

Archaeology Course Sequence for getting into Graduate School or landing a job in Cultural Resource Management

Introduction to the Recommended Course Sequences by Subfield

Our 35-credit minimum for the Anthropology major provides you many skills: critical reading, persuasive writing, observation and data gathering methods, qualitative as well as quantitative analyses of social & material phenomena, etc. All of these skills will help you succeed in a variety of fields post-graduation. Furthermore, you may learn all of these and more simply by spreading out your coursework across all four anthropology subfields (Archaeology, Biological Anthropology, Linguistic Anthropology, and Sociocultural Anthropology).

But, if you wish to land a position in an Anthropology graduate program, the selection committee of these programs will be examining your coursework, looking specifically for a strong interest in one of the four subfields of Anthropology.

Note that particular graduate programs *also* look for specific recognized combinations of subfields like paleoanthropology (a combination of Biological Anthropology and Archaeology) or specialization within one subfield (primatology being a specialty within biological anthropology, medical Anthropology being a specialty within sociocultural anthropology).

The graduate program selection committee will first look at your degree transcript to see if you have had sufficient training in your desired subfield. Therefore, it is wise to plan your course load for the Anthropology BA to reflect your subfield choice. Our Anthropology BA major requirements ensure that you have a well-rounded training across all four major subfields, but you can use the 5 elective anthropology courses to specialize in one or more subfields.

- If there is more than one subfield foundation course offered in the subfield you wish to specialize in (at present, this is the case for biological anthropology and linguistic anthropology), it is recommended (but not required) that you take both, as these courses are complementary in terms of content.
- If you have balanced your courses across all four subfields and still wish to get a position in a graduate program, **you can still demonstrate your depth in one subfield through your senior project**, which should be executed solidly within one subfield.

The following documents present the recommended sequence of courses for your undergraduate training in preparation for graduate school and/or specific professional job markets requiring a subfield emphasis. These documents should be used in conjunction with the Sample Plans for Anthropology Majors available here: <http://z.umn.edu/11hy>.

Particular subfield emphases may suggest that you take more credits than the minimum of 35 for the BA, but you should try to optimize your training relative to the need to graduate in a timely manner. In other words, while “more is better; most is best” may be a good motto for learning as much as you can within a subfield, both prospective employers and graduate program selection committees do look for undergraduate students graduating in a timely manner.

Remember: Here are the Anthropology BA Major Requirements:

Required credits within the major: 35. How

Preparatory Courses

- ANTH 1001 - *Human Evolution*, BIOL (4.0 cr)
- ANTH 1003W - *Understanding Cultures*, SOCS, GP, WI (4.0 cr) **OR** ANTH 1005W - *Introduction to Cultural Diversity and the World System*, SOCS, GP, WI (4.0 cr)

Subfield Foundation Courses

Take at least one specified course from at least three of the four subfields:

- Archaeology Subfield:
 - ANTH3001 *Introduction to Archaeology* [SOCS] (4.0 cr)
- Biological Anthropology Subfield:
 - ANTH3002 *Sex, Evolution, & Behavior* (4.0 cr) **OR** Anth3401/5401 *The Human Fossil Record* (3.0 cr)
- Sociocultural Subfield:
 - ANTH3003 *Cultural Anthropology* (3.0 cr)
- Linguistic Anthropology Subfield:
 - ANTH3005W *Language, Culture, & Power* [SOCS, DSJ, WI] (4.0 cr) **OR** ANTH3015W/5015W *Biology, Evolution, and Cultural Development of Language* [SOCS, WI]

Upper-Division Training in Anthropology

- Take 2 or more ANTH courses at the 3xxx, 4xxx, or 5xxx level.
- Take 3 or more ANTH courses at the 4xxx or 5xxx level.

Senior Project

Choose one of the following two options to complete the senior project requirement.

- Option 1: Take ANTH 3913 Senior Project Planning (1.0 credit) at least one term before registering for ANTH 4013 Senior Project (3.0 credits). Honors Program students should take ANTH 4013H Senior Honor Thesis instead of ANTH 4013.
OR
- Option 2: Take an additional ANTH course of 3.0 credits or more at the 4xxx or 5xxx level.

