

## Faculty

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Anthropology is an unusually broad discipline that embraces biological, historical, and cross-cultural study. Anthropology courses at Kenyon reflect these three distinct but inter-related areas.

Biological anthropology studies the complex connections between our biological and cultural existence, investigating how humans have evolved in the past and how we are continuing to evolve in the present. More advanced courses focus on such topics as human skeletal anatomy, human paleontology, primate behavior, and human adaptation to changing environmental conditions.

Courses in archaeology allow students to learn about prehistoric peoples of the New World (Aztecs, Maya, Inkas, Moundbuilders, and Puebloans) as well as the Old World (Egypt, Mesopotamia, and European megalith builders). Methods of investigation are also covered. Field study provides students with first-hand experience in conducting archaeological research.

In cultural anthropology courses, students can study native North Americans and the peoples of Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and Latin America, as well as such topics as tourism, ethno-medicine, sexuality and gender, politics, and linguistics.

All anthropology courses deal with human diversity.

## Beginning Studies in Anthropology

A first course in anthropology should be any of the four one-semester introductory courses listed below. Each course combines lecture and discussion and has an enrollment of no more than twenty-five to thirty students. Look for the ♦ symbol, designating courses most appropriate for first-year students or upperclass students new to the anthropology curriculum.

### ANTH 111 Introduction to Biological Anthropology

This is the first course in biological anthropology, required for upper-level work in biological anthropology courses.

### ANTH 112 Introduction to Archaeology

This course is required for upper-level work in archaeology.

### ANTH 113 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

This is the first course in cultural anthropology, required for upper-level work in cultural anthropology.

Having completed an introductory course, students may enroll in any upper-level course in that area of the anthropology program. Alternatively, students may enroll in another introductory course to gain a broader understanding of anthropology. Diversification credit is earned either by taking an introductory course and an upper-level course in the same area of anthropology or by taking two introductory courses.

## The Anthropology Major (minimum of 5 units)

Minimum requirements are described below. Note that all departmental courses are one semester in length (1/2 unit each) and that all courses have limited enrollment.

### Foundation Courses

An introductory course in each of the three anthropological subdisciplines is required: biological anthropology (ANTH 111); archaeology (ANTH 112); and cultural anthropology (ANTH 113). These courses should be taken as early in the major as practicable and may be taken in any sequence. All upper-level courses in anthropology normally have one of the foundation courses as prerequisite.

### Upper-Level Courses

A minimum of six upper-level courses (3 units) is required, including at least one course in each of the three anthropological subdisciplines (biological anthropology, archaeology, and cultural anthropology).

**Capstone Course**

All departmental majors must enroll in Anth 499 (Senior Seminar in Anthropology) during the fall semester of their senior year.

**The Anthropology Minor**

All minors will include a minimum of 2 units of coursework. No more than half of the courses may be taken at the foundation level (i.e., ANTH 111, 112, 113). Courses will typically be taken from at least two department faculty members. The courses selected for the minor will have a clear and cohesive focus (e.g., a subdiscipline within anthropology) or a substantive theme to be examined within the discipline. The specific cluster of courses to be included within the minor will be selected by the student in consultation with a member of the department's faculty, who will serve as advisor. The final selection of courses will be approved by the department chair and subsequently reported to the registrar.

**The Senior Exercise**

The senior exercise in anthropology consists of a core of common readings, three seminar meetings at which the seniors and all faculty members in anthropology discuss these readings, and an examination in which students write a paper based on the readings and discussions. The topic of the seminar generally requires an integration of three subdisciplines, and readings are frequently from new books that faculty members are exploring for the first time. The goals of this exercise are to place students and faculty together in the roles of expert and colleague, to critique and analyze readings together orally, and to have each student produce a synthetic essay out of this common experience.

Seminar meetings take place during the early months of the fall semester. Students are required to submit questions in advance of each

meeting. After these three meetings, the faculty members construct between two and four essay questions, and students select one for the exam. Students have approximately one month to complete the essay and are encouraged to discuss their ideas with faculty members and to utilize additional sources based on either library research or readings from other classes. The essay due date falls just before the Thanksgiving break. Faculty members evaluate the papers and students are notified in writing about their performance in December. Each student's paper is read by at least two members of the faculty, who also provide written and/or oral comments. Some students may be asked to rewrite the paper at this point.

