ANTHROPOLOGY

Note: "Sociology and Anthropology" is a single academic department at Fordham, but the academic information for each subject is listed on a separate web page. Information about sociology programs is listed under sociology.

The aim of anthropology is the broad study of the human condition, including the origins of our species through evolutionary biology and the development of culture and society across different times and places. Anthropology examines human life from ancient civilizations to contemporary global communities, ranging from small-scale societies to highly interconnected modern nations shaped by technology, migration, and globalization. Its subject matter spans immense stretches of time and geography, bringing together scientific and humanistic approaches to better understand people, their cultures, and the ways they interpret the world around them. Anthropology also offers an important perspective on the rapid social and cultural transformations taking place in an increasingly globalized and digitally connected world.

A major in anthropology is valuable for students seeking to understand cultural diversity, social change, and the complexities of contemporary multicultural societies. It provides strong preparation for careers that involve communication, public engagement, international consulting, the humanitarian and development sector, and cross-cultural collaboration. Anthropology is also useful for students interested in law, public policy, business, healthcare, education, media, and graduate study in the humanities or social sciences. Its combination of cultural, social, archaeological, and biological perspectives encourages critical thinking and adaptability, making anthropology well-suited for interdisciplinary study and double majors across the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities.

Program Activities

Honors and Awards

The Departmental Honors Thesis in Sociology and Anthropology is designed for FCRH and FCLC students who are interested in conducting independent research during their final year. Working closely with a faculty advisor and supported by a community of undergraduate researchers through our departmental thesis course, students plan and execute their own research, and then report the results in a substantial thesis. Students who earn a minimum grade of B on the thesis will graduate with honors in the sociology or anthropology major. Students are invited to apply by email during the spring of their junior year. Applicants must have a 3.4 overall grade point average and a 3.5 average in their major to be eligible for the program.

At Rose Hill, the department honors its seniors at the end-of-year awards ceremony, Encaenia, by bestowing the Rev. J. Franklin Ewing, S.J., Memorial Award for the best submitted essay by a graduating anthropology major. At Lincoln Center, the department also recognizes excellence in its graduating seniors with departmental honors in anthropology at its own diploma ceremony.

Independent Research

We offer interested seniors the opportunity to complete a student-driven independent research project, supported by a mentor and a for-credit seminar course, that allows the academic freedom to design, manage, and complete a project that makes a novel and original contribution to your field of study. Writing a thesis is the ultimate capstone experience and a singular intellectual challenge. It is also an unmatched graduate school credential. You will sharpen critical skills in data collection and analysis, analytical writing, and independent project management—competencies highly sought after in all career paths. And you can expect mentorship from a faculty member and work with a small group of equally enthusiastic peers. Majors with strong GPAs should consider the Honors Thesis Program described above, but minors and others interested in social science research may enroll in this course on a non-honors track. For more information, contact the Department Associate Chair or your major advisor.

Internships

Both sociology and anthropology majors and nonmajors are encouraged to take advantage of the Internship Seminar offered by the department. This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop skills in social analysis, policy development, program evaluation, and interpersonal relations while being of service to others in a real-life setting outside the classroom. Employment opportunities include agencies and corporations in the New York metropolitan area, ranging from organizations in the public sector, including the New York State Department of Corrections, the Legal Aid Society, and the Puerto Rican Family Institute, to organizations in the private sector such as CBS, Merrill Lynch, and IBM. Participating students take SOCI 4900 Internship Seminaror SOCI 4902 Internship Seminar: Community Organizations and spend a minimum of eight to ten hours per week in an agency (public or private) or organization chosen to fit the individual student's interests and expertise.

Anthropology Resources

Departmental resources include Stone Age implements; ethnographic art and artifacts from Southeast Asia, the South Pacific, and Africa; a teaching collection of human skeletal material, an archive and database of colonial and early American bricks from New York City and a large collection of colonial and early American artifacts. In cooperation with the history department, the anthropology program at Rose Hill conducted the longest running archaeological excavation in New York City at the Rose Hill manor from 1985 to 2002, located on the Rose Hill campus. Artifacts from this campaign are undergoing laboratory analysis, for which students may volunteer to help.

For more information

Visit the Sociology and Anthropology department web page

Contribution to the Core

Sociology and anthropology offer the following which fulfill the first social science core requirement:

Course	Title	Credits
ANTH 1100	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3
ANTH 1300	Introduction to Archaeology	3
SOCI 1100	Introduction to Sociology	3

The advanced social science core requirement may be satisfied by an advanced-level course in sociology or anthropology. The course in Physical Anthropology, ANTH 1200 Introduction to Biological Anthropology, and ANTH 1600 Introduction to Human Variation), each fulfill the life science core requirement for nonmajors. In addition, the department regularly offers courses that fulfill the American Pluralism,

Global Studies, Interdisciplinary Capstone, and *Eloquentia Perfecta* 1 and 3, and Values Seminar/EP4 core requirements.

Programs

- Anthropology Major
- Anthropology Minor