

# Anthropology

## Anthropology Classes

### ANTH 100: Introduction to Socio-Cultural Anthropology

This course is an introduction to the sub-discipline of sociocultural anthropology, which is the study of contemporary human cultures and societies. The course introduces the basic terminology and theoretical perspectives anthropologists use to understand the ways that humans organize themselves and the cultural logic through which they think about the world and their social relations. Course material covers a wide variety of cultural contexts, both familiar and unfamiliar, to help students understand the cultural logic of the beliefs and social practices of others and critically examine the cultural logics and assumptions of their own culture.

**Units:** 3

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

### ANTH 150: Human Origins

This course introduces students to biological anthropology and anthropological archaeology – those portions of the discipline concerned with human prehistory and continuing human development. The course examines reconstructions of the human record based on fossil and artifact-based evidence of human biological and cultural change over time. It considers various theories of human biological evolution and the emergence of culture – humanity's unique ecological niche. The course examines the origins and development of world civilizations, and takes a critical look at theories that try to explain the development of social complexity.

**Units:** 3

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

### ANTH 290: Topics in Anthropology

**Units:** 1-4

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

### ANTH 298: Special Study

**Units:** 1-4

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

### ANTH 299: Independent Study

**Units:** 1-4

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

# ANTH 315: Urban Anthropology

Cultural anthropology is the comparative study of society, culture, and human diversity. The discipline focuses on the various ways in which social relations, history, politics, and cultural products, like the media, shape peoples' everyday lives. This course examines ethnographic studies that document the strategies people use to cope with the demands posed by modern urban environments. It also examines some common social problems encountered in urban contexts, such as those involving the historical origins of urban settings, social class and inequality, urban youth subcultures, migration and economic globalization, and public health.

**Units:** 3

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

# ANTH 320: Indigenous Peoples of Latin America

This course introduces students to the basic histories, social structures, cultures, and current issues facing indigenous peoples in Central and South America. It explores how indigenous communities and identities have been formed, from the conquest and through today, examining a range of processes and events, such as colonialism, integration into the global economy, racism and racial hierarchies, civil wars, indigenous social movements, and migration and exile. It also examines the responses of indigenous peoples to these processes and events, looking specifically at topics such as retreat, revolution, and political activism. The goal of the course is to understand indigenous peoples as products of complex processes through which communities, identities and inequalities are produced, not as social isolates. Same as: INTS 335.

**Units:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

ANTH 100 or SOC 100 or INTS 130.

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

# ANTH 325: Inequality, Repression, and Resistance in Central America

Central America is often known as a region of rich cultural heritage but also carries a legacy of vast inequalities and forms of violent repression and rebellion. The purpose of this course is to understand the cultural, political, and economic factors that have led to this particular situation. We begin by looking at the process of conquest and colonization in shaping new societies and social structures, then explore the socio-economic processes that set the stage for many of the conflicts and problems that Central America faces today, and finally, we explore the current situation in Central America as it relates to changing ideas about gender and the role of women, racism and race mixing, immigration and exile, and forms of violence caused by more than 30 years of civil war and economic upheaval. Same as: INTS 325.

**Units:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

INTS130 or ANTH100.

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

# ANTH 330: People, Culture, and Globalization in Oceania

This course engages students in an examination of how indigenous peoples of Oceania have been deeply engaged in global, cultural, political, and economic processes since the time of their earliest encounters with representatives of the West. This class incorporates classic and contemporary studies from anthropology and Pacific history, together with the voices and views of islander writers and artists. Social science perspectives are helpful for understanding natural and cultural environments, cultural history and change, language issues, and current socioeconomic and educational issues the Islands face today. Writers and artists can show how islanders are actively shaping their views of themselves and the larger political-economic processes in which they participate. By combining these two points of view, the class will examine the tensions between cultural traditions and globalization and how we, as outsiders and as islanders, come to know and empathize with the peoples of Oceania. Same as: INTS 380.

**Units:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

ANTH100 or SOC100.

