



Understand human diversity across time and space and how we are all shaped by the cultural, social, political, and historical contexts in which we live.

Anthropology

Anthropologists are not only found in far off locations. You can find Anthropologists everywhere; whether it's government, business, journalism, HR, law enforcement, or non-profit organizations.

Culture, technology, society, politics and history impact so much of our human experience. Anthropologists help us understand these complex relationships which shape our globalized world.

Employers value Anthropology graduates for their critical thinking, communication and problem-solving skills, which apply to wide range of employment opportunities.

Anthropologists in the workforce can:

- Help businesses understand the different ways people use technology
- Assist major corporations understand relationships between the company, its customers and employees
- Work with governments and local communities to manage and protect important cultural and historic resources
 - Work with public health or other organizations to offer culturally appropriate forms of health care to different communities



Our anthropological research and graduate training program includes the archaeological, biological, and socialcultural subfields.

Degree options

To apply to Anthropology, students must successfully complete the Social Sciences Level I program, including at least one of Anthropology 1AA3 or 1AB3.

Honours Anthropology B.A.	Grade Point Average of 5.0 (C) including a grade of at least 5.0 (C) in one of ANTHROP 1AA3 or 1AB3.
Combined Honours B.A. in Anthropology and another subject	Grade Point Average of 5.0 (C) including a grade of at least 5.0 (C) in one of ANTHROP 1AA3 or 1AB3. Satisfaction of the admission requirements for the Honours program in the other B.A. subject.
Minors	Anthropology Interdisciplinary Minor in Archaeology Interdisciplinary Minor in Latin American and Latinx Studies

For students interested in pursuing the Anthropology B.A., please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar.

Research and Teaching Facilities

- Archaeological Ceramic and Lithic Materials Research Lab
- Archaeology and Physical Archaeology Teaching Labs
- Centre for Integrated Bioarchaeological Research in Health, Diet, Disease and Migration
- Fisheries Archaeology Research Centre
- Lab for Interdisciplinary Research on Archaeological Ceramics
- McMaster Ancient DNA Centre
- McMaster Archaeological XRF (X-Ray Fluorescence) Lab
- Sustainable Archaeology at McMaster Innovation Park
- Visual Arts Anthropology Lab at McMaster Innovation Park
- McMaster Paleoethnobotanical Research Facility

Level I courses

Both Level I courses introduce anthropology and its sub-disciplines: archaeology, biological, cultural and linguistic anthropology. They focus on the big questions anthropologists use to investigate past and present societies.

Anthropology 1AA3

Introduction to Anthropology: Sex, Food and Death

Issues explored include: sex, gender, food, illness and death.

Anthropology 1AB3

Introduction to Anthropology: Race, Religion and Social Justice

Topics examined include: identity, race, religion, power, inequality, violence and conflict.

Beyond first year

Choose from a variety of courses, such as:

- Advanced Bioarchaeology and Skeletal Biology
- Bioarchaeological Field School
- Anthropology of Health, Illness & Healing
- Archaeology of Hunter-Fisher-Gatherers
- Comparative Mythology
- Cultural Anthropology
- Paleopathology
- Zooarchaeology
- Genetics and Society
- Anthropology and the "Other"
- Archaeology of Death
- Forensic Anthropology
- Cultural Politics of Food & Eating
- Diet and Nutrition: Biocultural and Bioarchaeological Perspectives
- The Archaeology of Neanderthals
- Medical Anthropology
- Plagues and People
- Anthropology of Tourism
- The Black Death
- Religion, Magic and Witchcraft

Careers & Experiential Education

- Through Careers & Experiential Education programs, you can participate in paid internships, a tuition-free career planning course, academic placements and job shadowing
- Apply for an Undergraduate Student Research Award to complete your own research project under the supervision of a professor during the summer
- Apply for a Student Project Grant to participate on an archaeological dig

Many of our courses offer experiential, hands on opportunities in our labs to analyze and learn from artifacts or skeletal material. For example, some courses include labs where students learn to manufacture ancient stone tools or ceramics.

Skills development

- Theoretical and practical methods for enhancing cross-cultural understanding
- Ability to analyze root causes of social problems, and work towards solutions with diverse groups of people
- Knowledge of social research, quantitative methods, qualitative interviewing and fieldwork
- Experience writing descriptive reports and analytical papers
- Understanding how race, religion, ethnicity, class, gender and other factors shape cultural experiences
- Knowledge about biological, ecological, cultural and long-term historical factors which influence human behaviour

Potential careers

- Human Resources
- Archaeological Field Technician
- Educator/Teacher
- Public Health
- Foreign Aid
- Heritage Planning
- Market or Clinical Research
- Cultural Resource Manager
- Museum Technician
- Public Service
- Rural Development

An anthropology degree also provides the foundation for post-graduate studies in anthropology, medicine, law, MBA programs and education.

"I study displacement and forced migration with a focus on religious and ethical practices. I work with students to understand the horrors and violence of the world we live in, across borders and political regimes."

— **Basit Iqbal**

MEET A
FACULTY
MEMBER



MEET A
FELLOW
STUDENT



"My program provides me with the skills to succeed in any job. You're able to not only learn about human skeletal biology but actually handle archaeological and non-archaeological remains. You gain a different perspective of society and the world generally and it's refreshing."

Sofia Varga, Honours Anthropology