

## **Anthropology**

### **Course List**

<i>Code</i>	<i>Course Title</i>	<i>Unit</i>
ANT 0120	Understanding Anthropology	3
ANT 0220	World Ethnography	3
ANT 0320	Field Project	3
ANT 1010	Humans and Culture	3
ANT 1310	Marriage, Family and Kinship	3
ANT 1410	Culture of Hong Kong	3
ANT 1710	Understanding Archaeology	3
ANT 2110	Anthropological Theory	3
ANT 2210	Anthropological Field Methods	3
ANT 2230	Anthropology of Film	3
ANT 2310	Gender and Culture	3
ANT 2320	Culture and Behaviour	3
ANT 2330	Gender in Asia	3
ANT 2340	Magic, Myth and Supernatural	3
ANT 2350	Meanings of Life	3
ANT 2401, 2402, 2403	Topics in Ethnography	3 each
ANT 2410	Chinese Culture and Society	3
ANT 2440	Ethnic Groups and Cultures in China	3
ANT 2450	Peoples and Cultures of Southeast Asia	3
ANT 2460	Cultures of Japan and Korea	3
ANT 2510	Culture and Business	3
ANT 2710	Archaeology of China	3
ANT 2720	Archaeology of Hong Kong	3
ANT 2730	Preserving Cultural Heritage	3
ANT 2810	Human Evolution	3
ANT 3010	Senior Thesis Research I	3
ANT 3020	Senior Thesis Research II	3
ANT 3220	Visual Anthropology	3
ANT 3310	Religion and Culture	3
ANT 3321, 3322, 3323	Topics in Anthropology	3 each
ANT 3340	Diaspora: Migration, Identity and Ethnicity	3
ANT 3350	Food, Health and Culture	3
ANT 3370	Tourism and Culture	3
ANT 3380	Economy, Culture and Power	3
ANT 3420	Peoples and Cultures of Asia and the Pacific	3
ANT 3430	Cultures of Chinese Overseas	3
ANT 3530	Anthropology and Contemporary Issues	3
ANT 3540	Anthropology of Development	3
ANT 3550	Urban Anthropology	3
ANT 3560	Globalization and Cultural Identity	3
ANT 3630	Language, Symbols and Society	3
ANT 3720	Museums and Anthropology	3

## Course Description

(Unless otherwise specified, all are 3-unit term courses of two hours of lecture and one hour of tutorial per week.)

ANT 0120

Understanding Anthropology

STOT; 1st term

Through small-group tutorials and discussions, students are guided to understand better how anthropologists work and how anthropological knowledge can be relevant to people's lives. At the same time, the teacher gets to know the students better, thus can provide them with better counselling. (For Anthropology Majors only.)

ANT 0220

World Ethnography

STOT; 2nd term

This is a STOT course for second-year Major students. The course guides students in critically reading both classic and recent ethnographies of peoples in the world, so that they acquire the knowledge of the vast diversity of existent cultures, and of how politics, economics, religion and social organization interact with the environment in different ecological settings. Prerequisite: ANT 0120. (For Anthropology Majors only.)

ANT 0320

Field Project

STOT; Both terms

In this STOT course, students will be guided to complete a research project. In the process, they will become familiar with the basic procedures and techniques of anthropological research. Prerequisite: ANT 0220. (For Anthropology Majors only.)

ANT 1010

Humans and Culture

1st term

This course discusses the nature and development of humans and culture. Examples from different cultures in the past and the present will be used to illustrate the similarities and variations among human groups. (Not for students who have taken GEE 268U.)

ANT 1310

Marriage, Family and Kinship

Using examples from different parts of the world, this course introduces the basic concepts and major theories in kinship study. Issues to be explored include: the incest taboo, patterns of marriage, the institution of the family, social changes and domestic life, descent groups, genealogy and the functions of kinship organization in different societies. Contemporary challenges to kinship will also be discussed, such as the cultural implication of new technologies of human reproduction, increasing divorce rates and family planning.

ANT 1410

Culture of Hong Kong

2nd term

This course introduces students to a holistic analysis of culture in Hong Kong. It looks at the Chinese and the non-Chinese, the modern and the traditional, the rural and the urban, the cosmopolitan and the parochial, the popular and the elite, and how all these components interact to construct and reconstruct cultural identities in Hong Kong. (Not for students who have taken GEE 2835.)

