
Department of
Anthropology

Courses of Study:
Minor
Major (B.A.)
Combined B.A./ M.A.
Master of Arts
Doctor of Philosophy

Objectives

Undergraduate Major

The Department of Anthropology offers courses covering the discipline's four major subfields: sociocultural anthropology, linguistic anthropology, physical anthropology, and archaeology. The major is structured to provide an introduction to the major concepts, methodologies, and theoretical issues of anthropology, while permitting each student sufficient latitude to pursue his or her own special interests.

Graduate Program in Anthropology

The graduate program in anthropology, leading to the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees, is designed to produce scholars who will broaden our knowledge of culture and society. Graduate training is based on required courses in the history, theory, and method of anthropology and on elective courses in the subfields of anthropology (sociocultural anthropology, archaeology, biological anthropology, and linguistic anthropology). Some graduates of the program accept appointments at colleges and universities; a number take employment in government, private institutions, or foundations. Intensive training for independent research is stressed, with particular emphasis on comparative studies and fieldwork.

How to Become an Undergraduate Major

Students who wish either to major in anthropology or to study for a minor in anthropology should see the undergraduate advisor, who will discuss specific interests and assign an advisor. This consultation is especially important for those interested in a particular subfield. ANTH 1a (Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies) and ANTH 5a (Human Origins) [(or ANTH 1a and ANTH 61b (Language in American Life) for students on the linguistic anthropology track)] should be taken early in a student's academic career. Majors are encouraged to select honors research projects, particularly those students considering graduate study in anthropology or other professional training.

The department sponsors credit-bearing internships (ANTH 92a and b) for junior and senior majors and minors. Internships combine off-campus work that provides a significant anthropological learning experience and academic study supervised by a departmental faculty sponsor. Majors may

substitute one internship for the ninth elective course option. Students doing summer internships register for course credit in the following fall semester. A minimum of a B+ grade point average in anthropology courses is required for eligibility. For information see *Guidelines for Anthropology Internships* available from the undergraduate advisor.

How to Be Admitted to the Graduate Program

The general requirements for admission to the Graduate School, specified in an earlier section of the *Bulletin*, apply to candidates for admission to graduate study in anthropology. Admission decisions are based primarily on the candidate's undergraduate academic record, letters of recommendation, and the personal statement that is part of the application form. It is also advisable that the results of the Graduate Record Examination be submitted. A personal interview on campus is encouraged, but not required.

Applicants to the Master of Arts program or for study towards the joint degree of Master of Arts in anthropology and women's studies need not have completed an undergraduate major in anthropology or sociology-anthropology, although they may be required to make up deficiencies while those of arts program in anthropology or anthropology and women's studies may, after having completed the equivalent of their first semester's course-work, apply for admission to the doctoral program. Their applications will be considered along with the pool of candidates from outside Brandeis seeking admission directly to the doctoral program. Candidates for the Master of Arts program in anthropology or in anthropology and women's studies with demonstrated financial need may petition to the graduate school for partial tuition scholarships.

Students may apply for admission directly to the doctoral program in anthropology. Preference will be given to those with an undergraduate background in anthropology or in sociology-anthropology. In any case, applicants to the doctoral program must demonstrate that their anthropological interests are well defined and that these interests are congruent with and acceptable to those of the Brandeis anthropology department faculty. Full-tuition scholarships and cash fellowships are awarded to students in the doctoral program on a competitive basis. Need-based tuition remission is also available upon application. Assuming satisfactory progress in the doctoral program, fellowship and tuition scholarship aid would be maintained for four years.

Faculty

Richard Parmentier, Chair

Semiotic anthropology. Historical anthropology. Material culture. Language and communications. Oceania. Middle Ages. United States.

Mark Auslander

Art and aesthetics. Museum studies. Religion. Kinship. Historical anthropology. Development. Africa. United States.

Andrew Cohen

Near Eastern archaeology. Ancient Assyria. Archaeology of Ancient Israel. Archaeology of Egypt/Canaan.

Elizabeth Emma Ferry, Undergraduate Advising Head

Economic anthropology. Political anthropology. Latin America. Mexico.

David Jacobson

Social anthropology. Urban social organization. Psychosocial transitions. Families and households. Computer-mediated communication. United States. Africa.

Suzanne Joseph

Anthropological demography. Ecological anthropology. Social change in pastoral and peasant societies. Middle East.

Sarah Lamb, Women's Studies Liaison

Social-cultural theory. Gender studies. Anthropology of aging. Medical anthropology. Immigrant and transnational communities. South Asia.

Janet McIntosh

Cognitive anthropology. Linguistic anthropology. Religion. East Africa.

Ellen Schattschneider

Religion. Anthropology of the body.
Commodification. Psychoanalytic theory.
East Asia. Japan.

Jody Shapiro

Women and religion. Ethnography and
literature. Folklore. United States. Europe.

