as well as working with plastic surgeons to investigate how culture constructs ideals of body and self?

Once you know what culture history teaches us about the cultural background to contemporary countries like Iraq—and events unfold around us even as I write—you will appreciate how shallow is the mass media coverage, and how much richer and multi-dimensional your understanding of present-day realities can be.

Our goal is to develop a series of dynamic new classes for undergraduates that will inform you about the relevance of anthropological research and methods to business, to medicine, to current events—in short, to the contemporary world.

We will continue our traditional rigorous training for majors. However, we believe that every informed citizen should—indeed, must—know something about the cultural dimensions of the present world in order to make sense of what is going on today. Whether you plan to go into business, government, medicine, law, or almost any other profession, a background in anthropology will serve you well.

So, I want to invite you, majors and non-majors alike, to join us in the new adventure, as we endeavor to bring anthropological knowledge into contact with a fast-paced, high-powered modern world.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Anthropology is broadly defined as the study of human diversity. As a discipline, it is made up of four sub disciplines or related sub fields: Cultural Anthropology, focusing on existing societies; Linguistic Anthropology, dealing with variability in language and the role of language in culture; Archaeology, studying past societies through material and written remains; and, Bio-physical anthropology, focusing on human evolution and the interaction between culture and human biological variability.

PENN's Department of Anthropology strives to conceive and maintain teaching programs for undergraduates that reflect the current state of Anthropology and its relationship to other disciplines and contemporary society. The Department emphasizes the integration of Anthropology's four sub fields, although for staffing reasons Cultural and Linguistic Anthropology are considered a single unit. Following this philosophy, the Anthropology major is designed to encourage students to experience the full breadth of the discipline, while providing flexibility to design a course of study best suited to their individual needs and/or interests.

Anthropology currently has some 112 undergraduate majors. Our majors have moved successfully into a wide range of professions and the holders of postgraduate degrees have distinguished themselves by their contributions to scholarship and service.

Declaring the Anthropology Major

In order to declare Anthropology your major, you first should telephone the Administrative Coordinator (898-7461) to make an appointment to meet with the Undergraduate Chair.

The Anthropology major consists of 14 credits, each taken for a grade. You may NOT take a class PASS/FAIL and count it toward your major. The Anthropology major covers Archaeology, Biophysical, and Cultural/Linguistic Anthropology. Though the Department encourages a broadly based education within Anthropology (and discourages specialization), you may nevertheless indicate one of these sub-fields as your concentration. The major also offers a specialized Human Biology concentration that will be described later.

All majors must take the required courses—ANTH 001, 002, 003, plus two 100+ level courses in Cultural/Linguistic Anthropology and one 100+ level course in each of Bio-Physical Anthropology and Archaeology. The other seven units may be taken from one or any combination of these sub-fields, though you are encouraged to take as many as possible in all three fields. An Anthropology Freshman Seminar or a Writing About Anthropology course may be included here. You also should consider taking Statistics, as well as, a course in research methods appropriate to your field of concentration. A maximum of four non-anthropology courses (and those not already cross-listed with anthropology) can be applied to the major with the approval of the Undergraduate Chair, but these courses should be linked to a more general topic or theme in your concentration. The major also encourages Study Abroad.

Anthropology Major Diagram

I. Block I - Introductory Courses:

1. Anth 001: Intro to Archaeology
2. Anth 002: Intro to Cultural Anthropology
3. Anth 003: Intro to Human Evolution

II. Block II - Two 100+ Level Courses in Cultural/Linguistics:

4. _____
5. _____

III. Block III - One 100+ Level Course each in Archaeology & Bio/Physical

6. [Arch] _____
7. [Bio-Phy] _____

IV. Block IV - Seven courses from any combination of Archaeology, Bio-Physical, or Cultural/Linguistic fields (no more than 3 may be chosen from approved non-Anthropology courses):

8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____

THE HUMAN BIOLOGY CONCENTRATION

Anthropology students who wish to build a Human Biology Concentration are expected to complete courses for a grade from four blocks. The first consists of the three introductory courses—ANTH 001, 002, and 003. The second block consists of ANTH 243—Human Biology, plus two additional courses selected from a menu of courses in biophysical fundamentals. The third block requires ANTH 306—Medical Anthropology, plus three additional courses selected from a menu emphasizing applied anthropological perspectives on health, nutrition, and medicine. The fourth block consists of four general electives. Any two additional Anthropology courses may be included here, and/or courses from other departments that have a biophysical emphasis (but no more than two from any one department). A list of courses from other departments is suggestive, but since course offerings change frequently it is wise to consult with the Undergraduate Chair for advance approval of these courses.