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

# ANTH 380: Cultures of Learning

In this course we examine “education” by looking beyond the typical setting of the school. Instead, we will consider education in the context of learning and culture. As scholars in history and anthropology have shown during recent decades, learning can be found in classrooms, families, churches, and public places. Learning can be thought of broadly as the process by which people acquire knowledge, attitudes, values, and skills. We will study the past as a deeply constitutive force in the present. Historians call this approach cultural history, anthropologists call it historical ethnography. Specific topics will include prominent and influential theories of pedagogy and learning, as well as the historical and cultural dynamics of race and ethnicity in learning. Throughout the course, we will keep the long history of education reform in mind – including contemporary initiatives. The course is modeled as an intensive reading and writing seminar in which students will be expected to complete an original research paper testing or applying principles discussed in class. Same as: HIST 380.

**Units:** 3

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

# ANTH 384: Indigenous North America

The Americas were populated for millennia before European colonization transformed the hemisphere and the lives of its first inhabitants. Descendants of these first inhabitants live in many parts of North America – including Orange County, California. This seminar explores the histories and cultures of select Native American peoples from Canada, Mexico, and the United States during selected eras, from before colonization and into the contemporary period. Through reading current and classic scholarship on Native Americans, along with writing a research essay on a topic of the students’ choosing, students will acquire an understanding of the historical and cultural processes that have defined Native American lives. Same as: HIST 384.

**Units:** 3

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

# ANTH 390: Advanced Topics in Anthropology

**Units:** 1-4

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

## ANTH 398: Special Study

**Units:** 1-4

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

## ANTH 399: Independent Study

**Units:** 1-4

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

## ANTH 401: Poverty, Power, and Urban Life

This course engages students in a critical examination of contemporary urban experiences with a focus on peoples living in the margins of large, dense urban communities, both inside and outside of North America. The course will address questions surrounding how the articulation of global and local markets affects the expression of traditional and modern identities, how underground or informal economies shape the creation of urban street life, and how children and adults actively pursue meaningful family life in contexts of extreme poverty. Readings will focus on cities in the Pacific basin.

**Units:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

ANTH100 or ANTH 150 or SOC100, or Junior standing.

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

## ANTH 490: Advanced Topics in Anthropology

**Units:** 1-4

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

## ANTH 498: Special Study

**Units:** 1-4

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

## ANTH 499: Independent Study

**Units:** 1-4

**Program:** [Anthropology](#)

# ANTH 313/INTS 313: Latin American Migration to the US

This course is about the way that Latin American immigration to the US, and often their return back to Latin America, affects the communities, families, racial identities, and even sex lives of both immigrants and the people they leave behind. The course will draw on readings primarily from Anthropologists and Sociologists who see immigration, not as a linear process of arrival and eventual integration, but as a transnational process of the movement of people, money, culture, and politics back and forth across borders in complex ways that affect both the US and Latin America. Thus, while the course will cover the overall historical trends of Latino immigration to the US, changing demographics, the effects of US immigration laws on immigrants and their families, and the overall economic and political trends in Latin America that explain why people migrate, the real focus of the course is on the effects of these overall trends on communities and families in both the US and Latin America as illustrated through ethnographically rich case studies based on participant observation with migrants, return migrants, and members of the sending communities.

**Units:** 3

**Recommended:**

INTS 130 or INTS 210.

# ANTH 348/INTS 348: Gender and Sexuality in Cross-Cultural Perspective

This course uses ethnographic case studies to understand how sex, gender, and sexuality are socially constructed in different societies around the world and how these social constructions generate different identities, social categories, and relations of power. The course uses analytical tools of Anthropology to understand the cultural logic behind practices and beliefs that are informed by culturally specific sex/gender/sexuality systems; how those cultural logics and practices are related to relations of power between individuals; how they become embedded in institutions of the state that affect the way rights are distributed and often violated; and what happens when they come into contact through various types of transnational movements of people and ideas. The course will also expose students to debates about how we use these understandings of the cultural logics of gendered practices and ideologies in order to address specific examples of gender/sexuality discrimination, gender violence, and international human rights discourse and policies.

**Units:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

ANTH 100 or SOC 100.