

# Anthropology

*Anthropology has a contribution to make in the formation of an educated person as it instructs us in the accomplishments and problems of the past, informs us of the organization of societies today, and teaches respect for diversity in the human condition as a prerequisite for a better world.*

Johnetta B. Cole, *Anthropology for the Nineties*

## **B.A. Degree**

### **B.A. Degree with Special Emphasis**

### **Minor in Anthropology**

### **M.A. Degree in Cultural Resources Management**

### **Advisory Plan in Evolutionary Biology**

### **Advisory Plan in Human Development**

An anthropology department is an exciting place to be, for anthropologists are people who are curious about, and involved in, every aspect of human life. Anthropologists study the remote past, digging up fossils of our earliest ancestors and the stone tools which indicate how they lived. Anthropologists also study the more recent past, using artifacts and living spaces of 19th century neighborhoods in Stockton and Sacramento to better understand the rich ethnic and cultural diversity of modern California. Anthropologists study how local responses to global issues lie at the heart of contemporary transnational lifeways; from the effects of international overfishing on American coastal communities, to the design of low-impact eco-tourism sites in Palau. Anthropologists unify knowledge about human life from every corner of the world, every period in time, every form of society, every aspect of human behavior. They also reach back into prehistory, and across primate species. The result is a comprehensive comparative perspective on human behavior, across human societies and even across primate societies.

## **The Anthropology Major**

The anthropology major at Sonoma State is designed to acquaint students with the discipline's four subfields: cultural anthropology, archaeology, biological anthropology and linguistic anthropology. All students take a core of courses introducing cultural and biological anthropology and summarizing the history of anthropology and the development of anthropological theory. Beyond this, students are encouraged to develop their own interests and specializations, in close and continual consultation with faculty advisors. Providing learning opportunities by involving undergraduate students in the research process is emphasized wherever possible.

In archaeology, students have unusual opportunities for "hands on" learning in field excavations, in laboratories, and as interns in the department's Cultural Resources Management Facility. Students of biological anthropology are involved in comparative observations of the developmental patterns of both non-human primates and humans. Cultural anthropology students have studied situations ranging from the adaptation of newly-arrived Southeast Asian refugees to issues in the prevention of homelessness. Students in linguistic anthropology explore how children's language learning patterns affect their classroom participation in local schools, and how national advertisers manipulate consumers to influence purchasing patterns.

## **The Quality of Anthropology at Sonoma State**

Sonoma State's Anthropology Department is comfortably small and highly professional. The faculty, several of whom are internationally recognized for the quality and innovativeness of their research, is dedicated to teaching in a direct and personal style. The department attracts unusually interesting and motivated students who form a stimulating community. In addition to classroom-based learning, many students currently work as interns in a variety of settings that prepare them for later jobs and in some cases have resulted in permanent positions after graduation. An unusually large number of undergraduate students have reported their original work at meetings of professional societies of archeologists and anthropologists. Graduates of the department have been accepted into M.A. and Ph.D. programs in leading universities.

## **Career Alternatives**

Anthropology is invaluable as career training for research professionals and vocations involving human services and planned change such as: cultural resources management, environmental planning, nursing, education, public health, administration, law, international business, and community development. Anthropologists have a contribution to make wherever people of differing cultures are involved with one another—and where in the modern world is this not the case? As examples, one of the department's graduates is head of the foreign student advising program at a business college, another directs the values clarification program for a county school system, another organized training programs at a center for the development of alternative technology, another directs a private organization resettling Southeast Asian refugees, while others with archaeological specializations have found careers with the State Division of Parks and Recreation and with the U.S. Forest Service.



## Facilities

The department's Anthropological Studies Center houses archaeology and ethnographic laboratories and the Cultural Resources Management Facility. The department is also affiliated with the California State Office of Historic Preservation's Northwest Information Center, which maintains a collection of artifacts, site records, maps, photographs, and manuscripts actively used by Sonoma State students and faculty and by visiting specialists. A contract research program provides experience and funds for paid curatorial research positions open to undergraduates and graduates.

## The Graduate Program

The department offers a Master of Arts in Cultural Resources Management. This program provides training in the full range of activities—field surveys, excavation, mitigation procedures, report writing, curation analysis—necessary for the preservation of cultural resources as dictated by federal legislation, scientific standards, and sound planning. The objective of the program is to produce professionals equipped with (1) the techniques necessary for fulfilling job responsibilities in CRM and related positions and (2) a grounding in research and theory sufficient to recognize and suggest appropriate utilization of scientific data accrued in the process of job performance.

## Honors and Awards

A sampling of honors and awards recently achieved by the department and its students includes:

### Heather Scotten, student:

SSU Undergraduate Research Grant for oral history project on Bodega Bay commercial fishing

### Richard J. Senghas, faculty:

Fullbright Award for research in Nicaraguan Deaf communities

### David Fredrickson, faculty emeritus:

The Mark R. Harrington Award for Conservation Archaeology

### The Northwest Information Center:

Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior Appreciation Award

### The Anthropological Studies Center:

The Governor's Historic Preservation Award

## Anthropology Department Faculty

### Karin Enstam, Ph.D.

Biological Anthropology  
Primate Behavioral Ecology  
Human Evolution

### Carolyn Epple, Ph.D.

Medical Anthropology  
Gender/Sexuality Studies  
Native Americans, Diné (Navajo)

### Adrian Praetzelis, Ph.D.

Historical Archaeology  
Cultural Resources Management  
California Local History

### Margaret Purser, Ph.D.

Historical Archaeology  
Vernacular Architectural & Folklife Studies  
Gender Studies

### R. Thomas Rosin, Ph.D.

Cultural Anthropology  
Peasant Societies  
India

### Richard J. Senghas, Ph.D.

Linguistic Anthropology and Linguistics  
Sign Language and Deaf Studies  
Nicaragua

### Albert Wahrhaftig, Ph.D.

Cultural Anthropology  
Symbolism, Aesthetics, and Ritual  
Mexico

### John D. Wingard, Ph.D.

Applied Anthropology  
Environmental Studies  
Tourism, Globalization

We hope this information will be helpful. Official requirements of all majors and programs are published in the Sonoma State University catalog. Sonoma State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution and has a strong commitment to the principal of diversity. A member of the California State University