ANT 1710  
Understanding Archaeology  
1st term

This course aims to provide students with some basic understanding of archaeology. It will introduce the basic theory, method and practice of archaeology. It will focus on the nature and development of archaeology, data acquisition (archaeological surveys and excavations), data processing and analysis, synthesis and interpretation (reconstruction of the past environmental ecology, economic, social and cultural life) and important archaeological discoveries and studies around the world. The significance of archaeology to contemporary societies will also be discussed. (Not for students who have taken GEE 263U.)

ANT 2110  
Anthropological Theory  
1st term

The course provides an in-depth analysis of major schools in anthropology: cultural evolutionism, functionalism, historical particularism, structuralism, cultural interpretation, post-modernism, globalization theory, etc. Key figures in anthropology, both classic and contemporary, such as Tylor, Morgan, Boas, Malinowski, Radcliffe Brown, Lévi-Strauss, Geertz and Bourdieu, will be discussed.

ANT 2210  
Anthropological Field Methods  
2nd term

This course provides an introduction to basic anthropological research techniques, including: controlled observation, formal and informal interviewing, kinship recording, mapping, participant observation and life history. Students will be taught to design and conduct research projects.

ANT 2230  
Anthropology of Film  
2nd term

This course will introduce anthropological approaches to the study of the visual and pictorial world. Classic and recent ethnographic films will be shown, and students are guided to an anthropological understanding through pictorial media. Entertainment motion pictures and documentary films will also be analysed as an anthropological issue, especially in relation to such notions as “culture”, “otherness” and “reality”.

ANT 2310  
Gender and Culture  
1st term

This course looks at the relationship between gender and culture, by comparing women and men in societies with different modes of production and social organization. Through analysing sex roles, enculturation process, kinship, division of labour by sex, power and control and social development, students will understand how culture influences the concept of gender and its related behaviour among human groups. (Not for students who have taken GEE 265U.)

ANT 2320  
Culture and Behaviour

This course introduces basic concepts, theories, methods and new developments in the anthropological study of culture and behaviour. Issues to be examined include socialization, cognition, emotion, self, personality, gender, and the relationship between individual and collective behaviour. This course will also discuss the recent development of ethnopsychology in the subdiscipline of psychological anthropology.

ANT 2330

Gender in Asia

2nd term

This course focuses on gender in the Asian region. A comparative approach will be taken to reflect diversity and resemblance, continuity and discontinuity, and historical and contemporary influences on gender within countries in the Asian region. Societies studied may vary from year to year, and may include Hong Kong, mainland China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Taiwan, and Chinese across societies. Gender issues and conditions will be examined within different contexts, covering such areas as language, class, work, family and kinship, health, sexuality, education, religion, development and politics. (Not for students who have taken GEE 297U.)

ANT 2340

Magic, Myth and the Supernatural

2nd term

This course will examine phenomena often viewed as irrational and superstitious to see how they can be understood in cultural terms. All societies have some beliefs in another world, yet beliefs vary widely between societies. The course will examine traditional anthropological topics such as magic, traditional healing, divination, fengshui, witchcraft, and ghosts, as well as more recent issues such as ESP, psychokinesis, qigong, vampires, zombies, monsters, UFOs and alien abduction. The role of myth in modern society and the cultural creation of reality will be highlighted. The power of a cultural approach in explaining the supernatural and the limits of what science can explain will also be discussed. (Not for students who have taken GEE 296U.)

ANT 2350

Meanings of Life

1st term

In societies across the world, people have different culturally-shaped senses of what their lives mean: people may live for money, love, honor or fame; for family, company, country or religion. This course examines the processes through which meanings of life are formulated and maintained in day-to-day life in societies past and present; it also explores life meaning as a way of comprehending the evolution of human societies. The course uses the concept of "meanings of life" as a window into the anthropological understanding of cultural difference and cultural evolution. (Not for students who have taken GEE 298U.)

ANT 2401, 2402, 2403

Topics in Ethnography

1st term

This course examines selected topics, both area-related and problem-oriented, within the field of ethnography. Semester offerings will vary with the instructor and may include such topics as regional studies, classic and contemporary ethnographic writings, and issues of the anthropologist and fieldwork.