Javier Urcid, Graduate Advising Head

Archaeology. Bioarchaeology. Complex
societies. Writing systems. Comparative
aesthetics. Mesoamerica.

Requirements for the Undergraduate Major

A. Required of all majors: A minimum of nine semester courses in anthropology, to include ANTH 1a, ANTH 5a, and ANTH 83a (or ANTH 1a, 83a, 186b, and LING 100a for students on the Linguistic Anthropology track).

B. Honors candidates are required to take ANTH 99d. One semester course credit from this year-long, two-semester course may be counted towards the above nine courses.

C. A student may petition to have a course taken in another department replace one anthropology course requirement, provided that course is clearly related to the student's program. An approved internship in anthropology, completed for credit, may be counted as fulfilling one course requirement for the major in place of a course taken in another department.

D. A minimum of five of the nine courses required for the major must be taken from Brandeis anthropology faculty.

E. No course with a final grade below C- can count toward fulfilling the requirements for the major in anthropology.

Linguistic Anthropology Track

The following alternative track is recommended to anthropology majors with a special interest in linguistics. The purpose of this program is to introduce major issues and ideas in the study of language, the study of sociocultural systems, and the study of relations between language, society, and culture. Students interested in linguistic anthropology should arrange their programs in consultation with Ms. McIntosh. Requirements for the major for students who choose this track are as follows:

A. ANTH 1a and ANTH 83a.

B. ANTH 186b and LING 100a.

C. A minimum of four other anthropology courses chosen from those listed in the departmental offerings.

D. A minimum of one other linguistics course from the LING listing (selection to be approved by the student's faculty advisor in anthropology).

E. Candidates for a degree with honors should enroll in ANTH 99d during their senior year.

Archaeology Track

The following alternative track is designed to provide a coherent curriculum for anthropology students desiring to focus on archaeology. The curriculum is particularly recommended to those students considering the study of archaeology on the graduate level. Such students are encouraged to seek the advice of Mr. Urcid in designing their undergraduate programs.

A. Basic course requirements for the archaeological track are the same as those described under *Requirements for the Major* (above), and include ANTH 1a, ANTH 5a, and ANTH 83a.

B. Of the remaining courses required for the anthropology major, it is recommended (but not necessary) that students following the archaeology track include as many as possible of the following: ANTH 60a, ANTH 60b, ANTH 110a, ANTH 116a, ANTH 123a, ANTH 136a, ANTH 141b, ANTH 147b, ANTH 149a, ANTH 153a, ANTH 187a, and ANTH 188b in their program.

C. Candidates for a degree with honors must enroll in ANTH 99d during their senior year.

Requirements for the Undergraduate Minor

Five semester courses are required, including the following:

A. ANTH 1a and ANTH 5a

B. Three courses in anthropology, to be chosen in consultation with the student's advisor in the department.

C. A minimum of three of the five courses required for the minor must be taken from Brandeis anthropology faculty.

D. No course with a final grade below C- can count toward fulfilling the requirements for the minor in anthropology.

Combined B.A./M.A. Program

The four-year B.A./M.A. Degree Program in Anthropology is designed to enable exceptional or gifted undergraduates to earn two degrees simultaneously during their period of study at Brandeis University. The program provides a strong academic grounding for those students who aspire to a professional career in anthropology and anticipate continuing their studies elsewhere for the doctoral degree. Eligibility for the program is normally limited to anthropology majors who have maintained a minimum 3.40 (B+) grade point average overall and a 3.67 (A-) grade point average in anthropology courses for their first six semesters of undergraduate study. Students admitted to the program must fulfill all the requirements for a major in anthropology *with honors*, as well as the special requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Anthropology for the combined B.A./M.A. Specifically, they must complete a minimum of three years residence on campus, one of which is at the graduate level; a total of 38 courses (vs. the 32 required for the bachelor's degree); six anthropology courses at the graduate level (100+ numbered courses), including ANTH 190a and ANTH 193b, beyond the nine (10 in honors) required for the major in anthropology, with a minimum grade of B- in each; and an acceptable master's research paper (or honors thesis), evaluated by the student's advisor and one additional anthropology faculty member.

All candidates for the combined B.A./M.A. must complete all the requirements for the program by the end of their eighth semester (for entering freshmen). If the requirements for the M.A. portion are not complete at that time then the student is only eligible for the B.A. degree.

Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts

Program of Study

Students admitted to the Master of Arts Program in Anthropology must fulfill the Graduate School residence requirement of one full year of course-work. Course requirements will include a two-semester foundational sequence, ANTH 190a (formerly ANTH 200a) (History of Anthropological Thought) and ANTH 193b (formerly ANTH 203a) (Contemporary Issues in Anthropological Theory). In addition to the above, all candidates for the Master of Arts degree in anthropology must meet the following requirements:

- A. Complete a program consisting of six elective courses designed around their anthropological interests, selected with the approval of a faculty advisor to be assigned to each student upon matriculation.
- B. Submit an acceptable master's research paper, evaluated by their advisor and one additional faculty member. There is no foreign language requirement for the Master of Arts degree in anthropology.

