Global Studies and Languages

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The Global Studies and Languages Department houses a variety of academic disciplines including Anthropology, Foreign Languages and Global Studies. Descriptions of courses, minors, and majors available may be found below for the fields of study.

Anthropology

Anthropology studies the human experience in a broad framework of time, space, biology and culture. The global, comparative, and holistic approach equips the student with intellectual and practical tools for understanding the past and contemporary world systems.

Anthropology emphasizes the study of human biological and cultural evolution and uses a holistic and comparative approach in the study of cultural diversity. Regardless of your career goals, a demonstrated anthropological emphasis indicates a commitment to diversity and intercultural communication. Anthropology and archaeology offer exciting career opportunities for the student interested in travel, social justice and working with people. Anthropology courses are also fundamental to a well-rounded teaching degree in broad social studies certification. Please speak with the Education Department for further details.

Communicating Plus - Anthropology: Students completing a program in anthropology develop skills in the four Communicating Plus areas — written communication, oral communication, critical thinking and problem solving — in required and elective course work in the discipline. The anthropology program is based on a sequence of courses that emphasize the staged development of skills and abilities. As students complete required course work in 100 and 200 level courses, they are developing skills that will be used for more sophisticated analysis, problem-solving, and presentation of information and theoretical perspectives in 300 level elective courses and the senior seminar research project. Graduates of this program will have had many and varied opportunities to present their ideas in written and oral forms. They will also have had many opportunities to engage in the kinds of discussions, debates, hands-on-learning activities, data analysis, and research through which anthropologists attempt to integrate humanistic, scientific and social scientific perspectives to address human problems.
110. The Human Experience: How To Think Anthropologically

Four credits.
Introduction to cultures around the world and the principal methods and concepts used in their study. Anthropology involves the holistic study of human life on earth, including economic, social, religious, political, and symbolic systems. Students will explore such diversity through films, workshops, and ethnographies. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information.

118. Collaborative Research

Variable credit course, 1-4 credits.
An opportunity for students to collaborate on a project of interest with a faculty member. No more than four credits may count toward major. Prerequisite: consent of the department chair and the faculty advisor.

200. Departmental Studies

Variable credit course, 2-4 credits.
Special subjects in anthropology not covered by regular courses. This course may be repeated for credit when topics change. Please see the pertinent Schedule of Courses for the listing of topics courses. Some topics may count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information.

210. Introduction to Museum Studies

Four credits.
Students will be introduced to museum studies through a range of lectures by scholars relevant to the field. The course touches on the following topics: museum display, conservation, and ethics of representation, history (local and global), non-profit and small business administration and economics, volunteering, careers in museum studies, vertebrate biology, and arts management. Students will be asked to participate in lectures and seminar discussions, and complete a small project.

213. Human Origins

Four credits.
The study of human evolution and the development of the capacity for culture. The course covers evolutionary principles, the fossil record of human evolution, primate behavior, human variation, and the question of race. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.

214. Dust, Pots, and Empires: How to do Archaeology

Four credits.
Students are introduced to the content and methods of modern archaeological analysis. Topics include the development of cultural chronologies and archaeological cultures and thematic analyses of the many material and cultural components of archaeological investigation. Students watch films, experience hands-on workshops in material culture analysis, and examine world prehistory. Lectures and laboratory work. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.
215. Ethnographic Field Methods
Margaretten
Four credits.
A course designed to introduce students to ethnographic field methods and anthropological inquiry. Topics include: current debates in cultural anthropology, research design and implementation, fieldwork ethics, and ethnographic writing. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.

216. Archaeological Field Methods
Staff
Three credits. An In Focus Course.
A hands-on introduction to archaeological field research methods including mapping, surveying, excavation, artifact and material analysis, and model building. ANT 216 and ANT 218 together constitute Field School credit necessary for employment in the field.

218. Archaeological Laboratory Techniques
Staff
Three credits. An In Focus Course.
A hands-on instruction to the laboratory analysis in archaeology, including cataloging, illustration, analysis, and conservation of archaeological artifacts in the laboratory. ANT 216 and ANT 218 together constitute Field School credit necessary for employment in the field.

