

# ANTHROPOLOGY

## WHY STUDY ANTHROPOLOGY?

### What makes us human?

Uncover the complexities and diversity of cultures and human history by discovering biological and social anthropologies, and the archaeological and ethnomusicological connections that have shaped our past and present. How have we adapted to different environments? Why do we communicate and socialise in the ways we do? How have we evolved? Anthropology bridges the natural sciences, human sciences and humanities.

## CAREER POSSIBILITIES

Anthropology develops skills in communication and analysis, as well as an awareness of culture, ethnicity and society. Perhaps you are interested in archaeology? Or health, social and environmental research? Work in aid and development agencies, in the tourism industry, and with iwi authorities, museums and local or central government.

*“Anthropology gave me a grounding in the study of culture first and foremost, the ability to think critically and laterally about my own society and culture and to ask questions and examine evidence about others. Never forget that heritage requires people to value it – make sure your work is value-aligned and outcome-focused.”*



**Edward Ashby**  
*Heritage consultant and board member, Te Kawerau Iwi Tiaki Trust*

Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Anthropology + Art History  
Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Anthropology  
Master of Arts in Anthropology



*“We address current critical issues in society, while incorporating anthropological theories and methods, including topics on Mātauranga, New Zealand ethnography, racism, gender debates, Kaumātuatanga, Koreans in Aotearoa, infectious disease and data sovereignty.”*

**Marama Muru-Lanning**  
*Associate Professor*



## WHAT CAN I STUDY?

Explore human nature by diving into evolution, the development of culture and by analysing modern society. How have we evolved and how do we continue to respond to changing circumstances? What is the social function of music in different cultures and societies? You will look at past human behaviour and culture, tribal communities and postmodern societies.

### Get excited about your course options:



#### Stage 1 Course\*

##### ANTHRO 108 - Being Human

Explores the cultural reality of being human, as well as the distinct evolutionary journey (within the Order Primates) to become human. Humans are simultaneously biological, cultural and historical. We are biocultural beings who are immersed in social and ecological entanglements which are shaped by, and act as shaping factors of, our bodies, actions and knowledges (including matauranga Māori).

#### Stage 2 Course\*

##### ANTHRO 202 - Music and Identity in World Music Cultures

Examines music's role in the construction and reinforcement of identity. Considers a range of culturally constructed concepts including class, gender and ethnicity; also considers the impact of mass mediated sound and the unique nature of music in the cultural diaspora. Examples and case studies range from the ritual musics of Africa and the classical music of South Asia to East Asian pop.

#### Stage 3 Course\*

##### ANTHRO 374 - Economy and Culture

Explores economic systems cross-culturally, including modes of production, forms of exchange, and ideas about property and consumption. Questions and critiques Euro-American assumptions about human nature, social persons, and the ubiquity and morality of markets and market exchange.

## Courses you could study\*

Te Ao Māori: The Māori World

Being Human

Culture and Creativity

## Complementary majors include:

Anthropology



Art History

Classical Studies & Ancient History

Māori Studies

Pacific Studies

Psychology



*“The Department of Anthropology has a strong cohort which is very lively. We are well connected with employers around New Zealand and have a strong student culture. ArchSoc and the department host regular seminars from professionals, who come from all over New Zealand and overseas and create funding opportunities for students to attend conferences, as well as offering career advice.”*

### Patricia Pillay

Doctoral candidate, Faculty of Arts  
Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Anthropology  
Master of Arts in Anthropology

\*Course availability may be subject to change. For a full list of courses and up-to-date information visit the Arts website. Published August 2023

For enrolment information visit:

[auckland.ac.nz/askus](https://auckland.ac.nz/askus)



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