Requirements for the Joint Degree of Master of Arts in Anthropology and Women's Studies

Students who are candidates for the joint degree of Master of Arts in anthropology and women's studies must:

- A. Complete ANTH 144a (The Anthropology of Gender), ANTH 190a (formerly ANTH 200a, History of Anthropological Thought), and ANTH 193b (formerly ANTH 203a, Contemporary Issues in Anthropological Theory).
- B. Complete WMNS 205a, the foundational course in women's studies. Under certain circumstances an alternative course can be taken instead of WMNS 205a. See advisor for approval.
- C. Complete two elective graduate courses in women's studies chosen from the list of courses in the *Bulletin*, at least one of which must be from a field other than anthropology.
- D. Complete two additional elective graduate courses in anthropology, selected with the approval of their advisor.
- E. Submit an acceptable master's research paper, dealing with a topic related to anthropology and women's studies, approved by their advisor. The paper must be evaluated by their advisor and one additional faculty member.
- F. Attend the year-long, noncredit, eight-part Women's Studies Colloquium Series.

There is a residence requirement of one full year of course-work. There is no language requirement for the joint master's degree in anthropology and women's studies. Students interested in the joint degree program should consult with the anthropology department women's studies liaison, Ms. Lamb.

Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Program of Study

Flexibility in the curriculum allows doctoral students to organize a program of study around their particular anthropological interests. At the same time, the program is structured so that a broad familiarity with the anthropological discipline is achieved. Students entering through the Brandeis Master of Arts program will have already completed the two foundational courses in anthropology (ANTH 190a [formerly ANTH 200a] and ANTH

193b [formerly ANTH 203a]). All others must complete these two core courses during their first year of residence. These courses emphasize epistemological issues in cross-cultural research and the relationship between scientific and humanistic modes of inquiry. Additional courses may be required as determined by the student's advisory committee. From their courses and outside reading, students must obtain a high level of competence in a specific topical field of anthropological research and in at least one culture area.

Graduate-level course offerings at Brandeis are augmented by the University's participation in a cross-registration program with Boston College, Boston University, Tufts University, and Wellesley College. Anthropology students are eligible to take courses at these institutions with the approval of their advisor. Students with an interest in archaeology may also take courses offered through the Center for Materials Research in Archaeology and Ethnology, a Boston-area consortium comprised of faculty from Brandeis, Boston University, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Museum of Fine Arts, Tufts University, UMASS Boston, and Wellesley College. Students interested in gender and women's studies may enroll in interdisciplinary courses offered through the Radcliffe Consortium.

Candidates for the doctoral degree work closely with an advisory committee consisting of two anthropology department faculty members, one of whom, the principal advisor, is in a field of specialization related to the interest of the student. The advisory committee has the following responsibilities: (1) to aid the student in constructing a coherent program of course-work leading to a high level of competency in one or more areas of anthropological theory and methodology; (2) to make certain that the courses selected include exposure to other areas within the discipline; (3) to ensure that a component of interdisciplinary study is included; and (4) to ensure that the student is knowledgeable in the anthropology of one or more of the world's culture areas. Each semester the department faculty as a whole meets to evaluate the progress of students in the doctoral program.

Teaching Requirement

Students will be required to serve as teaching fellows as part of their Ph.D. training.

Residence Requirement

Candidates for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in anthropology are required to meet the residence requirement as set forth by the Graduate School.

Qualifying Procedure

During the year following completion of residence and course requirements (normally the end of the second year of full-time study) students must take a general examination that tests for their overall mastery of anthropological history, theory, and methodology. In subsequent years they will study independently in their area of specialization, completing additional course-work, including reading courses if needed, and writing a Specialist Essay. The Specialist Essay requires a student to focus on a theoretical and/or topical issue relevant to their proposed dissertation research. Upon successful completion of the essay, students submit a brief prospectus, outlining their proposed dissertation research, for approval by their advisory committee. Students then normally apply for research grants to fund their project and engage in fieldwork and/or data gathering, followed by the writing of a dissertation.

Language Requirement

A reading knowledge of at least one foreign language must be demonstrated by written examination prior to the third year of enrollment and, at some point before graduation, by the submission of a research paper (such as a course paper) or doctoral dissertation in which sources in the selected language contribute to the research.

Dissertation and Defense

The completed dissertation must be successfully defended in an oral examination, as required by University regulations, before it can be formally accepted. At that point the department will recommend to the dean of arts and sciences that the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in anthropology be awarded the candidate.

Courses of Instruction

(1-99) Primarily for Undergraduate Students

ANTH 1a Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies

[nw ss]

Examines the ways human beings construct their lives in a variety of societies. Includes the study of the concept of culture, kinship and social organization, political economy, gender and sexuality, religion and ritual, symbols and language, social inequalities and social change, and globalization. Consideration of anthropological research methods and approaches to cross-cultural analysis. Usually offered every year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.