222. Anthropology and Contemporary Global Issues
Margaretten
Four credits.
An analysis of the impact of global changes on societies in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Pacific Islands. The course will address the following issues: the spread of global capitalism, modernization, urbanization, poverty, detribalization, terrorism, disease, cultural survival, and immigration. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.

224. Gender, Sex and Sexuality: Cross-Cultural Views
Margaretten
Four credits.
An exploration of the socio-biological constructions of gender, sex and sexuality across a range of cultural and historical contexts. Draws upon anthropological case studies to investigate relationships and ideologies of femininity, masculinity and androgyny - including that of hetero-normativity, transgendered practices and identities, and same-sex relations. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. Same as WOM 224. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.

232. Medical Anthropology
Margaretten
Four credits.
This course introduces students to concepts and experiences of health, healing, and illness in diverse societies. It focuses on the cultural meanings of these experiences while also considering the institutional context and power dynamics of global health systems, including that of biomedicine. Course expectations include intensive reading and writing assignments with in-class discussions supplemented by lecture material and ethnographic films. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.
241. Societies of Africa
Margaretten
Four credits.
An introduction to the diversity and complexity of social worlds in Africa with particular attention to cultural and historical processes that shape everyday life. Topics include: the legacies of colonialism, post-colonial development, social organization, identity formations, and popular representations of “Africa” in Western thought. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.

300. Departmental Studies:
Staff
Four credits.
Special subjects in anthropology not covered by regular courses. Topics are announced as courses are offered. This course may be repeated for credit when topics change. Some topics may count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.

313. The Anthropology of Death
Staff
Four credits.
An exploration of the diverse ways that cultures approach and commemorate death, dying, and the afterlife. The relationship between funerary practices and gender roles, economics, socio-political structure, and ideological concerns are emphasized. Topics discussed include the notion of good and bad death, taboos surrounding the corpse, death as a rite of passage, and the association of mortality with fertility. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.

314. Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft
Margaretten
Four credits.
The role of the sacred in cultural systems. Topics include: the relationship of belief systems and rituals to other aspects of culture; the differences and similarities between magic, religion, witchcraft, and mythology; the development of religious systems; religion as a form of symbolic communication; and cults in the modern world. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. Prerequisite: two courses in anthropology or consent of the instructor.

315. Advanced Archaeological Case Studies
Staff
Four credits.
An overview of current debates in the field conducted in a seminar format. Topics can include the definition of culture in anthropology and archaeology, the rise of complex societies, the public and political relevance of the field, and the application of multidisciplinary methods in archaeological analysis. Students will lead discussion, present a paper, and explore the connection between archaeological methods, data, and evidence in the field in collaboration with the instructor. Students will also hone their abilities to read complex texts and write academic papers. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.
318. **Ecological Anthropology**

Four credits.
An overview of anthropological approaches to human and cultural ecology, as well as the varied means by which human groups adapt to and modify their environments. Selected topics include the adaptations of foraging groups, horticultural and agricultural peoples, and pastoralists; the problems of defining nature (and what is ‘natural’); and the relationship between ideology and human adaptations. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. *Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.*

321. **Activist Anthropology**

Four credits.
This course explores the use of anthropology to respond to activist questions. Students will write an analytical paper that looks at a social issue from an anthropological perspective. The class will also discuss effective oral presentation methods and explore the ethical ramifications of social science research. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. *Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.*

323. **Topics in Archaeology**

Four credits.
Special subjects in archaeology not covered by regular courses. This course may be repeated for credit when topics change. Please see the pertinent Schedule of Courses for the listing of topics courses. Some topics may count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. *Prerequisite: ANT 110 or consent of the instructor.*

325. **Advanced Museum Studies**

Four credits.
This course provides students with an advanced grounding in the theoretical, ethical, and practical concerns of Museum Studies. In particular, it provides students with an introduction to conservation methods and the politics of display. Students will be asked to participate in the conservation and reorganization of various Ripon College archaeological and historical collections, write short research papers, and develop ideas for future displays on campus. There will be an additional service learning option in the areas of education or public promotion of local history. *Prerequisite: sophomore standing or higher.*

