

Anthropology (BHA Concentration)

Beth Jameson, BHA Anthropology Concentration Advisor (BH 240A)

BHA Anthropology Concentration

(81 units minimum)

The BHA concentration in Anthropology is designed for students who want to understand how societies and cultures are changing in an age of uneven globalization. Our faculty's expertise in anthropology, history, and environmental studies enables students to develop a rich, multidisciplinary understanding of global issues and concerns (such as, climate change and the environment; inequality; migration; social and political movements; imperial legacies and contemporary politics; art, language, culture, and globalization). Anthropology students develop critical skills for working across cultures, analyzing complex problems, and crafting equitable solutions. Graduates of the program have pursued careers in a wide range of fields, including law, education, international development, media, tourism, and community organizing, as well as graduate work in the social sciences, business, public health, medicine, and international relations. BHA concentration students in Anthropology develop a broad understanding of their prospects and responsibilities as citizens of the world confronting challenging contemporary problems.

There are two required courses for the concentration: Introduction to Anthropology (79-201) and Advanced Seminar in Anthropology (79-400). Students also choose among several courses focused on theory, research methods, transnational histories, and regional/national histories and cultures.

In addition to coursework at Carnegie Mellon, BHA students with a concentration in Anthropology are encouraged to incorporate a semester of study abroad into their course of study in order to immerse themselves in a society different from their own with unfamiliar cultural practices, language, and history.

Students should consult frequently with the BHA advisor and the Anthropology concentration advisor who will help students to craft a coherent course of study on specific topics and/or regions that may lead to the capstone research project (79-400 Advanced Seminar in Anthropology), the BXA capstone project (52-401 and 52-402) or a Dietrich College senior honors thesis. The concentration advisor will also work with students to connect their academic interests and their participation in student organizations and/or organizations based in Pittsburgh with transnational reach.

Anthropology Introductory and Capstone Courses (2 courses, 21 units)

Students must earn a final grade of "C" or better for these courses to count toward the concentration.

		Units
79-201	Introduction to Anthropology	9
79-400	Advanced Seminar in Anthropology	12

Topical and Method Core Courses (2 courses, 18 units)

To gain a solid foundation in the theories, methods, and analytical topics underpinning the concentration in Anthropology, students select 18 units (typically two courses) from the core courses listed below. Students must earn a final grade of "C" or better in these courses to fulfill the theoretical and topical core course requirement.

79-275	Introduction to Global Studies	9
79-278	How (Not) to Change the World	9
79-283	Anthropology of Energy	9
79-314	How Do We Remember? The Politics and Cultures of Memory	9
79-315	The Politics of Water in Global Perspective	9
79-317	Art, Anthropology, and Empire	9
79-318	Sustainable Social Change: History and Practice	9
79-332	Medical Anthropology	9
79-379	Experimental Ethnography	9
79-380	Hostile Environments: The Politics of Pollution in Global Perspective	9
79-381	The Multispecies City: Anthropology of Urban Environments	9

Transnational, Global, and Regional Courses (3 courses, 27 units)

To gain insight into how complex transnational and global processes shape and are affected by local, national and regional dynamics, students will select 27 units (typically three courses) from any subcategories below.

Transnational and Global Courses:

79-153	Ancient Rome: How Often Should You Think About It?	9
79-221	From Compton to Kabul: Sound, Power, and Global History	9
79-237	Comparative Slavery	9
79-239	Theories of Nationalism	9
79-270	Anti-Semitism Then and Now: Perspectives from the Middle Ages to the Present	9
79-273	Jews & Arabs: From the Time of Muhammad to the Present	9
79-276	Beyond the Border	9
79-280	Coffee and Capitalism	9
79-289	Animal Planet: An Environmental History of People and Animals	9
79-305	Global Perspectives in LGBTQ+ History	9
79-313	"Unwanted": Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Patterns of Global Migration	6
79-333	African Americans, Race, and the Fight for Reparations	9
79-350	Early Christianity	9
79-368	Un-natural Disasters: Societies and Environmental Hazards in Global Perspective	6
79-377	Food, Culture, and Power: A History of Eating	9
79-385	Out of Africa: The Making of the African Diaspora	9

Regional Courses:

