ANTHROPOLOGY/ARCHAEOLOGY

What can I do with this major?

AREAS

EDUCATION

Academic Archeologist

Teaching

Research

Administration

Library/Information Science

Community Education

Higher Education Administration and Student

Support Services including:

Admissions

Financial Aid

Academic Advising

Development

Alumni Affairs

International Education and Study Abroad

Career Services

Residence Life

Student Activities and Greek Life

Orientation

EMPLOYERS

Universities/colleges/community colleges University research institutes or laboratories Campus museums

Zoos

Nature centers

STRATEGIES

Earn a doctoral degree in Anthropology for university and college faculty roles and at least a master's degree for two-year college positions.

Obtain a graduate degree in College Student Affairs, Library/Information Science, or related field for work in student affairs, administration, or libraries.

Gain research experience by assisting professors or participating in independent studies.

Maintain a high GPA and secure strong faculty recommendations.

Develop excellent communication and presentation skills.

Get involved in campus leadership positions such as Resident Assistant, Peer Advisor, or Admissions Tour Guide.

MUSEUMS AND ARCHIVES

Functions Include:

Curation/Management/Administration

Acquisition

Preservation/Conservation/Restoration

Arrangement

Cataloguing/Categorizing

Exhibition/Installation

Describing

Analyzing

Authenticating

Maintaining Records

Research

Education

Development

Natural history or history museums

Historical homes

Art galleries

Libraries

Special collections

Historical societies

Universities and colleges

State and local government

Federal government, particularly the National Archives and Records Administration

Corporations

Non-profit organizations

Research institutions

Earn a graduate degree in museum studies, conservation, information science, or related area. Research prerequisites and take the necessary courses. The most competitive candidates may have more than one graduate degree.

Acquire strong computer knowledge and experience. Obtain an internship in a related organization.

Volunteer at campus or community museums.

Get involved with relevant student organizations.

Develop excellent written and oral communication skills, organizational skills, and an attention to detail.

Learn about grant writing, budgeting, and legal issues surrounding historical artifacts.

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

MUSEUMS AND ARCHIVES CONTINUED

Join professional associations to have access to industry news and job information.

Attend relevant conferences, seminars, and trainings.

Earn the "Certified Archivist" designation.

Most curators specialize in a material or objects.

Be prepared to relocate to access the most employment opportunities.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Cultural Resource Management Project Archeologist Research Excavation Field Work Consulting firms

Environmental/engineering companies
Firms specializing in archaeological investigation
Federal, state and local government
Historic preservation societies
Government:

United States Department of Agriculture Department of the Army Urban and city planning offices Field positions require a bachelor's degree and previous field experience. Get involved with faculty research or other research programs.

Obtain a graduate degree for more opportunities and to direct field crews.

Be willing to travel and possibly endure adverse living/working conditions during field studies or excavations. Conditions and hours vary with the type of work or research performed.

GOVERNMENT

Administration

Cultural Resource Management

Surveying

Site Management

Excavation

Research

Museum Conservation

Legislative Compliance Review

Program Management and Evaluation

Impact Assessment:

Social

Environmental

Policy Analysis

Urban Planning

Translation/Interpretation

Immigration

Epidemiology

Federal agencies:

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Central Intelligence Agency Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Institutes of Health, National Park Service, Public Health Service, Smithsonian Institute, Tennessee Valley Authority, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of State, U.S. Forest Service, Departments of: Conservation, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Natural Resources,

State agencies:

Historic Preservation Offices Parks Departments Highway Departments Medical Examiners/Coroners Learn federal or state application procedures.

A Graduate degree generally required for higher level positions.

Gain related experience through internships in areas of interest.

Develop statistical, analytical, and computer skills and learn various research methodologies.

Get involved in campus organizations to develop leadership abilities and interpersonal skills.

Consider earning a minor or double major to qualify for particular areas of interest, (learn a foreign language for translating/interpreting positions).

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

NONPROFIT

Administration

Program Management and Development

Fund Raising/Development

Grant Writing

Research

Policy Analysis

Service Delivery

Volunteer Coordination

Community Education

Public Relations and Marketing

Nonprofit organizations

Social service agencies

Hospitals and medical centers

Private foundations:

The Ford Foundation

International organizations:

The World Health Organization

The International Red Cross

Special interest groups

Trade or professional associations

Libraries

Educational institutions

Seek multiple volunteer and internship positions to gain experience and build contacts in the field.