*Students are allowed to take the above topical courses for more than once, and gain the units each time they pass the course. However, students cannot take courses with the same course code more than once in a single term.*

ANT 2410

Chinese Culture and Society

1st term

This course provides an anthropological approach to China. Discussions concentrate on major cultural and social institutions of China, both traditional and contemporary, such as family, marriage, kinship, lineage and clan, economic system, religion and value orientation. (Not for students who have taken GEE 2180.)

ANT 2440

Ethnic Groups and Cultures in China

This course provides students with the basic knowledge on ethnic groups in China, including the Han and the ethnic minorities. Both classic and modern ethnographies will be used in the discussion of such topics as historical background, geographical distribution, linguistic affinity, subsistence pattern, religious system, socio-political organization, ethnic relations and identification.

ANT 2450

Peoples and Cultures of Southeast Asia

The primary aim of this course is to introduce peoples and cultures of Southeast Asia through anthropological studies. The course will highlight cultural similarities and differences, and explore the issues of ethnicity, development and national identity.

ANT 2460

Cultures of Japan and Korea

2nd term

This course provides an anthropological approach to the study of Japan and Korea, with a particular focus on social change and their influences on other East Asian countries. This course will concentrate on cultural traditions, lineage, religions, social structure and contemporary international relationships of the two countries. Teaching materials will include ethnographies, popular writings, news features, movies, etc., in order to provide students with a comprehensive approach for understanding the cultures of Japan and Korea.

ANT 2510

Culture and Business

1st term

This course will examine the role of culture in contemporary business. It will introduce anthropological approaches to the study of work and management in industrial societies. Topics include cross-cultural communication in business settings, business organization (e.g., the Japanese factory, the Chinese family firm), cultural values and the motivation to work, retail marketing and consumer culture, and occupational and company sub-culture. (Not for students who have taken GEE 266U.)

ANT 2710

Archaeology of China

Chinese civilization spans a long history and has a vast legacy of material culture and artifacts. The image of ancient China based on the written word has been challenged by newly discovered archaeological information. A new view of ancient Chinese history as seen through the examining eye of modern science is in the making. This course will systematically examine the formation of the Paleolithic and Neolithic cultures in China, and significant archaeological discoveries on Shang, Zhou, Warring States, Chin, Han, Sui, Tang, Song, Yuan and other periods. It also re-evaluates contributions of the ancient Chinese civilization to human history from the macroscopic perspective of the ancient cultures of East Asia.

ANT 2720

Archaeology of Hong Kong

2nd term

Based on the abundant archaeological data in Hong Kong, this course expounds the ancient history of Hong Kong from the Neolithic Age (6,000 years ago) to the Song Dynasty. Lectures will explain the archaeological finds from various localities in Hong Kong such as Lantau Island and the New Territories. Students will visit some local archaeological sites. The course also attempts to reconstruct the ancient culture of Hong Kong in the context of pre-history in South China and Southeast Asia.

ANT 2730

Preserving Cultural Heritage

This course aims to give students the basic knowledge and training on cultural heritage preservation, including archaeological excavation, report and analysis, and the preservation of ancient architectures and monuments. The course includes the following topics: 1) concepts and international conventions/policies of cultural heritage preservation; 2) archaeological excavation: methods, procedures and standards; 3) archaeological recording and analysing; and 4) preservation of ancient architectures and monuments: standards and procedures.

ANT 2810

Human Evolution

2nd term

This course focuses on human evolution and variation. Some key issues in physical anthropology will also be discussed. The course includes: 1) the origin and evolution of human beings from *Australopithecus* to *Homo sapiens sapiens*; 2) anthropometry: the measurement of human evolution and variation; 3) human genes, inheritance, and cultural and environmental adaptations; 4) human variation and diseases; 5) sociobiology and the concept of race; and 6) applied physical anthropology: What can the bones tell us?

ANT 3010

Senior Thesis Research I

1st term

(For Anthropology Majors only.)

ANT 3020

Senior Thesis Research II

2nd term

Prerequisite: ANT 3010. (For Anthropology Majors only.)

