

SCHOOL OF GLOBAL STUDIES

Anthropology

US
UNIVERSITY
OF SUSSEX



Anthropologists ask the big questions about human life.

What do we have in common, and what are the important differences between peoples across the globe?

What can the study of other cultures teach us about our own lives?

How does the study of local cultures and societies add to our understanding of global social change?

Where and how can anthropological perspectives make a difference?

What makes Sussex special?

Anthropology at the University of Sussex has been at the forefront of the subject for over 50 years, and has an international reputation for engaging with real-life issues. It has become known for its expertise in the anthropology of economy and ecology; politics and activism; morality, ethics, rights and justice; health, science and reproduction. Studying anthropology at Sussex will make you part of a vibrant academic community concerned with making a difference in people's lives.

WORLD-LEADING REPUTATION

Anthropology at Sussex has been ranked within the top ten UK departments for the past three years running* and is also recognised as being in the world's top 100**. We received 91% overall satisfaction in the National Student Survey 2018. We are one of the largest departments of anthropology in the country, and we cover all main topics in social and cultural anthropology, and most of the major regions of the globe.

* *The Complete University Guide 2020*

** *QS World Rankings 2018*

A degree in Anthropology will equip you with skills for a wide range of different career paths and our department has been ranked 1st in the UK for graduate prospects for the past three years*. Our graduates are now working in the UK and across the world, in diverse and socially engaged roles.

Anthropology at Sussex helps you to understand the complexities of the contemporary world. Our approach is both critical and engaged, which means that we encourage students to constantly question their own and others' assumptions, seeking to confront and find answers to real world problems.

RESEARCH STRENGTHS

Our current research strengths include environment, development and social change; global capitalism, fair trade and changing employment conditions; political activism and protest; religion and modernity; the impact of globalisation in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America; gender and sexuality; sexual and reproductive health; science, technology and morality; and the politics of human rights.



What you will learn

Not only will you graduate with a degree that is unique to you, but you will also develop skills that suit your personal career ambitions.

YEAR ONE

The first year introduces you to the way anthropologists make sense of the diversity of social and cultural practices across the world. You gain knowledge of the different theories and methodologies employed within anthropology, and the ways anthropologists put their knowledge to use.

YEAR TWO

In year two, you focus on central topics within the discipline, such as politics and power, religion and ritual, and ethnographic methods. You are also able to choose from a range of exciting options such as Visual Anthropology, Culture and Representation, and Cities and Urban Lives. You receive training in the research methods and skills used by anthropologists in the field, and have the opportunity to conduct your own research project with a team of your peers during spring term.

YEAR THREE

Year three builds on what you've learnt in the first and second years, to provide you with an understanding of anthropology at an advanced level. You choose from a range of options designed and taught by experts in the field, who are at the cutting edge of research. You work closely with them in thematic areas such as Environmental Anthropology, Human Rights, Anthropology of Islam, or regionally, looking at Africa, South Asia, Europe or Latin America. Alternatively, you may design your own research project, and write a supervised year-long thesis based on your own fieldwork.

You can study Anthropology as a single honours degree or as part of a joint degree, for example with Cultural Studies, International Development, International Relations, History or Geography. In a joint degree you spend half your time studying Anthropology, and half your time studying another subject.



Shaping your Anthropology degree



CUSTOMISE YOUR COURSE

If you study single honours, there are other ways you can customise your course. You can combine anthropology with optional modules (electives) in other related, or completely different, subjects. You can choose a wide range of different electives or alternatively a specific pathway of modules in one particular subject.

So, for example, you might decide in your first term to combine anthropology with the astronomy module 'Our Place in the Universe', and move on in the second term to 'Global Politics of the Environment'. You could then choose other diverse modules in your second year. Anthropology also offers its own electives, which you may wish to take. Alternatively, you might opt for the pathway in Human Rights, through which you would study a specific series of modules designed to develop your knowledge of

human rights alongside anthropology. A range of other pathways are available, including Film Studies, Gender Studies, English Language Teaching and others.

You can also study a range of languages as electives or pathways, including Arabic, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, European Languages and British Sign Language.

FOUNDATION YEAR

If you're keen to study anthropology but lack the qualifications or grades needed for degree study, our Foundation Years will help you bridge the academic gap between school and university and build your confidence too. Students who gain the required pass level in the Foundation Year are then able to stay at Sussex for their chosen degree.

Your student experience



You will be taught by experts who are active researchers. Our teaching combines lectures, seminars, workshops and other activities designed to help you develop and present your own perspectives on human culture and society. You will be expected to read a lot and write a lot, but also work with your colleagues to prepare for classes, give presentations, and carry out research. You may even make a film or do a performance as part of your degree.

