



UC Santa Cruz

Anthropology

Anthropology, B.A.

Major Description

Anthropology studies people throughout the world and through time. Because it covers a wide range of topics—physical evolution, material remains of the past and the world that humans create through their ideas and practices in present-day societies—anthropology is an especially integrative discipline. Students have the opportunity to conduct independent library and field research and may use the department media library to develop technical and creative skills in visual and audio media.

The Anthropology program at UCSC offers courses that reflect the diversity of the field.

- **Cultural anthropology** explores the movements of people, objects and ideas in diverse societies, including our own. Cultural anthropology courses examine such topics as race and ethnicity, medicine, science, gender, sexuality, the environment, religion, law, popular culture and politics.
- **Archaeology** uses the material evidence of human activities to understand past human lives. Archaeology at UCSC focuses on past people's interactions with one another at the local level and within their wider social and ecological contexts. Faculty research areas include the pre-colonial and early post-colonial history of East Africa and the American Southwest.
- **Physical anthropology** traces the human journey from its beginnings in Africa over five million years ago. Physical anthropology courses look at fossil evidence, evolutionary theory, human variation and the behavior of primate relatives in order to analyze biological, social and cultural changes over time.

Starting Your Anthropology Degree

Lower-Division Major Requirements in Anthropology

From UC's perspective, community college is where you begin working on the first two years of your bachelor's degree. This includes taking lower-division coursework specifically related to your field of study that can be applied toward graduation in your major.

Listed below are the lower-division requirements for **Anthropology, B.A.** that may be satisfied with approved community college courses. To find out which of these requirements are shared by other UC campuses, see the UC Statewide Transfer Preparation Path in Anthropology.

- Physical/Biological Anthropology with or without lab
- Cultural Anthropology
- Introduction to Archaeology
- Public Life and Contemporary Issues (ANTH 4) or one ANTH 80s-level course (this course must be taken at UCSC)

!!! IMPORTANT !!!
All of these requirements do not necessarily have to be completed **before** you transfer. See the next section of this path for what you must do to be competitive for admission.

FIND YOUR COURSES

Every course at your community college that can be used to meet any of the lower-division major requirements is listed at www.assist.org

Becoming Competitive for Admission to Anthropology

Selection Requirements

Below are the lower-division requirements that this campus advises applicants to complete, and by when, to be competitive for admission to the major. It is important to note that meeting these requirements does not necessarily guarantee admission to the campus or major. The stronger your major preparation, the more competitive you will be.

- You are **strongly** advised to complete as many lower-division major-preparation courses as possible prior to transfer. Although completion of all major-preparation courses is not an admissions requirement, completion, or near completion, of these courses will help you move more efficiently toward graduation.

Satisfying General Education in Anthropology

General Education Requirements

While all UC campuses urge you to focus on your lower-division major requirements while in community college, it is important to remember that general education (GE), or “breadth,” requirements for your bachelor’s degree may also be met with approved community college courses. In fact, some majors require completion of lower-division GE coursework as part of your preparation prior to transfer. The good news is you may be able to double-count some of your lower-division major coursework for related GE requirements.

The Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) is a series of courses at California community colleges that students may complete to satisfy GE requirements. Certain students, however, may not be well served by following this GE option. Specific information about satisfying GE requirements as an Anthropology major is listed below.

- You can satisfy GE with either IGETC or UCSC’s GE requirements.

Related Majors

Preparation for the following major may be similar to the Anthropology major described above (consult the campus catalog).

- Earth Sciences/Anthropology Combined, B.A.