Faculty members judge the students' performance not merely on the quality of the essay (clarity, insight, and technical proficiency) but also on participation in the whole process of the exercise itself, especially the timely submission of questions and of the essay, as well as thoughtful and active participation in the discussions.

**Cross-Listed Courses**

The following courses are cross-listed in the anthropology listings for 2005-06. They count for credit toward the anthropology department requirements for majors and minors even though they carry MUSC designation codes.

MUSC 103 Introduction to Ethnomusicology (fall semester)

MUSC 485 Indonesian Music Ensemble (fall semester)

**First-Semester Courses****Introduction to Ethnomusicology**

◆ MUSC 103 (1/2 unit)

Spiller

This course introduces the basic questions that drive the field of ethnomusicology—the study of music in its

cultural context—and examines how these questions might be approached through selected case studies of music cultures from Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, or the Americas. This course can be used to satisfy anthropology as well as music requirements. No prerequisite. Enrollment limited.

**Introduction to Biological Anthropology**

◆ ANTH 111 (1/2 unit)

Hardy

Biological anthropology is the study of the biological diversity of our species and the evolutionary history that has led us to our present condition. The course will include: (1) the examination of the genetics underlying evolution and the mechanisms by which change occurs; (2) variation and adaptation among living humans; (3) living primate populations as keys to understanding our evolutionary past; and (4) human evolution. This course is designed to expose students to the breadth of biological anthropology and to prepare them for upper-level classes in anthropology and related disciplines.

**Introduction to Archaeology**

◆ ANTH 112 (1/2 unit)

Bell, Schortman

Today people increasingly live in highly industrialized and urban civilizations. But how long have humans had "civilization?" What is "civilization" and how can it be recognized? This course will address these questions, first, by looking at the basic elements of archaeology and its place in anthropology. Some of the topics we will cover include the history of archaeology, fundamental aspects of fieldwork and analysis, and the prehistoric record from the first humans to the origins of civilization.

We will begin the chronological sequence with the Old Stone Age, or Paleolithic, a long period during which basic human cultural practices and beliefs became established. Our next topic is the development of agriculture and settled life around the globe, innovations that permitted the growth of complex social organiza-

tions that culminated in civilization and the state. In the latter part of the course, we will study the first, or “pristine,” civilizations, focusing on Mesopotamia, ancient Egypt, China, and the Indus Valley. The course concludes with a survey of development in North, Central, and South America, including the Maya, Aztec, and Inka.

### **Introduction to Cultural Anthropology**

◆ ANTH 113 (1/2 unit)

*Roland, Spiller, Suggs*

This course introduces students to the discipline that studies and compares other cultures. Students learn about the main concepts used in anthropology and how anthropologists conduct research, while also discovering how people live in other times and places. Students will learn about theories that provide frameworks for understanding and comparing cultures. Ethnographies—descriptions of life in particular places—give students factual materials with which to apply and critique such theories. Through this introduction to the study of culture in general, and an exposure to specific cultures, students inevitably come to reexamine some of the premises of their own culture. Note: Section 02 uses ethnographies almost exclusively about Asia and also counts as an Asian studies course.

### **Anthropology of Food**

ANTH 220 (1/2 unit)

*Hardy*

This course investigates the central role food plays in human biology and culture. We will explore food from an evolutionary perspective, examining nutritional variations in subsistence strategies ranging from foraging to industrial societies. Students will come to understand that food is a cultural construction as we look at the symbolism and utilization of food from a cross-cultural perspective. Finally, utilizing a biocultural perspective, we will combine our understanding of biology and culture to see the effects of social, political, and economic issues on human nutrition. A variety of methods are utilized in nutritional

anthropology, ranging from ethnographic techniques to methods in biological anthropology for assessing the impact of nutrition on human biology. Throughout the semester, students will become familiar with the variety of approaches used to study nutritional anthropology.