Human Biology Concentration Diagram

Block I: Introductory Courses

1. ANTH 001: Intro to Archaeology
2. ANTH 002: Intro to Cultural Anthropology
3. ANTH 003: Intro to Human Evolution

Block II: Biophysical Fundamentals (ANTH 243, plus any two from among ANTH: 105, 106, 145, 170, 179, 244, 246, 304, 309, 404, 407, 426, 448, 458, and 478)

4. ANTH 243: Human Biology
5. _____
6. _____

Block III: Anthropological Perspectives on Health, Nutrition, and Medicine (ANTH 306, plus three additional courses from among ANTH: 150, 151, 153, 154, 184, 230, 303, 307, 310, 312, 314, 318, 326, 327, 341, 359, 410, 441, 437 (# chg from 410), 454, 459, 521, 528)

7. ANTH 306: Medical Anthropology
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Block IV: General Electives (Four courses; no more than two from any one department, including any two from Anthropology). The following list is suggestive: ANTH: any Anthropology course not used in Blocks II & III; Bibb 370; Biol: 215, 221, 230, 313, 330, 446; Folk: 369, 444; Hssc: 203, 245, 247, 248, 308; Psyc: 149, 151, 180; Sars: 305, 410, 411, 412; Soci: 118, 273, 535, 536; Stat 111; Urbs: 201.

11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____

*Note: Course numbers may change from semester to semester, or year to year. Please check to confirm course numbers or for approval of a course not listed here.

THE ANTHROPOLOGY MINOR

The Anthropology Minor consists of 6 courses taken for a grade, NOT PASS/FAIL. Minors are encouraged (but not required) to take ANTH 001, 002 and 003, and no more than four courses in one sub field. To declare Anthropology as a minor by consulting with the Undergraduate Chair, make an appointment through the Administrative Coordinator (898-7461) for initial advising.

ADVISING

The Undergraduate Chair serves as advisor of record for all majors and minors, but students are encouraged to seek out individual faculty members with whom they share intellectual interests or simply feel comfortable for help in planning their curriculum or discussing any other academic concerns. Please feel free to contact the Undergraduate/Graduate Advisor for assistance with any questions regarding the major. The Anthropology Undergraduate Advisory Board also tries to match new majors up with student mentors who can offer important insights into courses and the major.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION

Prior to the two-week advanced registration period the Undergraduate Chair will be available for extended office hours to discuss plans for the upcoming semester. For appointments, contact the Administrative Coordinator (898-7461). The Undergraduate Chair serves as an advisor to all majors, but you are encouraged to approach individual faculty members for help in planning your curriculum. It is important that you seek out a faculty advisor who will know your work and are in a position to write recommendations on your behalf. Please feel free to contact the Undergraduate/Graduate Advisor regarding questions concerning the department and the major. Also available to undergraduates is a student mentor sponsored by the Anthropology Undergraduate Advisory Board, who can offer important insight to the major.

INDEPENDENT STUDY / RESEARCH

Independent study and work on a specific research project with a professor offer ambitious students the opportunity for an in-depth, hands-on research experience within the department. For more information, speak to the Undergraduate Chair or a faculty member with whom you are interested in working. Course credit as ANTH 199 can be given for pre-approved Independent Study and research work. There are several sites to which a student may link in order to explore the range of grants, awards and fellowships available. All are worth visiting and most have links to homepages for specific fellowships and grants. The College's information URL is: <http://www.college.upenn.edu/honors/fellowships.html>

DOMESTIC AND SUMMER CREDIT

The Domestic and Summer Credit forms are available in the College Office, 120 Logan Hall or on-line at <http://www.college.upenn.edu/forms/forms.html>. This form, along with a printed description of the course and/or syllabus you wish to transfer, should be submitted to the Undergraduate Chair for signature and approval. Completed Credit Away forms and official transcripts should be sent to the College Office. Grades earned in courses away from Penn do not count in the Penn G.P.A. unless taken during the regular semester at Bryn Mawr, Haverford, or Swarthmore, or in Penn-sponsored programs abroad.