327. **Global Youth Cultures**

Four credits.
This course explores the social worlds and experiences of youth in diverse settings. In doing so, it presents youth as a “relational” concept that does not correspond to age or a developmental stage but rather to structural trends, technologies, and life expectations. This course thus highlights the contributions and centrality of youth to current intellectual thought, particularly in relation to theories of marginality, personhood, popular cultural, globalization, and modernity. This is a reading and writing intensive course with occasional film viewings. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. *Prerequisites: two anthropology courses or consent of the instructor.*
335. Urban Anthropology  
Margaretten

Four credits.
An examination of cities as sites and subjects of anthropological inquiry. Case studies focus on the relationship between spatial forms and social practices with particular attention to the power dynamics of urban planning, commodity flows, and processes of local/global connectivity, including that of dis-connectivity. Required field trip. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. Prerequisites: two anthropology courses or consent of the instructor.

402. Seminar in Anthropological Method and Theory  
Margaretten

Four credits.
Selected topics in anthropology. Emphasis is placed on method, theory, and inference. Students will prepare research papers related to specific problems considered each year. Required of all anthropology majors, this course may be repeated for credit when topics differ. Prerequisite: open to junior and senior anthropology majors and minors. Other juniors and seniors may be admitted with the consent of the instructor.

541, 542. Independent Study  
Staff

Variable credit course, 2-4 credits each semester.
Supervised investigation related to the student’s area of advanced concentration. The course is designed to promote independent scholarship. No more than twelve credit hours of independent study or internship may be taken, and no more than eight credit hours may be in one department. A registration form is required. Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, consent of the department chair and a department project director, and 12 credits toward the major.

551, 552. Independent Study: Internship  
Staff

Variable credit course, 1-5 credits each semester.
Supervised field or laboratory work in an area of anthropology of special interest to the student. Participants are expected to produce a narrative or exhibit in which they reflect on their activities. No more than twelve credit hours of independent study or internship may be taken, and no more than eight credit hours may be in one department. A registration form is required. Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, consent of the department chair and a department project director, and 12 credits toward the major.

Foreign Languages

The language programs develop students’ understanding of and appreciation for the world through the study of foreign languages and literatures, linguistics and cultural phenomena. Students gain skills that allow them to communicate with native speakers; they learn critical and theoretical approaches to texts and build cross-cultural perspectives from which to evaluate global issues.

Language Placement: Placement in French and Spanish courses is determined by an online evaluation which may be taken at any time, preferably before registration. Contact the Department of Global Studies and Languages or the Office of the Registrar for information. Placement in Latin is determined by high school language experience and consultation with Classics faculty.

Advanced Placement: College credit will be granted on the basis of a score of four or better on the CEEB Advanced Placement Examinations in a second language. A score of 630 or higher on the reading test in any foreign language offered by SAT II will fulfill the Global and Cultural Studies requirement.

Retroactive Credit: Students whose high school or other background permits them to enroll in a foreign language course above 111 will, after completing the course with a grade of B or above, receive credit for previous courses in the sequence. The maximum
credit granted retroactively shall be 12 credits for any one language; credit may be earned for more than one language. Retroactive credits count toward the AB degree but do not carry a grade and do not count toward a language major or minor. Study Abroad: See the Off-Campus Study: Programs Abroad section of this Catalog for information on Ripon programs in Paris, Montpellier, Madrid, Toledo, Seville, Alicante, Costa Rica and Córdoba, Argentina.

**Communicating Plus- Foreign Languages:** In order to enhance our students’ understanding of themselves as world citizens, our department anchors its language and literature courses within different cultural perspectives. Students studying foreign languages practice the four Communicating Plus skills areas- written communication, oral communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving- embedded within cultural contexts from the earliest levels of language study. Studying a foreign language necessarily deals with all aspects of communication and with the analysis of culture and civilization and thus provides students with opportunities to think and communicate differently. Analyzing how language functions from linguistic and cultural points of view also helps students improve their communication and thinking skills in their native language. We encourage our students to study abroad during their undergraduate career and to consider their foreign language studies as complementary to a second major in another area.

**The Foreign Languages Major:** This major is intended for the student who prefers an orientation toward language and linguistic study rather than literary history and analysis. Comprised of the study of three languages of the student’s choosing, it is described in the Courses of Study (Foreign Languages) section of this catalog.