### **Cuban Culture: Race, Gender, and Power**

ANTH 245 (1/2 unit)

*Roland*

This course seeks to ground students’ understanding of contemporary Cuba within the Caribbean context. To attend to global processes as they affect local (Cuban) experience, we will draw on texts from anthropology, history, policy, Cuban and Cuban-American literature, film, and music. In the process, students will learn how broader Caribbean patterns regarding race, color, class, and gender relations have evolved in(to) the socialist, and now the “post-socialist,” context. This class satisfies a requirement for the women’s and gender studies concentration. Prerequisite: ANTH 113.

### **Survey of Mesoamerican Prehistory**

ANTH 332 (1/2 unit)

*Bell*

When the conquistadors reached Mexico, they encountered an empire whose capital city, Tenochtitlan, surpassed Spanish cities in area, population, and complexity. This Aztec empire was, however, merely the last in a series of polities in central Mexico whose roots go back thousands of years to Paleoindian mammoth hunters. Nor did the Aztecs flourish in isolation: contemporary civilizations include the Maya, Mixtec-Zapotec, Tlaxcalans, and Tarascans. This course surveys the development of civilization in Mesoamerica, an area including southern Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, and parts of Honduras and Nicaragua. While we will begin with the Paleoindians and their transformation into settled agriculturalists, our focus will be on the major cultures of the zone: the Olmecs, Mayas, Teotihuacanos,

Toltecs, and Aztecs. Topics covered include social and political organization, religion, art and architecture, and writing and calendrical systems. This course should be of interest to students of Latin American culture and history, art history, and religion, and to those simply curious about the thousands of ruins dotting the Central American landscape. No prerequisites, although ANTH 112 is strongly recommended.

### **Human Sexuality and Culture**

ANTH 350 (1/2 unit)

*Suggs*

In popular thought, sex is about “the birds and the bees” and “doing what comes naturally.” Yet anthropology teaches us that for human beings the natural is the cultural. Based on that premise, this course looks for cultural patterns in sexual belief and behavior. We begin with an examination of the evolution of sexuality. Is sexuality or sexual behavior expressed the same way by all peoples? Why do humans avoid incest? To what extent are gender roles biologically determined? Are sexually transmitted diseases primarily biological or social problems? How do sexual norms reflect sociocultural adaptations? These are just some of the questions we will confront in this course as we examine the functional and structural significance of sexual behaviors in the sociocultural milieu. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited.

### **Anthropology of Tourism**

ANTH 352 (1/2 unit)

*Roland*

This course seeks to introduce students to anthropological theories on tourism and to consider those theories in the contexts of the varied sites and forms of tourism practiced around the world today. We will ask: Why do people tour? Where do they go? And, most centrally: How do the hosts to tourism feel about these outside visitors? Having been exposed to questions of globalization, development, belonging, race, gender, and desire, students will be asked to reflect upon and theorize about their own touristic experiences. Prerequisite: ANTH 113.

**Ethnomedicine: Africa**

ANTH 471 (1/2 unit)  
Suggs

Popular culture tells us that Western biomedical science is the only true and beneficial medical approach in the world. It suggests that traditional medical systems are based only on superstitious nonsense. While anthropological studies of medical systems show them to be different from biomedicine in a number of ways, traditional systems are not solely superstitious; neither are they completely without efficacy. This course surveys some of the many human systematic responses to illness and disease, focusing on African ethnographies. It examines beliefs with regard to etiology (causation), taxonomy (classification), and nosology (diagnosis). The course seeks to demonstrate how culture patterns illness behavior and points to the internal rationality in human responses to disease. Ultimately, it shows that all medical systems (including biomedicine) are first cultural systems, ones that universally medicalize sociomoral problems and sociomoralize medical ones. Prerequisite: ANTH 113 and permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited.