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS INTERNSHIPS / FIELD STUDIES

Information pertaining to study abroad, or summer opportunities, is available on the Undergraduate Bulletin Board (located outside the departmental office room 325), or on file in the office. Information and announcements concerning field opportunities are available in the Anthropology Office and on the UAB website. Make sure to take advantage of this information well in advance of when you intend to travel. For more information, stop by the Office of International Programs, 3701 Chestnut Street, suite 1W (International House) or visit them on the web at <http://www.upenn.edu/oip/>

GRADUATING WITH HONORS

In order to graduate with honors in Anthropology you must have a GPA of 3.5 for all courses applied to your major, and complete a Senior Thesis. The Senior Thesis involves the completion of a significant piece of independent research from the formulation of a problem, question or hypothesis, through analysis and write up. It might be an expanded or improved version of a paper initially written for a course that demonstrates a capacity for independent research. Or, the Senior Thesis might be an outgrowth of an original research project, constituting a recognizable contribution to knowledge. You should begin to think about the senior Thesis in the junior year and no later than the summer between junior and senior years, and should contact the Undergraduate Chair and an appropriate faculty supervisor as soon as you have a topic in mind. You must register for ANTH 300 or ANTH 301 in the fall and/or spring of your senior year. ANTH 300/301 can be counted for major credit.

The **Anthropology Prize** is awarded to the student who submits the best senior thesis in a given year. In order to be considered for this competition, your thesis must be submitted in final and complete form by approximately the end of March (the actual date varies from year to year and is determined by the deadline for printing the Commencement Program). The Anthropology Prize is awarded on advice of an Anthropology faculty committee, who read the submitted theses. The prizewinner is notified by the end of the term, and at the department's graduation reception in May is given a certificate and a small honorarium. In addition, the awardee's name is inscribed on a plaque in the Anthropology Department and printed in the University's Commencement Program.

SUBMATRICULATION

Sub matriculation is a program that allows undergraduates to take graduate courses in order to obtain both undergraduate and graduate (MA or MS) degrees in a total of four to five years. Four of the ten total required course units may be double-counted between both the Undergraduate and Graduate Divisions. The GRE general test is not required, though encouraged. For further information check out the Anthropology Department homepage on the web at <http://www.sas.upenn.edu/anthro/anth-submatriculation.html> or make an appointment with the Undergraduate Chair and the Graduate Group Co-Chair.

LISTSERV

The Anthropology Department has a listserv for all anthropology undergraduate majors. Information posted from the Undergraduate Chair includes lecture notices, field school opportunities, museum positions, course updates, and the like. Also the Anthropology UAB uses the listserv to relay information. After you officially declare Anthropology as a major, your name is automatically added to the list. To get your e-mail address added to the list in other circumstances, contact the Administrative Coordinator at the Main Office, Room 323, University Museum, phone: 215-898-7461.

RESOURCES

The Anthropology Department website address: www.sas.upenn.edu/anthro/ allows you to gain updated information about the department as well as use links to other interesting anthropologically related sites on the World Wide Web. The direct anthropology undergraduate page is www.sas.upenn.edu/anthro/undergrad.html.

The Anthropology Student Lounge (Room 327) has couches and comfortable chairs, as well as computer terminals and a collection of mystery novels. It is a good place to talk to friends or relax between classes.

The **Museum Undergraduate Research Room** in the Mainwaring Wing of the Museum is available to students registered for Senior Thesis Research (ANTH 300 (fall) or 301 (spring)) or Independent Research (ANTH 199), or have been placed in the room under faculty permission. This room overlooks the entry garden of the Museum and offers a quiet space for research and writing within the Museum complex. The room is equipped with tables, chairs, computers, Internet access and a small amount of temporary storage.

