Southeast Asian Studies, Minor

DEPARTMENT

Department of Anthropology

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MN in American Indian Studies, Minor
MN in Anthropology, Minor
BA in Anthropology, B.A.
MN in Asian American Studies, Minor
MN in Southeast Asian Studies, Minor

Courses Offered

Anthropology is concerned with everything that is human, in all parts of the world, both present and past. It is unique among
the social sciences in its scope. Most disciplines focus only on modern civilization or concentrate on single aspects of life,
such as government or the economy. Anthropology is interested in all human societies and views life as a complexly integrated
whole that is more than the sum of its parts. It is the human experience as a whole that anthropology seeks to understand.

The breadth of anthropology is reflected in its four subfields. Physical anthropology studies biological evolution and how
heredity conditions the ways we conduct life. Cultural anthropology, by studying the enormous diversity of lifeways
in contemporary cultures throughout the world, attempts to explain both differences and similarities in the way different
peoples carry out the process of living. Archaeology explores the human past far beyond the range of written records, using
specialized techniques to probe human prehistory. Linguistic anthropology investigates the nature of language and the critical
role it has played in developing our unique intellectual capabilities and behavior. The central concept in anthropology is
"culture," and it is this vital idea which binds the subfields into an integrated discipline.

Our program has three goals:

• to provide students with a clear conception of human variability and its implications, enabling them to understand and deal
  with lifestyles other than those of "mainstream America;"

• to provide students with the broad intellectual skills that are essential to the widest range of professional careers; and

• to prepare students to use anthropological concepts in both applied and research careers.

Both the anthropology major and minor offer a varied but well-structured exposure to all four subfields of the discipline. The
major consists of two parts. The core curriculum introduces both data and theory in a logical sequence of courses from basic
to advanced and includes an introduction to anthropological fieldwork. The four degree tracks are intended to prepare students
for specific careers in the following areas: education, cultural resources management, social services, or post-secondary
teaching. The minor is a briefer but balanced survey of the discipline, designed to complement any major whose graduates
need to understand and deal with people from different cultural backgrounds.

Special Resources and Facilities

The Anthropology Department provides student training in both archaeological and ethnographic studies. Advanced students
may also pursue specialized training in our archaeological and ethnographic field schools, as well as our archaeology
laboratory. We encourage internships as an important aspect of student development and help place advanced students as
interns with a large variety of organizations.

REQUIREMENTS

Southeast Asian Studies Minor - Requirements

Lower-division courses (6 units)
ASAM 15 and an additional course approved by coordinator

Language courses (6 units)
Upper-division courses (9 units)
ANTH 123, 190; ASAM 110, 138, 140, 190; GEOG 177T; LING 190; SWRK 181

Total (21 units)

Note: The minor also requires a 2.0 GPA and 6 upper-division units in residence.

Notes
1. Interdisciplinary course designed to introduce students with no previous background to the understanding of multiculturalism and ethnic diversity in mainland Southeast Asia. Using a contemporary historical and socioeconomic framework, this course examines concepts of ethnic identity, gender relations, nation states, ethnic conflicts, war and global conflict, diaspora, and transnationalism.

The Minor in Southeast Asian Studies focuses on the cultures and peoples of Southeast Asia, and on their communities outside Southeast Asia, especially those in the United States. For further information, contact Dr. Franklin Ng, Department of Anthropology, at 559.278.3002.

FACULTY

For faculty phone numbers and e-mail, see the campus directory.

For more on the faculty, see the faculty pages. The faculty pages are updated by the department or program.

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