

Cultural Anthropology

Dear New Major,

Welcome to Cultural Anthropology!

Coursework in anthropology gives students powerful tools for making sense of society and culture, and an appreciation of both different cultures and of hierarchies and inequality in the 21st century world. This broad training in understanding culture and society is a perfect foundation for a wide array of careers, from medicine and the law to art and politics. As a discipline, anthropology combines the rigor of science with the creative unexpectedness of art; it endeavors to evoke the real spirit, the true picture of human life in all its complexity, context, and contradiction.

Cultural anthropology is not a typical major for most students, and in relative terms we are a small department, which allows our faculty to focus on the specific needs of individual students, have smaller class sizes, and provide special attention for specific research projects.

Major Requirements: 10 Courses

- 3 Foundation Courses:
 - CulAnth 101 – Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
 - CulAnth 301 – Theories in Cultural Anthropology
 - CulAnth 302 – Fieldwork Methods
- At least 5 Cultural Anthropology courses at the 100-level and above.
- At least 1 Cultural Anthropology course at the 400-level and above.
- 1 additional course in Cultural Anthropology at any level.
- Students must take at least five of their ten courses with instructors whose primary appointment is in the Department of Cultural Anthropology.
- No more than three courses may be transferred from other institutions or study abroad.

We strongly recommend study abroad, summer ethnographic research, and the senior thesis capstone experience

Advisors

The department will assign advisors to first and second majors. Students are invited to e-mail the department Administrator and Assistant to the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Pat Bodager (pbodager@duke.edu) if they would like to request a specific advisor in our department. Please note that some faculty may not be available for advising due to a leave or a full roster of advisees. You are required to meet with your advisor each advising period prior to course registration. Students are also invited to contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Rebecca Stein (rlstein@duke.edu) with any questions they may have.

Cultural Anthropology Listserv

The e-mail addresses of new majors are automatically added to the department's undergraduate listserv. This list is used to send out information about events, course information, seminars, and job opportunities.

Graduation with Distinction

To pursue distinction, qualified juniors will be invited to enroll in the senior seminar, Cultural Anthropology 489S and 499S, in the fall and spring of their senior year where they will learn about research methods and write a thesis. More information at: <https://registrar.duke.edu/sites/default/files/undergraduate/2017-18/250>