MISSION STATEMENT

Anthropologists at the University of Washington share a commitment to advancing understanding of human diversity. Reflecting the organization of our discipline as a whole, our department is organized into subdisciplinary programs that focus on different aspects of human diversity (the human past, the human body, and contemporary social life), each employing the specific theoretical and conceptual tools appropriate to its particular emphasis. We thus pursue our shared commitment through research and teaching that draws on a strikingly diverse array of humanistic and scientific approaches: from evolutionary theory to critical social theory, mathematical modeling, thermoluminescence dating, bioassays, social network analysis, archival research and sustained participant observation. Many of our research foci, meanwhile, cross-cut subdisciplines and have been reflected in our curricular developments including options and/or areas of emphasis in Environmental Anthropology, Medical Anthropology and Global Health, and Anthropology of Globalization.