LIBRARY

For students who could use another place to study or need anthropologically related resources, the Museum Library is a quiet, well-equipped, research library located on the third floor of the Museum. The librarians, Dr. John Weeks, Anita Fahringer, Cheryl Tisdale, Carole Linderman and other staff, are available to help students with their questions. The library hours during the school year are Sunday 1-5, Monday 9-5, Tuesday through Thursday 9-9, and Friday & Saturday 9-5. The Museum Library specializes in the four fields of the discipline and is filled with books, monographs, anthropology journals, special publications and other periodicals. Phone: 215-898-7840.

DEPARTMENTAL COLLOQUIUM

The Department of Anthropology sponsors a colloquium series, in which faculty from other institutions, as well as from Penn, discuss their research and exchange ideas. All undergraduate students are welcomed and graduate students in the department are expected to attend. These talks are usually held in the Department on Monday's at 4:30 pm. For more information on upcoming speakers visit the department's colloquia home page at: <http://www.sas.upenn.edu/anthro/calendar.html>

ANTHROPOLOGY UNDERGRADUATE ADVISORY BOARD

The Undergraduate Advisory Board (UAB) serves as officers of the Undergraduate Anthropology Society (the body of all Anthro majors and minors) and acts as the official liaison between the undergraduate students and the faculty. The objectives of the UAB include: **1.** Increasing the number of activities and events available to majors that enhances and strengthens the relationships between students and faculty members; **2.** Advising the Undergraduate Chair on issues of importance and interest to the undergraduate major program; and **3.** Increasing the interaction among undergraduate anthropology majors in an effort to create a more cohesive educational experience.

Membership is open to any undergraduate anthropology student. The term for each Board member shall run from January to January. Elections will be held at the end of the fall term each academic year, with turnover occurring in January. The UAB acts as a self-regulating, independent student organization. The UAB is under the leadership of the Chair (who must be a rising senior when elected). The Chair will organize and run all meetings with the aid and advice of the Vice Chair. Officers for the current term (Spring '04-Fall '04): Lauren Sankovitch, Chair; Bianca Chen, Vice Chair of Communications; Joanne Baron, Chair of Publications; Devon Sibole, Treasurer; Emily Lanza and Britt Dahlberg, Co-Chairs of Events.

Projects for the upcoming school year include organizing the welcome back receptions and updating this handbook each semester on the web, forming a large peer advising network among undergraduates, as well as, between undergraduates and graduates, and sponsoring various faculty and student panels throughout the year.

Contact the anthropology UAB via e-mail at anthuab@dolphin.upenn.edu, or for more information, please visit our web site, which contains an updated list of activities, board members, and this handbook at <http://dolphin.upenn.edu/~anthuab>

FACULTY & VISITING SCHOLAR INFORMATION

Academic Year '03-'04

Cultural Anthropology and Linguistics

Asif Agha	8-4110	asifagha@sas	Tibet, Linguistics	UM512
Sandra T. Barnes	8-6989	sbarnes@sas	Africa	UM416
Jay T. Dautcher	3-5029	dautcher@sas	China	
UM418				
Gautam Ghosh	8-6306	gghosh@sas	South East Asia	
UM338				
Melvyn Hammarberg	8-0981	mhammarb@ccat.sas	U.S.A.	UM513
Igor Kopytoff	8-6825	kopytoff@sas	Africa	UM425
Catherine Newling	3-7619	cnewling@sas	Mesoamerica	
UM336				
Julia Offen	3-7619	joffen@sas	No. America	UM336
Kate Ramsey	8-7461	ramseyk@sas		UM325
Paula Sabloff	8-4121	psabloff@sas	Central Asia, U.S.A.	UM509
Peggy R. Sanday	8-6988	psanday@sas	SE Asia, Indonesia	UM414
Brian J. Spooner	8-5207	spooner@sas	Middle East, S. Asia	UM507
Greg Urban	8-0895	gurban@sas	So. America, Linguistics	UM518

