ANTHROPOLOGY (ANTH)

ANTH 501: Human Evolution: The Material Evidence
3 Credits
Human origins as seen in the fossil record and comparative biology of humans and their primate relatives.
Prerequisite: ANTH 401

ANTH 508: Visualizing Anthropological Data
3 Credits
Recommended Preparations: STAT 500; STAT 511; Or a standard introductory statistics course or an equivalent course at the student's previous institution. Anthropology is a four-field discipline comprising dozens of sub-disciplines, each one characterized by particular theoretical and methodological approaches. As a consequence, the data that anthropologists regularly collect, analyze, and display are diverse in nature, scale and complexity. The purpose of this course is to expose anthropology graduate students to the field's wide range of approaches for managing and visualizing anthropological data. Course content will focus on ways of organizing, analyzing, and representing anthropological datasets. Lectures, practicums, and discussion will center on the criteria and rationale behind visual representations and how these are related to research questions, hypotheses, models, and goals.

ANTH 509: Proposal Writing
3 Credits
This course provides practical training and experience in proposal writing and revisions for graduate students in anthropology and related disciplines.
Prerequisite: STAT 451

ANTH 521: Current Literature in Archaeology
1 Credits/Maximum of 1
Seminar designed to expand general knowledge of archaeology through exposure to current research and related issues in contemporary archaeology. ANTH 521/ANTH 521 Current Literature in Archaeology (1)This seminar is designed to expand general knowledge of archaeology through exposure to current research and related issues in contemporary archaeology. We may also occasionally read a chapter from an edited book. We will normally read and discuss one article per week, although we might increase that number in cases where articles have been followed by published debates. Articles should be selected from a list of approved journals that will be supplied in class. Each article must be approved in advance by the course professor. The presenter should follow the standard outline for article discussion that will also be supplied in class. Faculty: Frances Hayashida, Kenneth Hirth, George Milner, Dean Snow, and David Webster

ANTH 544: Critical Evaluation of Research Methodology
1 Credits/Maximum of 6
Critical analysis of research in selected areas of anthropology.
Prerequisite: ANTH 501

ANTH 545: Seminar in Anthropology
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9
Critical analysis of research in selected areas of anthropology.

ANTH 556: Social Organization of Traditional Societies
3 Credits
Cultural bases of social organization of traditional societies.

ANTH 559: Human Ecology
3 Credits
Within the anthropological and environmental sciences, human ecology (incorporating environmental anthropology, ecological anthropology, cultural ecology, behavioral ecology and evolutionary ecology) is the study of dynamic interactions between people and the environment, past and present. The readings are designed to give students an overview of the fundamental ecological processes that pattern human behavioral responses to environmental variability and how and why human behavior recursively shapes environmental variability. These incorporate a wide range of topics with an emphasis on how human social behavior and resource use are integrated into ecological processes and their services at multiple scales. In so doing, the course takes a holistic perspective of the human experience; one that views cultural, biological, environmental, demographic, and technological processes as interconnected phenomena, and human behavior and practices as components of complex adaptive systems. The topics covered are especially timely in our contemporary political and environmental context, and will explore the relevance of human ecology for these ongoing debates.

ANTH 560: Ecology, Evolution, and Human Behavior
3 Credits
This course provides fundamental theory to understand the nature of the dynamic relationship between human decision-making and the natural and social environment. We focus on ecological anthropological theory operating at multiple scales, from the individual to the population, to the community. We will learn how such theory has been applied in the development of a wide range of questions in ecological anthropology, with a focus on key empirical studies of resource use and reproduction, population growth, subsistence and social intensification, disturbance dynamics, niche construction, and cooperation.

ANTH 562: Laboratory Methods in Anthropology
3-9 Credits/Maximum of 9
Supervised laboratory research, utilizing materials from physical anthropology or archaeology or cultural anthropology.
Mechanisms and quantification of human genetic variation and survey of evolutionary aspects of human ecology, life cycle, and population biology.
least two or three class periods. The course grade will be based on the presentation and on general seminar participation (approximately 80 percent presentation and 20 percent participation, including doing the required readings). This course should appeal to graduate students and advanced undergraduates in anthropology, geography, crop and soil science, demography, rural sociology, agricultural economics, and behavioral ecology.

Prerequisite: ANTH 408

ANTH 579: Spatial Demography

3 Credits

This graduate course will expose students to spatial analysis tools and analytical methods applied to demographic research. ANTH (SOC) 579 Spatial Demography (3) The improved application of spatial data and methods to demographic research is a critical methodological challenge facing demographers today. This graduate seminar is designed to focus on substantive demographic research topics while exposing sociologists and demographers to challenges in, and opportunities for, using geographic information systems (GIS), spatial analysis, and spatial statistics in their own research. Substantive foci will include readings and discussions of spatial perspectives on topics such as racial/ethnic segregation, spatial mismatch/entrapment, poverty, crime/delinquency, migration, health inequalities, wellbeing, maternal and child health, environmental justice, and population and environment relations. Similarly, the seminar will highlight connections between spatial concepts and data availability (e.g., Modifiable Areal Unit Problem - MAUP; data privacy), other emerging methodological approaches to studying society (e.g., contextual modeling, multi-level modeling and the area of neighborhood effects) as well as the integration of different types of data (e.g. qualitative data and quantitative data). Throughout the course lectures and discussions will be complemented with lab sessions introducing spatial analysis methods and GIS and spatial analysis software. The lab sessions will include the use of among other software GeoDa, CrimeStat, R, and ArcGIS (including Geostatistical Analyst and Spatial Analyst extensions). These lab sessions will introduce many methodological and technical issues relevant to spatial analysis (e.g., error, data validation, data integration, cartography, exploratory spatial data analysis, spatial regression modeling, geographically weighted regression, point pattern analysis and geostatistics). Assignments for the courses include up to two writing assignments, up to four lab assignments, and a final project which will be presented as a short 15-minute presentation as well as submitted as a term paper. The writing assignments will include an annotated bibliography/brief literature review within a selected demographic theme area and a profile of a well-known demographer and their adoption of spatial thinking/perspectives/methods. The lab assignments will focus on building geospatial databases, basic spatial analysis, exploratory spatial data analysis, and spatial regression modeling. The courses will include other labs and assignments that will be completed for no grade; these are inteded as mechanisms/opportunities for developing and enhancing familiarity with selected software, data resources, and analytic methods.

Prerequisite: Graduate course in statistics, i.e., SOC 574 or ANTH 509

Cross-listed with: SOC 579

ANTH 588: Method and Theory in Archaeology

3 Credits

Methodological strategies and tactics in archaeological research; major theories in cultural anthropology as applied to archaeological data.

ANTH 590: Colloquium

1-3 Credits/Maximum of 3

Continuing seminars which consist of a series of individual lectures by faculty, students, or outside speakers.

ANTH 596: Individual Studies

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Creative projects, including nonthesis research, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.

Prerequisite: prior approval of proposed assignment by instructor

ANTH 597: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given on a topical or special interest subject which may be offered infrequently; several different topics may be taught in one year or term.

ANTH 600: Thesis Research

1-15 Credits/Maximum of 999

No description.

ANTH 601: Ph.D. Dissertation Full-Time

0 Credits/Maximum of 999

No description.

ANTH 602: Supervised Experience in College Teaching

1-3 Credits/Maximum of 6

Supervised experience in teaching and orientation to other selected aspects of the profession at the Pennsylvania State University.

ANTH 603: Foreign Academic Experience

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Foreign study and/or research constituting progress toward the degree at a foreign university.