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 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 and the Anthropology of Sexuality. 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. Year two also presents the opportunity to travel with members of faculty on a range of short field trips within the UK or abroad.

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.

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 and Mandarin Chinese, European Languages and British Sign Language.
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

You choose from a range of options that enable you to focus on your particular area of interest. To give you the best experience of study, we continually review and update our module list. For a comprehensive list and description of modules visit go.sussex.ac.uk/anthropology Listings may be subject to change.
Anthropology at Sussex has a reputation for attracting students with creative minds. Given this, and the central interests of anthropologists in responding to and understanding cultural diversity in a changing world, 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.

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 an opportunity to take part in a one year professional placement as part of your degree. 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

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The School of Global Studies 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.