Ms. Lamb

ANTH 5a Human Origins

[ss]

Major transformations of humanity from early hominids to civilizations. Fossils and archaeological evidence serve to highlight the origins of bipedalism and language, the shift from foraging to agricultural economies, and the inception of urban life and large-scale political centralization. Usually offered every year. Will be offered in the spring of 2004.

Mr. Urcid

ANTH 26a Communication and Media

[ss]

The exploration of human communication and mass media from cross-cultural perspective. Examination of communication codes based on language and visual signs. The global impact of revolutions in media technology, including printing, television, computer networks, and advertising. Usually offered every third year. Last offered in the spring of 2003.

Ms. McIntosh

ANTH 55a Models of Development

[nw ss]

Investigates in detail models of development currently in use: the orthodox model of the industrial revolution, the underdevelopment challenge to the orthodox model, and a radically new model, sustainable development. Particular attention is paid to the development history of selected Third World countries in the 20th century. Usually offered every year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.

Ms. Ferry

ANTH 60a Archaeological Methods

[ss]

Enrollment limited to 20.

A practice-oriented introduction to field methods, including surface-survey, mapping, and excavation of archaeological features. Other topics include principles of stratigraphy and relative/chronometric dating methods. Focuses on the exploration of a 19th-century farm near campus. Usually offered every year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.

Mr. Urcid

ANTH 60b Archaeological Analysis

[ss]

Enrollment limited to 20.

Introduction to techniques applied in the analysis of archaeological remains. Topics include cataloging, classification and taxonomy, conjoining and reconstruction of objects, electronic databases, quantitative and qualitative analysis, statistical techniques, spatial analysis, archaeological illustration, reporting and exhibition of archaeological materials. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2002.

Mr. Urcid

ANTH 61b Language in American Life

[ss]

Examines the relations between language and some major dimensions of American social life: social groupings (the structures of ethnic, regional, class, and gender relations); social settings (such as courtrooms, schoolrooms, and homes); and social interaction. Usually offered every year. Last offered in the fall of 2002.

Ms. McIntosh

ANTH 62a Non-Western Musical Traditions

[nw ca ss]

Enrollment limited to 50.

Explores non-Western musical traditions in social and cultural context, with some emphasis on sub-Saharan Africa. Through selected case studies, examines musical systems in terms of their aesthetic conventions, instrumentation, and performance organization. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the fall of 2002.

Staff

ANTH 80a Anthropology of Religion

[nw ss]

An introduction to the anthropological study of human religious experience, with particular emphasis on religious and ritual practice in comparative perspective. Examines the relationship between religion and society in small-scale, non-western contexts as well as complex societies, global cultures, and world historical religions. Usually offered every year. Last offered in the fall of 2002.

Ms. Schattschneider

ANTH 83a Anthropological Inquiry

[ss]

Prerequisite: ANTH 1a or 5a.

An ethnographic and comparative survey of key paradigms of anthropological explanation. Evaluation of exemplary theoretical statements and empirical case studies. Relationship of anthropological models to contemporary social theory. Usually offered every year. Will be offered in the spring of 2004.

Ms. Ferry

ANTH 83b Fieldwork

[ss]

Signature of the instructor required.

An introduction to the theory and practice of fieldwork. The course will include discussion of classical and contemporary accounts of doing ethnographic research. Students will conduct supervised fieldwork in a variety of local settings. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2002.

Mr. Jacobson

ANTH 90a Independent Fieldwork

Signature of the instructor required. Four semester course credits, of which a maximum of two may count toward the major. May not be taken by students who have taken either ANTH 90a or 90b in previous semesters.

Students proposing to take this course are expected to work out a detailed plan of study for one semester with the help of two anthropology faculty members. This plan is to be submitted to the department for its consideration before the end of the semester preceding the one in which 90a would be taken. Approval depends on the department's resources for supporting the student's plan as well as on the student's competence and the excellence of the plan itself. Usually offered every year.

Staff

ANTH 90b Independent Fieldwork

See ANTH 90a for special notes. Usually offered every year.

Staff

ANTH 92a Internship and Analysis

No more than one departmental internship for credit. Signature of the instructor required.

The department sponsors internships for junior and senior majors and minors. Internships combine off-campus work that provides a significant anthropological learning experience and academic study supervised by a departmental faculty sponsor. Majors may substitute one internship for the ninth elective course option. Students doing summer internships register for course credit in the following fall semester. A minimum of a B+ grade point average in anthropology courses is required for eligibility. For information see *Guidelines for Anthropology Internships* available from the undergraduate advisor. Usually offered every year.

Staff

ANTH 92b Internship and Analysis

No more than one departmental internship for credit.

Usually offered every year.

Staff

ANTH 98a Readings in Anthropology

Signature of the instructor required.