Africa		
79-225	West African History in Film	9
79-226	African History: Earliest Times to 1780	9
79-227	Modern Africa: The Slave Trade to the End of Apartheid	9
79-290	The Slave Passage: From West Africa to the Americas	9
Eastern and Southern Asia and the Pacific		
79-112	Introduction to Asian American History	9
79-207	Asian American History through the Novel	9
79-210	Identity, Ethnicity, and Place in Modern China	9
79-211	Modern Southeast Asia: Colonialism, Capitalism, and Cultural Exchange	9
79-264	Tibet and China: History and Propaganda	9
79-292	China and the West	9
Europe		
79-110	Introduction to the Medieval Mediterranean World	9
79-122	Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations	9
79-202	Flesh and Spirit: Early Modern Europe, 1400-1750	9
79-203	The Other Europe: The Habsburgs, Communism, & Central/Eastern Europe, 1740-1990	9
79-205	20th Century Europe	9
79-208	Witchcraft and Witch-Hunting	9
79-246	War, Genocide, and Gender in Modern Europe	9
79-272	Coexistence and Conflict: Muslims, Christians and Jews in Spain and Portugal	9
The Middle East		
79-116	Introduction to the Modern Middle East	9
79-229	The Origins of the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict, 1880-1948	9
79-230	The Arab-Israeli Conflict and Peace Process Through 1948 to Present	9
82-215	Minorities in the Middle East and North Africa	9

The Americas

79-174	Introduction to Latin America	9
79-223	Mexico: From the Aztec Empire to the Drug War	9
79-245	Capitalism and Individualism in American Culture	9
79-288	Bananas, Baseball, and Borders: Latin America and the United States	9

Electives (2 courses, 15 units minimum)

Students are required to take an additional 15 units (typically two courses) of electives, selected from one or both of the subcategories below. "Topical and Method Core Courses" and "Transnational, Global, and Regional Courses" listed above that are not used to fulfill those requirements may be counted as electives in addition to the courses listed below.

Anthropology offers students the opportunity to gain credit for a 9-unit elective while gaining first-hand experience interning with Pittsburgh-based organizations that work across borders. 79-506 Global Studies Internship is offered every semester and students should register for the course after consulting with the concentration advisor. The concentration advisor will assist students with matching their interests to local organizations and identifying an on-site supervisor available to collaborate in the ongoing and final evaluation of the student's work.

Thematic Courses:

57-306	World Music	9
66-236	Introduction to Environmental Ideas	9
76-241	Introduction to Gender Studies	9
76-337	Intersectional Feminism	9
76-353	Transnational Feminisms: Fiction and Film	9
76-384	Race, Nation, and the Enemy	9
76-386	Language & Culture	9
79-101	Making History: How to Think About the Past (and Present)	9
79-150	Medieval Science, Magic, and Wonders of Nature	9
79-155	Introduction to African American Studies	9
79-170	Introduction to Science, Technology, and Society	9
79-204	American Environmental History	9
79-256	Introduction to Masculinity Studies	9
79-281	Introduction to Religion	9
79-304	History of Eugenics and Scientific Racism	9
79-316	Photography, the First 100 Years, 1839-1939	9
79-321	Documenting Human Rights	9
79-329	Introduction to Queer Studies	9
79-330	Medicine and Society: Health, Healers, and Hospitals	9
79-343	Education, Democracy, and the Arts	9
79-357	Science and the Body	6
80-244	Environmental Ethics	9
80-335	Social and Political Philosophy	9
80-348	Health, Human Rights, and International Development	9
80-447	Seminar in Global Justice	9

Area-based Courses:

79-220	Screening Mexico: Mexican Cinema, 1898 to Present	9
79-257	Germany and the Second World War	9
79-262	Modern China: From the Birth of Mao ... to Now	9
79-265	Russian History: Game of Thrones	9
79-266	Russian History and Revolutionary Socialism	9
79-267	The Soviet Union in World War II: Military, Political, and Social History	9
79-269	Russian History: From Socialism to Capitalism	9
79-319	India Through Film	9
79-320	Women, Politics, and Protest	9
79-322	Stalin and the Great Terror	9
79-331	Body Politics: Women and Health in America	9
82-428	History of German Film	9