ANT 3220

Visual Anthropology

This course is an introduction to ethnographic film and the analysis and interpretation of film as a tool in understanding culture as a system of communication. Students will learn to use audio-visual equipment in the field, and will each be required to make a short ethnographic film on a topic concerning culture in Hong Kong.

ANT 3310

Religion and Culture

This course introduces anthropological approaches to the study of religion and explores the interrelationship between religion and other dimensions of cultural behaviour. Topics include myths, rituals and ceremonies, magic and witchcraft, shamanism, ghosts and ancestors, secularization and religious revitalization.

ANT 3321, 3322, 3323

Topics in Anthropology

The content of this course varies from semester to semester, but concentrates either on selected problems related to the encounter with other societies through anthropological fieldwork, or on special issues in anthropological theory.

*Students are allowed to take the above topical courses for more than once, and gain the units each time they pass the course. However, students cannot take courses with the same course code more than once in a single term.*

ANT 3340

Diaspora: Migration, Identity and Ethnicity

This course examines the cultural phenomena of migration of populations, immigration across national boundaries, and displacement of peoples and communities. This course uses the diaspora cultures, such as the ethnic Chinese, the Jewish communities and the ethnic Indians, to illustrate the history, structure, theory and politics of ethnic identity, ethnic relations, and cultural and national identity.

ANT 3350

Food, Health and Culture

This course will focus on the social implications and cultural meanings of food and health. Topics to be covered include: cultural uses of food, table manners, food exchange and the construction of social groups, food and cuisine as ethnic identity, food taboos and food symbolism, the cannibalism debate and the human body as sacrificial food, changes in eating patterns, the global impact of fast food chains, cultural definition of food values, and health and medicinal beliefs related to food and eating.

ANT 3370

Tourism and Culture

1st term

This course will examine, in the context of tourism, such issues as globalization and transnationalism, travel and borderzones, the invention and representation of culture, the marketing of tradition, the commoditizing of culture, museums and heritage, authenticity and identity formation, and the quest of the industrialized nations for the folk, the exotic and the past.

ANT 3380

Economy, Culture and Power

This course presents the political economy approach to the study of culture. It introduces the major topics of the subfields of economic and political anthropology, as well as the goals and dilemmas of applied anthropology. The course will examine the cultural evolution of societies, how culture shapes - and is shaped by - the production, distribution and consumption of goods, the flow and accumulation of power, and the nature of conflict and governance. The course will show how a holistic cultural approach can improve our understanding of power and the economy, and how only by considering power and material life can we fully understand culture. (Not for students who have taken ANT 2300 or 3360.)

ANT 3420

Peoples and Cultures of Asia and the Pacific

This course provides the basic ethnographic knowledge of contemporary peoples and cultures in selected regions of Asia and the Pacific. The course introduces classic ethnographic reports as well as offers anthropological interpretations of cultural tradition and change in the region as a result of socio-political movements and economic transformation.

ANT 3430

Cultures of Chinese Overseas

This course will introduce students to the study of Chinese communities outside China. Ethnic Chinese communities worldwide may be considered as comprising an ethnological field. Due to the sharing of aspects of Chinese civilization, Chinese everywhere share some cultural similarities. However, the need to adapt to different ecological, political and socio-cultural environments calls for adaptation and transformation. Thus the diverse Chinese communities

worldwide are ideal for comparative studies, especially on a number of anthropological/sociological themes such as cultural continuity and transformation, cultural identities and ethnic identities, ethnic relations, social organization, and so on.

ANT 3530  
Anthropology and Contemporary Issues  
2nd term

This course will provide an in-depth discussion on the main topical issues dealt with by contemporary anthropologists. These may be either theoretical and methodological issues or socio-political ones such as ethnic relations, health, war and the environment.

ANT 3540  
Anthropology of Development

This course will examine the theories of economic development, including modernization theories, dependency, world-system and basic needs. Topics include the green revolution, peasant resistance, incorporation of "tribals", cultural extinction, women and development, collectives, ecological degradation and grass roots alternatives.

ANT 3550  
Urban Anthropology

This course will introduce anthropological approaches to urban studies. Topics to be explored include theories of the origin and development of cities, urbanity in different cultures, urban life and social organization, and problems of urbanization such as adjustment of rural migrants to city life.