Throughout your degree you will have an experienced member of the teaching team as an Academic Advisor. This is your personal tutor, with whom you will meet regularly to help you adjust to the demands and expectations of university life, and provide a supportive context in which to ask questions about any aspect of your degree.

“I knew anthropology wasn’t just about learning about other people in other countries and tribes... we have been learning about the anthropology of shopping for example... It just makes you question everything you’ve taken for granted.”

MATT COWLING, BA ANTHROPOLOGY

Your flexible course structure

You choose from a range of modules that enable you to focus on your particular area of interest. The modules below are running in 2019/20*. For a current list of modules, see: go.sussex.ac.uk/anthropology

YEAR 1

AUTUMN

Core for Single and Joint

The Anthropological Imagination
Key Concepts in Anthropology

Single only

Practising Anthropology
Elective: choose from a University-wide selection including the anthropology elective, Ethnographic Film

SPRING

Core for Single and Joint

The Anthropology of Exchange, Money and Markets
Worlds and Selves

Single only

Anthropology of Kinship and Relatedness
Elective: choose from a University-wide selection including the anthropology elective, Gender Across Cultures

**These modules are running in the academic year 2019/20. We also plan to offer them in future academic years. They may become unavailable due to staff availability, student demand or updates to our curriculum. We'll make sure to let our applicants know of such changes to modules at the earliest opportunity.*

YEAR 2

AUTUMN

Core for Single and Joint

Ethnographic Research Methods
Religion and Ritual

Single only

Key Debates in Contemporary Anthropology
Elective: choose from a University-wide selection

SPRING

Core for Single and Joint

Politics and Power

Options

**Single choose two,
Joint choose one**

Culture and Representation

Cities and Urban Lives

Visual Anthropology

Ethnographic Field Research

Single only

Elective: choose from a University-wide selection including Anthropology electives, Ethnography of the Middle East and The Anthropology of Sexuality

YEAR 3

AUTUMN

No core, all optional

**Single choose two,
Joint choose one**

Anthropology of Europe

Anthropology of Latin America

Anthropology of Migration

Anthropology of The Body

Environmental Anthropology

Development, Business and

Corporate Social Responsibility

SPRING

No core, all optional

Single choose one from each block, Joint choose one from either block A or block B

Block A

Anthropology of Fertility, Reproduction and Health

Anthropology of Food

Race, Ethnicity and Identity

Block B

Anthropology of Africa

Anthropology Thesis

Human Rights

Understanding Contemporary

India

Gain experience or study abroad



We recognise that our students are keen to develop a truly global approach to their studies, something that is reflected in the range of study opportunities open to them. We maintain student exchange links with almost 100 universities in Europe, Asia, Australia and Latin America and more than 40 universities in North America. Studying abroad, as well as being a great way to see the world, encourages intercultural competence, improves networks of friends and contacts and will look really great on your CV. You can study abroad for one term in the second year, or for a whole year, between years 2 and 3.

Between years 2 and 3 there is also an opportunity to take part in a one year professional placement. Students have taken part in placements in non-governmental and research organisations around the world, including Madagascar, Thailand and the Middle East as well as within the UK. Placement students are supported by the careers service and by a dedicated supervisor within the department.

“Studying anthropology at Sussex means getting involved! It’s not just about what you learn in the lectures and seminars – you’re encouraged to explore and interrogate every aspect of the human world.”

LUKE HESLOP, BA ANTHROPOLOGY AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

After your degree

Anthropology at Sussex is the best in the UK for graduate job prospects*. It has a reputation for attracting students with creative minds, and given the central interests of anthropologists in responding to and understanding cultural diversity in a changing world, our anthropology degrees lead to a wide range of career opportunities. These include:

- Development work in agencies such as the Department for International Development (DfID) or UN organisations; international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) such as Oxfam or Amnesty International; and charities;
- Civil Service, including local government, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Environment Agency;
- Community development in the UK and overseas, including with local community organisations;
- Socially responsible business, journalism and media.

You are equally well equipped to go on to further study, to gain professional qualifications, or to develop research interests in anthropology. Every year, some of our students embark on postgraduate study and go on to develop successful careers in academia.

By the end of your degree you will have a wide understanding of contemporary cultures and societies and an ability to understand processes of change in the modern world. You will also be able to relate this knowledge to a broad range of practical contexts.

**The Complete University Guide 2018, 2019, 2020.*





Anthropology is part of the School of Global Studies, which provides one of the UK's most focused centres of expertise for understanding how the world is changing. It offers a diverse range of perspectives on global issues, and staff and students who are actively engaged with international and local partners, contributing a distinctive perspective on global affairs.

CONTACT US

ANTHROPOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX
FALMER, BRIGHTON BN1 9SJ, UK
+44 (0)1273 873244
global.ug.admissions@sussex.ac.uk
sussex.ac.uk/anthropology



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OF SUSSEX