

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES - ANTHROPOLOGY

Competencies are the skills, knowledge and attributes gained through every work, educational, volunteer and life experience.

UVic students in the [Anthropology](#) program develop the following program-specific competencies. UVic Co-op and Career worked with the Department of Anthropology to develop this competency document.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

Understands the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in anthropology

- + Characterizes the nature of anthropology as a discipline
- + Uses grammar and punctuation correctly and appropriately
- + Demonstrates knowledge and understanding representing appropriate breadth and depth in selected content areas of anthropology
- + Uses the concepts, language and major theories of the discipline to account for the many aspects of what it means to be human

ANTHROPOLOGICAL METHODS AND THEORY

Understands development theories and practical applications of anthropological research

- + Knows the history and development of major trends in anthropological theory
- + Applies ethnographic methods used in the field with an emphasis on the relationship between field methods and theory in anthropology, field experiences and techniques, and qualitative data analysis
- + Formulates researchable propositions, research design and data analysis

BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Understands human biological evolution through the study of non-human primates, investigation of the human fossil record, human skeletal variation, population genetics, growth and development and morphological variation

- + Knows primate behavior ecology, progressing from fundamentals to depth
- + Applies theoretical and methodological approaches to studying human skeletal remains
- + Reconstructs human lineage through the examination and interpretation of fossil evidence
- + Identifies examples of human adaptiveness through modern evolutionary theory
- + Analyses the biological and social issues arising from pandemics such as AIDS

CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Understands socio-cultural systems with an emphasis on subsistence, production and distribution, social organization, politics, religion, kinship, symbolic systems, and cultural change from an international perspective

- + Analyses the main aspects of human social organization from a cross-cultural perspective
- + Understands the relationship between global processes, the environment and health technology
- + Conducts anthropological research through visual means such as film, photography and new media
- + Analyses oral traditions from a range of societies
- + Studies religion and religious behavior, conducting comparative analysis of belief and ritual systems
- + Examines current research on young people (infants, children and youth) as social actors and cultural

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Understands archaeological research and problems of interpretation, and gains familiarity with archaeological materials and basic techniques of analysis

- + Reviews archaeological evidence and records to understand the development, adaptation and expansion of cultures and societies
- + Explores the evidence of cave art, personal adornment and symbol use and their role in the evolution of human cognition
- + Learns the methodology of, and studies animal bones
- + Completes training in the methods and techniques of archaeology through participation in a field project