

Required Courses

ANTH 305 Applying Anthropology (3 credits)

Today, about one half of all professional anthropologists work in non-academic settings. Applied, or practicing, anthropologists may be trained in any or all of the subfields of anthropology and work in various contexts. This course will introduce students to the way in which anthropological theory and method are used practically in occupations related to health and medicine, international development, environment, government, business and education, immigration, and poverty. Through an exploration of case studies, students will come to understand the ethical, financial, social, methodological, and practical issues of applying anthropological theory to real life situations. Spring.

Choose either ANTH 393 or ANTH 319

ANTH 319 Public and Private Archaeology (3 credits)

This course is designed to help you prepare to be a professional archaeologist in the twenty-first century. Today, archaeologists find employment in a variety of institutions both inside and outside of academia. Although career options are numerous, there are certain fundamental skills that all archaeologists should possess to operate successfully and professionally in the modern world. These include, but are not limited to, good communication, presentation, and writing skills, and a working knowledge of legal and ethical issues within the discipline. In this course students will learn about the varied employment opportunities for archaeologists, develop knowledge and skills they will need as professional archaeologists, and produce tangible materials using these skills that will help them successfully enter the professional world of archaeology in the twenty-first century. Spring.

ANTH 393 Professionalism in Anthropology (3 credits)

This course covers both practical and theoretical aspects of the discipline. Topics include ethics, careers, and preparation of resumes, graduate school and grant proposal applications. Fall.

ANTH 430 Applied Anthropology (4 credits)

This course will introduce students to the application of anthropological theory and methodology in real world situations. Fieldwork experience will be an essential feature of this course. Fall.

ANTH 491 Internship in Applied Anthropology (3-6 credits)

The intern will apply anthropological methods, theories, perspectives, and data to meet the needs of a public or private sector organization. Potential projects may include evaluating and resolving social problems, implementing and analyzing public policy, or addressing the practical needs of community organizations or businesses. Students will work under the direction of a faculty member and a representative of the sponsoring organization. Interns will be expected to present their project at a department colloquium and a professional meeting or conference. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor, ANTH 305, ANTH 430, and either ANTH 393 or ANTH 319.

Applied Anthropology Resources and Information

- **American Anthropological Association**
www.aaanet.org
- **California Alliance of Local Practitioner Organizations (CALPO)**
www.csufresno.edu/Anthropology/CALPO
- **Consortium of Practicing and Applied Anthropology Programs**
www.copaa.info
- **National Association for the Practice of Anthropology**
www.practicinganthropology.org
- **The Society for Applied Anthropology**
www.sfaa.net
- **Washington Association of Practicing Anthropologists**
www.smcm.edu/wapa

“Studying the corporate World is a lot like studying a community in Newfoundland. The concepts are transferable.”

-Sue Squires, PhD, Past President, NAPA



Potsdam

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

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50 years of
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TODAY, over half of all anthropologists work in an applied field.

What is Applied Anthropology?

Applied Anthropology encompasses the four subdisciplines traditionally recognized in anthropology: archaeology, biological anthropology, cultural anthropology, and linguistic anthropology. It is the application of anthropological methods, theories, perspectives, and data to solve real world problems. Applied Anthropologists examine social issues, recommend policies, and address the practical needs of community groups, businesses, and public sector organizations.

What is the Applied Anthropology Certificate?

This certificate emphasizes the methodological skills and professional practices necessary for employment as an applied anthropologist. You will learn about ethical considerations inherent in applied work, how to gather and analyze data, and how to write grants and proposals. In your internship, you will design, research, and implement a project for a community-based organization, non-governmental organization, cultural resource management group or other public or private sector employer. You will have the opportunity to present your project at a department colloquium.

Why study Applied Anthropology?

SUNY Potsdam has major programs in anthropology and archaeology and minor programs in anthropology, archaeology, biological anthropology, linguistics, medical anthropology and museum studies. Most of our students - like most anthropologists nationwide - get jobs outside of colleges and universities. The most common places that anthropologists work are:

- **Federal, State and Local Government departments like USAID, the National Parks Service and New York State**
- **International Agencies such as the World Health Organization and the United Nations**
- **Non-governmental Organizations like Amnesty International and Greenpeace**
- **Foundations like the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation**
- **Business such as Xerox, Microsoft and General Motors**
- **Not-for-Profit groups such as the Jefferson County Historical Society**
- **Cultural Resource Management firms**
- **Consulting and Marketing firms**

The Certificate in Applied Anthropology shows potential employers that you have practical experience putting your anthropological skills and training to work.

I would choose a strong applied program over a traditional program...applied programs provide a grounding in theory and ethnographic methods, so you actually get the basic research training. However, applied programs have the added advantage of teaching students how to think about the applications of their research to the particular problems they have investigated... I would also choose a program that required and actively supported students with an internship experience during some part of their training.

-Dr. Elizabeth Briody, General Motors,
Anthropology News, May 2007

How Can I get the Certificate in Applied Anthropology?

You must apply to the applied anthropology certificate program. Majors in anthropology or archaeological studies in good academic standing will be automatically considered for application. It is strongly recommended that students who are not majoring in anthropology or in archaeological studies have a minor in anthropology, archaeological studies, biological anthropology, medical anthropology, or museum studies. Students not majoring or minoring in one or more of these programs must have the approval of the chair of the Department of Anthropology or the chair's designee as well as significant coursework in anthropology.

Where could I do my internship?

Students and faculty at SUNY Potsdam have done applied work for many local, regional, and national organizations. Some of those include the Akwesasne Tribal Council, Citizens Against Violent Acts, Girls' Clubs of America, the Jefferson County Historical Society, the New York State Department of Health, the New York State Museum, the New York State Police, the North Country Prenatal/Perinatal Council, The Northern New York Rural Healthcare Alliance, The Peace Corps, Planned Parenthood, Reachout, Renewal House, The Smithfield (NY) Community Association, The Smithsonian Institution, the State University of New York, the United States Coast Guard, and the Village of Potsdam.