Separate sections are offered on demand for the subdisciplines of sociocultural anthropology, archaeology, linguistics, and physical/biological anthropology. Usually offered every year.

Staff

ANTH 98b Readings in Anthropology

Signature of the instructor required.

Separate sections are offered on demand for the subdisciplines of sociocultural anthropology, archaeology, linguistics, and physical/biological anthropology. Usually offered every year.

Staff

ANTH 99d Senior Research

Signature of the instructor required.

Usually offered every year.

Staff

(100-199) For Both Undergraduate and Graduate Students

ANTH 105a Myth and Ritual

[nw ss]

Enrollment limited to advanced undergraduate and graduate students.

Myth and ritual studied as two interlocking modes of cultural symbolism. Theoretical approaches to myth are evaluated by looking at creation and political myths. Performative, processual, and spatial models of ritual analysis are evaluated by study of initiation, sacrifice, and funerals. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the fall of 2002.

Ms. Schattschneider

ANTH 108b History, Time, and Tradition

[ss]

Topics relating to the historical dimension of societies are explored in cross-cultural and interdisciplinary perspectives: the cultural construction of the past, temporal and calendrical systems, the invention of tradition, ethnohistorical narrative, and historical preservation. Usually offered every third year. Last offered in the spring of 2003.

Mr. Parmentier

ANTH 110a Human Evolution

[qr ss]

Enrollment limited to 20.

Evolutionary principles that shape human physical characteristics and generate variability of human groups around the world. Exploration of the fossil record, biological and behavioral relationships of humans and non-human primates, and current changes in the genetic composition of human populations. Usually offered every year. Last offered in the fall of 2002.

Staff

ANTH 116a Human Osteology

[ss sn]

Signature of the instructor required.

Skeletal anatomy and application of forensic techniques to archaeological problems. Hands-on laboratory sessions focus on methods of estimating age, determining sex, assessing variability, distinguishing bone disorders, and identifying cultural and natural modifications to bony tissue. Case studies exemplify bioarchaeological approaches. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2003.

Mr. Urcid

ANTH 118b Peoples and Societies of the Middle East

[ss]

An anthropological introduction to the peoples and societies of the Middle East. Focus on Islam, family and kinship, communal identities, gender, and youth culture. Reading critical ethnographies develops sensitivities in understanding the variety of experiences in the Middle East. Usually offered every year. Last offered in the spring of 2003.

Staff

ANTH 123a Directions and Issues in Archaeology

[ss]

An examination of concepts involved in the archaeological study of the human past. Selected readings will be discussed as illustrations of major theoretical and methodological issues. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the fall of 2001.

Mr. Urcid

ANTH 125b Investigations in an Unfamiliar Language

[ss]

Prerequisite: ANTH 61b or LING 100a.

Using a native speaker of an unfamiliar language (such as Turkish or Amharic) as a source of data, the class will investigate the structure of the language and compare it with the structure of English and other familiar languages. May be repeated for credit. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2001.

Staff

ANTH 126b Symbol, Meaning, and Reality: Explorations in Cultural Semiotics

[ss]

Provides a historical survey of the development of theories of signs and symbols; comparison of Peircean and Saussurean foundations of modern semiotics; the structure of cultural codes (language, art, music, and dress), and the possibility of crosscultural typologies. Usually offered every fourth year. Will be offered in the spring of 2004.

Mr. Parmentier

ANTH 127a Medicine, Body, and Culture

[nw ss]

Examines main areas of inquiry in medical anthropology, including medicine as a sociocultural construct, patients and healers in comparative medical systems, the "discovery" of the two sexes and its ramifications, and the medicalization of the life cycle. Usually offered every second year. Will be offered in the spring of 2004.

Ms. Lamb

ANTH 128a Meaning and Material Culture

[ss]

An investigation of the relationship between cultural meaning and material objects. Central objects are emblems of social identity (fabric, houses, monuments), objectifications of value (money, valuables, commodities), and aesthetic representations (images, icons, statues). Usually offered every second year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.

Mr. Parmentier and Mr. Urcid

ANTH 129b Global, Transnational, and Diasporic Communities

[ss]

Examines social and cultural dimensions of globalization from an anthropological perspective. Topics include the impact of global capitalism upon indigenous communities, global forms of popular culture and consumerism, transnational migration and diasporas, changing inequalities and gender systems, global sexual cultures, and the AIDS pandemic. Usually offered every second year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.

Ms. Lamb

ANTH 131b Culture and Economy in Latin America

[ss]

Examines the cultural effects of political and economic forces in contemporary Latin America. Ethnographies, films, and other sources dealing with multiple localities will focus on labor organizations, state intervention, export agriculture, migration, national identity, household structure, gender, and ethnicity. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2003.

