ANTHROPOLOGY

Anthropology is the study of human culture, behavior and biology from a holistic, global and comparative perspective. As a field of study it examines the similarities, differences and development of human culture, behavior and biology. The Anthropology curriculum emphasizes the subfield of cultural anthropology. Cultural anthropology focuses on the concept of culture, role of culture in contemporary problems and issues and on the wide range of human cultural patterns in the contemporary world.

Course Descriptions

† Elective Core Course

†ANCC 103 The Human Community: the Individual and Society
3 CR
This is the third of four courses in The Human Journey, Sacred Heart University’s Common Core Curriculum. As part of the University’s Common Core, The Human Journey, ANCC 103 addresses the four core questions from the anthropological perspective. With an emphasis on the unity, diversity and development of human biology and culture, the anthropological perspective offers a unique opportunity to engage the Catholic intellectual tradition and examine the enduring questions of human existence.

†AN 103 Archeology
3 CR
Focuses on how archeology as a scientific discipline attempts to understand the development of the cultural adaptations of human groups throughout prehistory and history and how archeology interprets the past. Topics include how archeological sites are formed, dating techniques and the analysis of plant, animal and human artifacts and remains. With a hands-on approach, students are presented case scenarios relating to archeological digs to better understand the thinking process involved in reconstructing the past.

†AN 110 Human Cultural Diversity
3 CR
The aim of this course is for students to develop an anthropological imagination and understand its relevance for living in the contemporary world. An anthropological imagination involves cultivating an interest in and an understanding of the unity, diversity and development of human biology, society and culture. As an introduction to the study of human cultural diversity, this course emphasizes the concept of culture, human sociocultural variation and patterns of sociocultural change in contemporary human societies.

†AN 201 World Cultures
3 CR
Examines a cross section of societies, including hunter-gatherer, horticultural, peasant, pastoral and industrial. Themes of cultural diversity, cultural contact and understanding “the other.”

†AN 204 Introduction to Irish Archaeology
3 CR
A comprehensive overview of Irish Archaeology from the first settlers to modern times. Special attention will be focused on the Sites and cultural history of the Dingle Peninsula.

†AN 205 North American Indians
3 CR
Covers the cultural development and diversity of aboriginal North America, the impact of European contact on Native American societies and contemporary issues among North American Indians.

†AN 220 Ethnography of Ireland
3 CR
This course examines the patterns economic, social, political and cultural change in modern Ireland through the lens of selected
ethnographic studies of Irish communities. In addition, this course will examine the changing theoretical interests and research methodologies of anthropologists working in Ireland. This work will be supplemented with a selection of ethnographic films focusing on Irish communities and contemporary patterns socio-cultural change in Ireland.

†AN 250 Doing Ethnography: Qualitative Research in the Social Sciences
3 CR
The aim of this course is for students to develop an understanding of and an ability to use ethnography as a method of social science research. Combining theoretical and applied readings and practical assignments, the focus is on participant observation and interviewing, writing field notes and the transformation of field data into ethnographic documents. In addition, students develop an understanding of the epistemological, political and ethical issues surrounding ethnographic research.
Prerequisite: SO 110 or AN 110

†AN 280 Native American Literature
3 CR
Native American literature is explored in order to develop an understanding of the history, society and culture of Native Americans and an appreciation of their literary contributions.

†AN 299 Special Topics in Anthropology
3 CR
Designates new or occasional courses (i.e., one capitalizing on a timely topic).
Prerequisites: Established by the department as appropriate for the specific course