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Underlined courses are mandatory (or one choice to satisfy a mandatory requirement) for the Anthropology major.

Archaeology graduate program selection committees, as well as directors of cultural resource management companies (where the majority of archaeologists get jobs) will look to see if you have taken courses that give you competence in the following subjects:

Two courses from the Archaeology Method & Theory Course Sequence

1. ANTH 3001 – Introduction to Archaeology (once every year, usually Fall term but sometimes Spring, to be taken in sophomore year)
 - ANTH 4001 – *Advanced Archaeological Method & Theory* (once every year, usually Fall term but sometimes Spring, to be taken **after** 3001 and in junior or senior year)

Two or more laboratory courses in Artifact Analysis (all require 3001 as a prerequisite and are important for the CRM job market):

1. ANTH 3402/5402 – *Zooarchaeology Laboratory* (every Fall term, to be taken after 3001 and in the junior year; useful for Paleoanthropology as well as Archaeology programs)
 - ANTH 5244 – *Interpreting Ancient Bone* (every Spring term; useful for Paleoanthropology programs)
2. ANTH 5269 – *Analysis of Stone Tool Technology* (once every year, usually Fall term but sometimes Spring, to be taken after 3001 and in the junior year; useful for Paleoanthropology as well as Archaeology programs)
 - ANTH 3008 – *Introduction to Flintknapping* (every May term; may be taken before or after Anth5269)
 - ANTH 5008 – *Advanced Flintknapping* (every May term; to be taken after Anth3008)
3. ANTH 5444– *Archaeological Ceramics* (every Spring term, to be taken after 3001 and in the junior year)

Two survey courses in World Prehistory:

1. ANTH 1001 – Human Evolution (every Fall and Spring term, to be taken in 1st or 2nd year)
2. ANTH 3009 – *Rise of Civilization* (every Spring term, to be taken in 1st or 2nd year)

One or more regional archeology survey courses (note that one can focus on Old World or New World Archaeology with these selections):

1. ANTH 3027W/5027W – *Archaeology of Prehistoric Europe* (every Fall term)
2. ANTH 3028 – *Introduction to Historical Archaeology* (every Spring term; very useful for the CRM job market)
3. ANTH 3029 – *Archaeology & Native Americans* (alternate Spring terms)
4. ANTH 4077 – *Neanderthals: Biology & Culture of Humanity's Nearest Relative* (alternate years, to be taken after 1001)
5. ANTH 5442 – *Archaeology of the British Isles* (every Fall term)

One archaeological fieldwork experience (note that CRM applications usually require an official “archaeological field school”):

1. ANTH 3221 – *Archaeological Field School* (Summer term)
2. Non-University of Minnesota archaeological field school or volunteer excavation experience (register for ANTH4991 *Independent Study* to get U of M credit)

One or more courses of practical training in Curation and Cultural Resource Management (great for the CRM job market):

1. ANTH 4007 – *Anthropology Laboratory Internship* (every Spring term)
2. ANTH 5448 – *Applied Heritage Management* (every Spring term)

One or more courses in an advanced archaeological topic:

1. ANTH 4101 – *Archival Analysis for Anthropologists* (alternate Fall terms; very useful for the CRM job market)
2. ANTH 4103 – *Archaeologies of Colonialism* (alternate Fall terms; very useful for the CRM job market)
3. ANTH 5221 – *Anthropology of Material Culture* (alternate Fall terms)
4. ANTH 5244 – *Interpreting Ancient Bone* (every Spring term; useful for Paleoanthropology programs)
5. ANTH 5255 – *Archaeology of Religion* (alternate Fall terms)
6. ANTH 5403 – *Quantitative Methods in Biological Anthropology* (alternate Fall terms)
7. ANTH 5446 – *Archaeology of Representation as Communication* (every Spring term)
8. ANTH 3008 – *Introduction to Flintknapping* (every May term; useful for Paleoanthropology programs)
9. ANTH 5008 – *Advanced Flintknapping* (every May term; useful for Paleoanthropology programs)

An excellent Senior Project Thesis:

1. ANTH 3913 – *Senior Project Planning* (every term; to be done one semester before 4013)
→ ANTH 4013 – *Senior Project* (every term)