Ms. Ferry

ANTH 133a Tradition and the Contemporary Experience in Sub-Saharan Africa

[nw ss]

Explores the variety and richness of indigenous African social and cultural forms, such as the organization of the family, indigenous political systems; rank and slavery; traditional economics; ideas about magic, witchcraft, and religion; and the arts. Usually offered every fourth year. Last offered in the spring of 2003.

Staff

ANTH 134a South Asia: Tradition and the Contemporary Experience

[nw ss]

May be repeated for credit if taught by different instructors.

Examines the diversity and richness of the cultures and societies of South Asia, with a focus on India. Concentrates on the lived experiences of class, caste, gender, religion, politics, and region in people's everyday lives. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2001.
Ms. Lamb

ANTH 135a Paradoxes of Peoplehood in Contemporary Israel

[ss]

Prerequisite: ANTH 1a or permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 25.

Explores a wide range of materials about social experience in Israel, with a particular focus on marginalized or frequently overlooked social groups. Topics include women in Israeli society, critical perspectives on ethnicity and religion, the relationship between gender and citizenship, disability and identity, and nationalism and sexuality. Usually offered every fourth year. Last offered in the spring of 1999.
Staff

ANTH 135b Modern South Asia: Society and Politics

[nw ss]

Examines the intricate relationship between politics and society in modern South Asia. Topics include colonial-era British institutional development, the role of religion in South Asian politics, the emergence of ethnic conflict, and the performance of post-colonial government. Usually offered every fourth year. Last offered in the spring of 1998.
Staff

ANTH 136a State Formation in Comparative Perspective

[ss]

Prerequisite: One course dealing with "ancient societies."

Comparative and multidisciplinary understanding of the development of complex societies in the ancient world. Archaeological, ethnographic, and textual data from exemplary case studies (Uruk, Hawaii, Bali, Teotihuacan, Minos, Angkor, Inca) are used to evaluate theoretical models of state formation. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2003.
Staff

ANTH 138a Social Relations in Cyberspace

[ss]

Signature of instructor required.

Provides an introduction to various forms of computer-mediated communication (e.g., email, newsgroups, bulletin boards, and virtual communities) and the ways in which people interact in these different contexts of cyberspace. Students are expected to do online research. Usually offered every year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.
Mr. Jacobson

ANTH 139b Language, Ethnicity, and Nationalism

[ss]

It is often assumed that language differences divide people, while a common language unites them. To what extent is this true? Taking cross-cultural and historical approaches, we examine concepts of "speech community," tribe, ethnicity, and nation. Explores what kinds of social groupings these terms might label; some ideologies connected with their use; and their relationship with communication systems. Usually offered every second year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.
Ms. McIntosh

ANTH 141b Engendering Archaeology: Exploring Women's and Men's Lives in the Past

[ss]

Prerequisite: ANTH 5a, 60a, or 110a recommended. Enrollment limited to 20. Explores people's pasts through archaeology. Topics include theoretical foundations of creating engendered pasts, methodological aspects of "doing" engendered archaeology, and intersections between political feminism, knowledge production, and the politics of engendered archaeology. Usually offered every third year. Last offered in the spring of 2002.
Staff

ANTH 143b Recovering Religion in the Archaeological Record

[ss]

Examines the complex relationship that the ancient Egyptians, Israelites, Mesopotamians, Greeks, and Romans had with the supernatural and the challenges faced by archaeologists in attempting to recover, describe, and interpret that relationship. Special one-time offering. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.
Mr. Cohen

ANTH 144a The Anthropology of Gender

[nw ss]

Enrollment limited to 25.

An examination of gender constructs, sexuality, and cultural systems from a comparative perspective. Topics include the division of labor, gender complementarity, "matriarchy" and "patriarchy," women's rituals, gender in language, and feminist anthropology. Usually offered every year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.
Ms. Lamb and Ms. Schattschneider and Ms. Shapiro

ANTH 145a Anthropology of the Body

[ss]

Enrollment limited to 25.

Explores a range of theories that use the body to understand society, culture, and gender. Topics include how social values and hierarchies are written in, on, and through the body; the relationship between body and gender identity; and experiences and images of the body cross-culturally. Usually offered every third year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.
Ms. Lamb and Ms. Schattschneider and Ms. Kahn

ANTH 147b The Rise of Mesoamerican Civilization

[nw ss]

A library-intensive course.

Traces the development of social complexity in pre-Columbian Mesoamerica, from initial colonization in the Late Pleistocene to the Spanish conquest in the 16th century. Review of major societal transformations like agriculture, the inception of village life, and the rise of civilizations. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2003.
Mr. Urcid

ANTH 149a Archaeology of Egypt and Canaan in Ancient Times

[ss]

Enrollment limited to 15.

