Beginning Winter Quarter, 2019, students will be able to earn their degrees in Anthropology with either a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BS)!

The difference between the two degrees lies in how they are structured. If you want a broad overview of Anthropology as a discipline or if you want to focus on the more humanistic side of Anthropology, the BA is for you. If you want to focus on a particular area within the more scientific side of Anthropology, you should pursue the BS.

Both degrees are appropriate for a myriad of post-baccalaureate opportunities including graduate and professional school training in the health sciences (e.g. medical school, public health, physical therapy), law, social justice advocacy, and (of course!) anthropology.

The UW anthropology major is committed to describing, interpreting, and explaining the historical, biological, and cultural diversity of the human species. Anthropology's unique contribution to the human sciences and humanities is its expansive scope — temporally and spatially — in the study of human beings. It includes the study of human evolution, the archaeological record, language and culture, the relationship between humans and their environment, and cultural modes of being as these differ in time and space. In studying anthropology, students can better understand how to find ways to live together in today’s world, respecting cultural diversity while building upon common human values.

WHY ANTHROPOLOGY?

Anthropology is one of those rare fields that touches on all others. It is not a "conveyor belt" to a specific job, but, rather, an avenue to reach many possible career paths. Anthropologists today don't just work in exotic locals, but are making significant contributions right here at home. They can be found working in the health care field, in education, and for non-profits, as well as for governmental organizations like NASA and the United Nations. Anthropology is mainly about two things: Understanding and engagement. It seeks to make sense of this world we share and uncovers new ways to transform the world and ourselves. It takes on issues of social justice, from preserving the environment to preserving languages and culture.

In short, the cultural awareness that you’ll gain with an education in anthropology can make you better in your field, and help you to make a better world for us all.

EXPLORE

Find out more about how to Major [2] or Minor [3] in Anthropology or how to apply to our Honors Program [4]. You can also learn more about our major options:

- Medical Anthropology and Global Health (BA/BS) [5]
- Human Evolutionary Biology (BA/BS) [6]
- Anthropology of Globalization (BA) [7]
- Archaeological Sciences (BA/BS) [8]
- Indigenous Archeology (BA) [9]

Students completing a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology [10] may also choose to complete those requirements without any of the above options.

Anthropology is an open major.