**Indonesian Music Ensemble**

MUSC 485 (1/4 unit)  
Spiller

This course, which is also offered in the spring, provides ongoing study of the music of Indonesia, focusing on Sundanese gamelan salendro (bronze percussion ensemble) from West Java. Students will be introduced to basic and advanced instrumental techniques for several individual gamelan instruments and receive coaching in musicianship and ensemble skills. The focus will be on traditional styles and conventional repertoires. Each semester will culminate in one public performance. This course may be repeated for credit. No previous musical experience is required. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

**Individual Study**

ANTH 493 (1/2 unit)  
Staff

This course is for students who wish to do advanced work beyond

regular courses or to study topics not included in course offerings. Prerequisites: permission of instructor and department chair.

**Senior Honors**

ANTH 497 (1/2 unit)  
Staff

This course is for students pursuing departmental honors. Prerequisites: permission of instructor and department chair.

**Senior Seminar**

ANTH 499 (1/2 unit)  
Schortman

Beginning with the Age of Discovery, developing through the periods of conquest and colonization, and continuing into the present, anthropology has embodied as well as defined the Western world's experience with "other" peoples and cultures. Within this broad historical context, this course investigates the emergence and definition of anthropology as a discipline by focusing on (1) significant theoretical issues and "schools" of thought (e.g., evolutionism, functionalism, materialism, and structuralism); (2) biographical and intellectual portraits of several major figures who were instrumental in formulating these issues; and (3) continuing controversies in the elucidation of certain fundamental principles (e.g., "culture," "relativism," and "the primitive"). Prerequisites: at least three courses in anthropology and permission of instructor.

**Second-Semester Courses****Introduction to Biological Anthropology**

◆ ANTH 111 (1/2 unit)  
Murphy

See first-semester course description.

**Introduction to Archaeology**

◆ ANTH 112 (1/2 unit)  
Schortman

See first-semester course description.

**Introduction to Cultural Anthropology**

◆ ANTH 113 (1/2 unit)  
Suggs

See first-semester course description.

**Evolution and Human Evolution**

ANTH 321 (1/2 unit)  
Hardy

This upper-level course assumes a basic knowledge of the fossil evidence for human evolution and some background in evolutionary theory. The course examines anatomical, behavioral, and genetic similarities and differences among living primates and humans, and the evidence for human evolution as reconstructed from the fossil record. Living primates will be studied as potential models for early hominin adaptation and behavior. The purpose of the course is to understand anatomical and behavioral adaptations of hominins and other primates both today and in the past, and to situate these adaptations in a larger ecological framework. Prerequisites: ANTH 111 or permission of instructor.

**South American Archaeology**

ANTH 348 (1/2 unit)  
Schortman

This course examines the diversity of cultures within South America (south of Panama), from the dense jungles of the Amazon to the high grasslands of the Andes. Special emphasis is placed on how these groups have adapted both to the environments they occupy and to the challenge of continued survival within the modern nations of the area. The prospects for their continued persistence into the future are also considered. This course should be of interest to students of history, international studies, religion, Spanish language and literature, and political science. No prerequisite.

**Drinking Culture: The Anthropology of Alcohol Use**

ANTH 474 (1/2 unit)  
Suggs

In this advanced research seminar, students will develop and undertake ethnographic projects focusing on the meaning of normative alcohol use among Kenyon students. Projects undertaken in the past have focused on a wide range of issues (e.g., the intersection of gender and alcohol

consumption, social networks constructed in acts of drinking, drunken comportment as a culturally learned construct, the ways that alcohol is used to express adulthood, and the role of alcohol in the bonding of athletic teams.) We seek to understand what students on our campus “get” from drinking besides “drunk,” and to situate that understanding in a larger historical, social, and cultural framework. Prerequisite: ANTH 113 and permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited.

### **Individual Study**

ANTH 494 (1/2 unit)  
Staff

This course is for students who wish to do advanced work beyond regular courses or to study topics not included in course offerings. Prerequisites: permission of instructor and department chair.

### **Senior Honors**

ANTH 498 (1/2 unit)  
Staff

This course is for students pursuing departmental honors. Prerequisites: permission of instructor and department chair.