Surveys the major archaeological sites in Egypt and Asia from 2200 BCE to 600 BCE. Some 20 sites in modern day Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria form the focus of lectures and discussions. Particular attention is given to interpreting the cultural remains in the light of historical and literary evidence. Usually offered second year. Last offered in the spring of 2003.
Mr. Cohen

ANTH 151b Folk Religion and Women's Lives

[ss]

Cross-cultural anthropological and folkloristic consideration of women's lived religion. Considers the role of female laity in shaping religion, especially in contrast with formal doctrines, texts, and officials. Areas to be studied include Greece, India, Mexico, Ireland, Thailand, Korea, Morocco, and several American communities. Usually offered every fourth year. Last offered in the spring of 1999.
Staff

ANTH 153a Writing Systems and Scribal Traditions

[nw ss]

Compares graphic forms of communication, ranging from semasiographic to alphabetic systems, from archaeological and ethnographic perspectives. Explores the social functions of early writing systems, the linkage of literacy and political power, and the production of historical memory. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the fall of 2002.
Mr. Urcid

ANTH 155b Psychological Anthropology

[ss]

An examination of the relationship between sociocultural systems and individual psychological processes with a critical evaluation of selected theories and studies bearing on this problem. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2003.
Ms. McIntosh

ANTH 156a Power and Violence: The Anthropology of Political Systems

[nw ss]

Political orders are established and maintained by varying combinations of overt violence and the more subtle workings of ideas. The course examines the relationship of coercion and consensus, and forms of resistance, in historical and in contemporary settings. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2003.

Ms. Ferry

ANTH 157a Families and Households

[ss]

Describes and analyzes several family types and households in contemporary American life, interpreting them in their cultural contexts and comparing them with similar arrangements in other cultures. Usually offered every fourth year. Will be offered in the spring of 2004.

Mr. Jacobson

ANTH 158a Urban Anthropology

[ss]

Comparative study of strategies used in coping with the complexity of urban life. Attention will be given to analyzing and evaluating the theories, methods, and data anthropologists and others use in their studies of urban social organization. Usually offered every second year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.

Mr. Jacobson

ANTH 161b Culture and Cognition

[ss]

Explores the relationship between cognitive processes and cultural systems, cultural differences involving people's perception, classification process, memory or modes of problem solving, and their effect on the course of cognitive development. Usually offered every second year. Will be offered in the spring of 2004.

Ms. McIntosh

ANTH 163b Production, Consumption, and Exchange

[nw ss]

Prerequisite: ANTH 1a, or ECON 2a, or permission of the instructor.

This course is a survey of economic anthropology. Major theoretical disputes are covered. Substantive findings concerning production, property, and transactions are examined through case studies. Most attention is paid to "primitive" economies. Usually offered every year. Will be offered in the spring of 2004.

Ms. Ferry

ANTH 174b Virtual Communities

[ss]

Prerequisite: ANTH 138a, or permission of the instructor. Signature of the instructor required.

A research seminar dealing with a selected problem in the social organization of online communities. Possible topics include impression formation in cyberspace, social control in virtual communities, the concept of presence in computer-mediated

communication, and the transition between online and offline relationships. Students will do online fieldwork. Usually offered every second year. Will be offered in the spring of 2004.

Mr. Jacobson

ANTH 178b Culture, Gender, and Power in East Asia

[ss]

Discusses the relevance of social theory to the dynamics of culture, gender, and power in East Asia. Topics include exchange, personhood, ideology, and historical consciousness. Students will read detailed ethnographic studies set in urban and rural East Asia and view several contemporary films. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2003.

Ms. Schattschneider

ANTH 182b Designing Ethnographic Research

[ss]

Signature of the instructor required.

Survey of principal methodological issues in anthropological fieldwork and analysis, including research design, technologies of data collection, household surveys and genealogies, comparative methods, and ethnographic representation. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2001.

Staff

ANTH 184b Cross-Cultural Art and Aesthetics

(formerly ANTH 84b)

[nw ss]

This course may not be repeated for credit by students who have taken ANTH 84b in previous years.

A cross-cultural and diachronic exploration of art, focusing on the communicative aspects of visual aesthetics. The survey takes a broad view of how human societies deploy images to foster identities, lure into consumption, generate political propaganda, engage in ritual, render sacred propositions tangible, and chart the character of the cosmos. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the fall of 2002.

Mr. Urcid

ANTH 185a Archaeological Science

[ss]

Prerequisites: One year of college-level chemistry, biology, and physics, or the equivalent. Signature of Mr. Urcid, the Brandeis coordinator, required.

A lecture course in which leading experts from the faculty of the seven major Boston-area universities and the Museum of Fine Arts that comprise the Center for Materials Research in Archaeology and Ethnology (CMRAE) consortium discuss how they apply scientific technology and engineering methods to archaeological analysis. Deals with topics such as radioactive and other methods of age determination, archaeological site formation and soil micromorphology, and the study of materials used in ancient building construction. Usually offered every second year. Will be offered in the spring of 2004.

Staff

ANTH 186b Social and Cultural Aspects of Linguistic Analysis

[ss]

Prerequisite: ANTH 61b or LING 100a.