ANT 3560  
Globalization and Cultural Identity

Globalization, it is said, is sweeping over the world today. What does this mean for cultural difference in the world, and for human beings' senses of cultural identity? This course examines 1) globalization as a social, cultural and economic process, past and present; 2) the meanings of culture and ethnicity, past and present; and 3) the processes by which human beings maintain, reject and invent cultural identity in an increasingly globalized world. This course will also explore the changing character of cultural anthropology as a discipline, in a world in which the meaning of "culture" is being transformed.

ANT 3630  
Language, Symbols and Society  
2nd term

This course examines the nature and structure of language, and analyses language within human social worlds. It explores sociolinguistics-how linguistic behaviour is shaped by sociocultural factors - and also metaphor, and the problems of cultural interpretation and translation. It also examines a range of symbols in society, the language not just of words but of clothing, material goods, popular culture and political discourse, to understand how cultural symbols are socially constructed, performed and contested. Language and symbols and their social uses form a central topic of anthropological inquiry; this course will explore and explicate this topic. (Not for students who have taken ANT 2620.)

ANT 3720  
Museums and Anthropology  
1st term

This course discusses the role of the museum in contemporary society. Museums have long been regarded as the treasure house of the cultural legacy of a country and people. Today museums are relevant to many fields such as education, science, culture, tourism and

environmental protection, thus museums play important roles in contemporary societies. Topics include the definition of the museum, and analyses of the museum's history and functions, with special emphasis on introducing how a museum is run, and the technical issues of how the artifacts and information are restored, preserved and displayed. Excursions will be made to selected museums in Hong Kong, Macau and Guangdong for observation and discussion purposes.

### Study Scheme

#### 1. Major Programme

Students are required to complete a minimum of 60 units of courses as follows:

- |      |  |          |
|------|--|----------|
| (i)  | Required Courses:<br>ANT 0120, 0220, 0320, 1010, 2110, 2210, 3380,<br>3630   | 24 units |
| (ii) | 12 Elective Courses (at least 3 courses chosen from the list of Ethnography and Area Studies) from:<br>ANT 1310, 1710, 2230, 2310, 2320, 2340, 2350,<br>2401, 2402, 2403, 2510, 2730, 2810, 3010, 3020,<br>3220, 3310, 3321, 3322, 3323, 3340, 3350, 3370,<br>3530, 3540, 3550, 3560, 3720<br>Ethnography and Area Studies:<br>ANT 1410, 2330, 2410, 2440, 2450, 2460, 2710,<br>2720, 3420, 3430<br>In fulfilling this elective course requirement, a student may select up to 3 related courses (9 units) offered by other Departments or Programmes (undergraduate or postgraduate) which are approved by this Department. | 36 units |

Total: 60 units

#### *Requirements for students given permission to take two minor programmes*

Students are required to take a minimum of 54 units including required courses listed in (i) above, and 30 units from the elective courses listed in (ii) which may include up to 3 courses (9 units) offered by other Departments or Programmes (undergraduate or postgraduate) which are approved by this Department. (Please see item 4 below.)

#### 2. Voluntary concentration

Applicable to all Major students:

Students are encouraged to choose the following concentrations by taking the relevant courses. This is not compulsory.

The concentrations are as follows:

**Archaeology**

ANT 1710, 2710, 2720, 2730, 2810, 3720

**Tourism and Cultural Representation**

ANT 2230, 2730, 3220, 3370, 3560, 3720

**Transnational Societies and Cultures**

ANT 2510, 3340, 3350, 3370, 3560

**Human Relations**

ANT 2310, 2320, 2330, 2350, 2510

**Anthropology of Chinese Societies**

ANT 1410, 2410, 2440, 2710, 2720, 3430

**Values and Worldviews**

ANT 2310, 2340, 2350, 3310, 3560

3. *Minor Programme*

Students are required to complete ANT 1010 and any other 4 Anthropology courses totalling a minimum of 15 units. (Please see item 4 below.)

4. Units which counted towards the fulfilment of the Anthropology Major or Minor Programme requirements shall not count towards the fulfilment of the Minor Programme in Gender Studies, and vice versa.