## **Courses Taught in Honduras Only**

### **Method and Theory in Archaeology**

ANTH 330 (1/2 unit)  
Bell

This class is a survey of some of the major analytical techniques and theoretical approaches archaeologists employ in their effort to reconstruct past societies. We will consider briefly the historical development of archaeology then explore the key concepts that define the discipline. The student will gain an appreciation of: (1) the procedures involved in conducting field research, (2) the nature of the material record, (3) the process of archaeological reasoning, (4) the study of various materials, (5) the role of cultural resource management in modern archaeology, and (6) the nature of culture change. The class will consist of lectures and discussion.

### **Fieldwork in Anthropology**

ANTH 336 (1/2 unit)  
Bell

This is a field-based course designed to give practical knowledge of the experience in utilizing the techniques of contemporary anthropology. After initial training in both cultural methods (ANTH 464) and archaeological methods (ANTH 330), students will choose to do research in either cultural anthropology or archaeology. Working closely with the instructors, students will develop and carry out individual field projects. In the past, cultural field projects have included such topics as herbal medicine, wood use and conservation, religious choice, and attitudes toward pregnancy. Archaeological topics have included studies of rural households, monumental architecture, figurines, and polychrome ceramics.

### **Ethnicity in Central America**

ANTH 345 (1/2 unit)  
Bell

Central America is the home of some easily recognizable ethnic groups, such as the Mayas and Kunas, but are there other, less well-known peoples? After considering what ethnicity might or might not be, we will learn about a number of groups: Mayas, Garifunas, suppressed Native American groups in El Salvador and Nicaragua, Black Creoles, and immigrants from the Levant who are known as Arabes. Studying these groups will help us understand the milieu in which we live, as well as the hidden ethnic tensions sometimes cloaked by national assertions of mestizo identity.

### **Methods in Cultural Anthropology**

ANTH 464 (1/2 unit)  
Bell

This course will provide hands-on experience with some research methods that cultural anthropologists use. Participant observation, interviews, and note-taking are standard methods, and we will consider how to organize and access qualitative data through electronic data-base management. There will be some

attention to quantitative methods as well, including statistical inference based on methods such as unobtrusive observation or survey questionnaires. The difficulties of designing a good questionnaire and of becoming a perceptive interviewer or observer are best learned through practice. Students will be required to carry out a research project, from literature search and project design, to writing and possibly publishing the results. Only by actually attempting primary research ourselves do we realize just how difficult it is to make statements about human ideas and behaviors that stand up to scientific scrutiny. It is only through such research, however, that we can contribute to knowledge.

### **The History of Central America**

ANTH 492 (1/2 unit)  
Bell

This survey of Central American history, from late Precolumbian times to the present, will follow a conventional narrative format for most of the course. At the end, we will closely examine current topics for each country. Throughout, emphasis will be placed on the impact of national policies on Native American populations. Attention is also directed to the manner in which Central American nations are embedded within the international economy and the consequences of these relations for the creation and transformation of local political, commercial, and social structures. The format will be lecture and discussion.

### **The following may be offered in 2006-2007:**

ANTH 111 Introduction to Biological Anthropology

ANTH 112 Introduction to Archaeology

ANTH 113 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

ANTH 243 Peoples and Cultures of Sub-Saharan Africa

ANTH 244 Cultures of Southeast Asia

- ANTH 324 Biocultural Adaptations
- ANTH 325 Human Skeletal Analysis
- ANTH 332 Survey of Mesoamerican Prehistory
- ANTH 338 Theory and Method: Household Archaeology
- ANTH 348 South American Archaeology
- ANTH 350 Human Sexuality and Culture
- ANTH 351 Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective
- ANTH 353 Psychological Anthropology
- ANTH 362 Contemporary Anthropology: Field Data
- ANTH 392.01 Bioarchaeology of Sub-Saharan Africa
- ANTH 392.02 Culture and Disease
- ANTH 465 History of Anthropological Thought
- ANTH 469 Topics in Mesoamerican Anthropology
- ANTH 471 Ethnomedicine
- ANTH 474 Drinking Culture: The Anthropology of Alcohol Use