Obtain leadership roles in relevant campus and community organizations.

Develop strong communication and research skills. Learn how to write grants and gain an understanding of budgeting and fiscal management.

Investigate term of service or service corps positions as a way to gain entry into the field.

Research organizations' values to find a good fit with yours.

Consider earning a graduate degree for more job opportunities and advancement.

BUSINESS

Sales

Customer Service

Public Relations

Marketing

Management

Human Resources:

Workforce Diversity Issues

Insurance:

Claims Management

Underwriting

Real Estate:

Sales

Property Management

Service providers

Wholesalers

Manufacturers

Retail stores including:

Department stores

Specialty stores

Discount stores

Super retailers

Online retailers

Call centers

Financial institutions

Insurance companies

Real estate companies

Property management firms

Apartment complexes

Public relations departments of large companies or nonprofit organizations

Develop career goals and seek relevant experiences to prepare for those goals.

Earn a minor in business or supplement curriculum with business or communication courses.

Obtain relevant experience through part-time jobs or internships.

Work a part-time or summer job in a retail store.

Demonstrate a willingness to take on additional responsibilities such as "assistant manager."

Participate in student organizations and seek leadership roles.

Learn to work well with different types of people Develop a strong commitment to customer satisfaction.

For sales, develop the ability to work well under pressure and be comfortable in a competitive environment.

Be willing to start in a management-trainee program or other entry-level/developmental positions.

When job searching, seek employers interested in hiring "any major."

Understand the top skills employers desire and be prepared to demonstrate them, such as communication (oral and written), computer, interpersonal, leadership and teamwork, etc.

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

COMMUNICATIONS

Documentary Film Production Photography/Photojournalism Journalism Writing/Editing Publishing Colleges and universities
Government agencies
Government or private museums
Local historical societies or sites
Television and motion picture industry
Internet media companies
Independent production companies
Publishing houses
Newspapers and magazines
Freelance/self-employed

Minor or double major in a communications field. Develop excellent communication skills, both written and verbal.

Submit articles or books for publication.
Work for campus or student run publications.
Demonstrate talent, persistence, assertiveness, competitive spirit, and enthusiasm.

Compile a portfolio of writing, graphics and ideas. Learn the latest technology and software related to electronic media.

Obtain internship, summer, or part-time experience with book, magazine, or newspaper publishers. Develop an attention to detail and ability to meet deadlines.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Most professional anthropological jobs require a graduate degree. Those interested in anthropology may specialize in one of its four branches: archaeology, cultural anthropology, linguistics, or physical anthropology. Many subfields exist within the larger specialties such as forensic anthropology, a subfield of physical anthropology. Typically students take a general curriculum as an undergraduate and specialize through graduate studies. Ample preparation is advised as graduate school admissions are increasingly competitive.
- Those interested in Archeological may look for specialized field work within specific subgroups. These subgroups are divided by time periods and historicity; they include: environmental, ethnoarcheology, landscape, household, marine, aviation, aerial, battlefield, commercial, industrial, salvage, experimental, forensic, and historic.
- As the demand for university/college faculty positions decreases, most openings will exist in consulting firms and government agencies.
- To increase your employment opportunities with a bachelor's degree, consider minoring or double majoring in another field such as sociology, business, urban planning, or public administration.
- Anthropology provides a solid background for a variety of graduate programs including law, medicine, forensics, or genetic counseling. Research admissions requirements and take prerequisite courses.
- Anthropology is good preparation for jobs that involve people skills and require an understanding of cultural differences.
- Spend a summer in field school or travel and study other cultures.
- Pursue research experience by working on faculty projects through independent study classes, as a student employee, or through other departmental programs.
- Gaining relevant work experience through internships, summer jobs, or volunteer positions is critical.
- Join professional associations such as American Association of Physical Anthropologists.
- Forensic anthropology has become increasingly popular as well as competitive. Career opportunities exist within the national network of state and county medical examiners and coroners. Training at the graduate level should include supplemental work in legal evidence, pathology, criminology, or forensic lab methods along with supervised casework.