Archaeology

Harold L. Dibble	8-7073	hdibble@sas	France, NE, Paleolithic	UM427
Clark L. Erickson	8-2282	cerickso@sas	So. America, Ecology	UM436
Charles W. Golden	3-0203	cgolden@sas	Mesoamerica	UM431
Lisa Lucero	8-7461		Mesoamerica	UM323
Patrick McGovern	8-1164	mcgovern@sas	Near East	UM188
Kate Moore	8-7461	kmmoore@sas	No-So America, S. Asia	
UM323				
Deborah Olszewski	3-4777	deboraho@sas	France, Paleolithic	
UM343				
Gregory L. Possehl	8-4042	gpossehl@sas	South Asia	UM223
Robert W. Preucel	8-9017	rpreucel@sas	North America	UM510
Jeremy Sabloff	8-4050	jsabloff@ccat.sas	Mesoamerica	UM241
Robert L. Schuyler	8-6965	schulyer@sas	No. America, Historical	
UM412				
Robert J. Sharer	8-4033	rsharer@sas	Mesoamerica	
UM433				
Richard L. Zettler	8-9492	rzettler@sas	Near East	UM523

Physical & Medical

Rebecca Huss-Ashmore	8-6983	rhashmor@sas	Africa, Medical	
	UM429			
Frances Barg	8-1386	fbarg@sas	No. America, Medical	UM337
Janet M. Monge	8-4503	jmonge@sas	Europe, Physica	l
	UM334			
P. T. Schoenemann	3-7671	ptschoen@sas	Bio-Physical	UM418
Theodore G. Schurr	3-7632	tgschurr@sas	Molecular	UM344
Michael Zimmerman	8-7461	barbarazimm@aol.com	Egypt, Medical	
	UM335			

Faculty Profiles: <http://www.sas.upenn.edu/anthro/faculty.html>

FOR APPOINTMENTS

Contact the Administrative Coordinator for all appointments with the Undergraduate Chair or Undergraduate/Graduate Advisor. The department office is Room 323, University Museum, phone: 215-898-7461.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

If you will be requesting a letter of recommendation, be kind to the faculty members whom you ask by contacting them as early as possible. While thinking about who would best write you a good letter, make sure that you provide a resume and any information pertaining to the application. Leave enough time for the faculty member to get to know you personally. Also check with them to make sure they are aware of your deadlines. Their schedules are just as full as yours.

THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY & ANTHROPOLOGY

The Department of Anthropology is fortunate to be housed in the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, which is free to students with valid PennID. Students with a valid Penn ID can roam through any of the Museum galleries Tuesday through Saturday 10 AM to 4:30 PM or Sunday 1 PM to 5 PM. The University of Pennsylvania Museum is one of the premier cultural institutions in the world. Dedicated to the exploration of cultures around the world, culture history, and the understanding of cultural diversity, the Museum's anthropologists and archaeologists have conducted more than 350 expeditions to all the inhabited continents. Founded in 1887, the Museum is internationally renowned for its unique worldwide collections of archaeological and ethnographic materials. The Museum collections include more than 1,500,000 artifacts from Asia, the Near East, Greece, Italy, Africa, Egypt, the Middle East, the Pacific Islands, and the Americas.

The Museum is home to an experienced staff of scholars, scientists, researchers, students and volunteers. In addition to conducting research in distant parts of the world, they work in the Museum analyzing new materials, perfecting scientific techniques, preserving, writing, teaching, and sharing their knowledge of the development of human culture. Through Work Study Positions or as a volunteer at the Museum, you can get your hands into the rich source of material, of ideas, and of opportunities for relationships from virtually around the world.

The University of Pennsylvania values diversity and seeks talented students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds. The University of Pennsylvania does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability or status as a Vietnam Era veteran or disabled veteran in the administration of educational policies, programs or activities; admissions policies; scholarship and loan awards; athletic, or other University administered programs or employment. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to Executive Director, Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Programs, 3600 Chestnut Street, Nichols House, Suite 228, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106 or (215) 898-6993 (Voice) or (215) 898-7803 (TDD).