Advanced topics in linguistic anthropology, including the study of linguistic meaning in context; pragmatics; the construction of social relationships through language; language and authority; language and religion; and linguistic ideologies. Usually offered every second year. Will be offered in the spring of 2004.

Ms. McIntosh

ANTH 187a Materials Research in Archaeology, I

[ss]

Enrollment limited to advanced undergraduate and graduate students. Signature of Mr. Urcid, the Brandeis coordinator, required. Topics vary from year to year, and the course may be repeated for credit.

A series of courses, each focusing on a specific topic, such as archaeological analysis of animal or plant remains; the analysis of lithic materials, pottery, or metals; GPS; and statistical analysis. Courses are offered each semester, taught by faculty from the Center for Materials Research in Archaeology and Ethnology, a consortium including Brandeis, Boston University, Harvard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Museum of Fine Arts, Tufts, UMass Boston, and Wellesley. Usually offered every year. Last offered in the fall of 2001.

Staff

ANTH 188b Materials Research in Archaeology, II

[ss]

Enrollment limited to advanced undergraduate and graduate students. Signature of Mr. Urcid, the Brandeis coordinator, required. Topics vary from year to year, and the course may be repeated for credit.

See ANTH 187a for course description. Usually offered every year. Last offered in the spring of 2000.

Staff

ANTH 190a History of Anthropological Thought

[ss]

A historical examination of major ideas and perennial problems in social thought that have led to the development of modern theory and method in anthropology. Usually offered every year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.

Mr. Parmentier

ANTH 191a Field School in Archaeology

[ss]

Enrollment limited to 20.

Training in methods of archaeological fieldwork and analysis through participation in the excavation of an archaeological site. Students will normally assist in excavation, artifact analysis, and attend lectures. Offered on an irregular basis in the summer. Last offered in the summer of 1997.

Staff

ANTH 193b Contemporary Issues in Anthropological Theory

[ss]

Prerequisite: ANTH 83a for undergraduate students and ANTH 190a for graduate students.

Intensive survey of the major theoretical models in contemporary anthropology. Comparison of materialist, comparative, semiotic, feminist, cognitive, linguistic, reflexive, poststructuralist, and Marxist approaches. Evaluation of theories in terms of philosophical coherence and empirical adequacy. Usually offered every year. Will be offered in the spring of 2004.

Ms. Lamb

ANTH 196a Comparative Social Institutions

[ss]

Introduces students to key anthropological conceptions of social institutions and their role in cross-cultural comparison. Included are examples such as status and role, household and family, lineage and descent group, network and alliance, and class and stratification. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the spring of 2002.

Staff

(200 and above) Primarily for Graduate Students**Readings and Research Courses (ANTH 225a-289b)****225a and b Readings and Research in Cultural Analysis**

Mr. Parmentier

226a and b Readings and Research in Archaeology

Mr. Urcid

227a and b Readings and Research in Linguistic Anthropology

Ms. McIntosh

228a Advanced Readings in Method and Theory

Staff

228b Advanced Readings in Archaeological Method and Theory

Mr Urcid

231a and b Readings in Cognitive Culture

Ms. McIntosh

232a and b Readings in Development

Staff

234b Readings and Research in Anthropology of Law

Staff

235a and b Readings and Research in Latin American Cultures

Staff

238a and b Readings and Research in Urban Anthropology

Mr. Jacobson

241a and b Readings and Research in New World Ethnohistory

Mr. Urcid

243a and b Readings and Research in Anthropology of Body

Ms. Lamb and Ms. Schattschneider

252a and b Readings and Research in Anthropology of Art

Mr. Urcid

253a and b Readings and Research in Economic Anthropology

Ms. Ferry

254a and b Readings and Research in Southeast Asian Ethnography

Mr. Appell

256a and b Readings and Research in Religion

Ms. Schattschneider

257a and b Readings and Research in Families and Households

Mr. Jacobson

258a and b Readings and Research in Computer-Mediated Communication

Mr. Jacobson

283a and b Readings and Research in Fieldwork

Mr. Jacobson

284a and b Readings and Research in Archaeological Methods

Mr Urcid

285a and b Readings and Research in Gender and Sexuality

Ms. Lamb

286a and b Readings and Research in South Asia

Ms. Lamb

287a and b Readings and Research in Medical Anthropology

Mr. Jacobson or Ms. Lamb

288a and b Readings and Research in Immigrant and Transnational Communities

Ms. Lamb

289a and b Readings and Research in Biological Anthropology

Mr. Urcid

ANTH 300a Master's Thesis Research

Staff

ANTH 304a and b Readings and Research in Anthropological Field Methods

Staff

ANTH 305d Anthropology Colloquium

Staff

ANTH 400d Dissertation Research

Specific sections for individual faculty member as requested.

Staff

Cross-Listed Courses**NEJS 116b**

The Archaeology of Ancient Israel and Its Neighbors

SOC 188a

The Politics of Reproduction