What Can I Do With A Degree In Anthropology?

Education Areas
- Teaching
- Research
- Administration

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

Strategies
- Ph.D. required for university and college faculty positions. M.A./M.S. required for community colleges.
- Earn a graduate degree in College Student Affairs for work in administration.
- Gain experience assisting professors with research.
- Maintain a high GPA and develop strong personal recommendations.

Museums and Archives Areas
- Management
- Curatorship
- Conservation
- Research
- Education
- Libraries
- Development

Employers
- Natural History or History Museums: Universities, State, federal or local, Private
- Archives
Strategies
- Graduate degree in anthropology, museum studies, library science (with an emphasis on archives) or other related discipline is required.
- Obtain internship or volunteer positions to gain experience.

Government Areas
- Administration
- Cultural Resource Management
- Surveying
- Site Management
- Excavation
- Research
- Museum Conservation
- Legislative Compliance Review
- Program Management and Evaluation
- Policy Analysis
- Urban Planning

Employers
- State Agencies: Historic Preservation Offices, Parks Departments, Highway Departments

Strategies
- Learn federal or state application procedures.
- Graduate degree generally required for higher level positions.

- Gain related experience through internships in areas of interest.
- Develop statistical, analytical and computer skills and investigate research methodologies.
- Get involved in campus organizations to develop leadership abilities and interpersonal skills.

Non-Profit Areas
- Administration
- Program management and development
- Policy analysis
- Counseling
- Research

Employers
- Nonprofit organizations
- Social service agencies
- Hospitals and medical centers
- Private foundations, e.g. The Ford Foundation
- International organizations, e.g. The World Health Organization and The International, Red Cross

Strategies
- Seek volunteer and internship positions to gain experience.
- Hone skills in public speaking, writing, and programming.
- Obtain a degree in counseling for therapy positions.

Business Areas
- Administration/Management
- Advertising
- Human Resources
- Public Relations
- Sales/Marketing
- Writing/Editing
Employers
Advertising agencies/departments
Business firms
Consulting firms
Publishers: textbook, magazine, newspaper, book
Retail stores

Strategies
- Develop practical skills such as computer expertise, written and verbal communication, project management, etc.
- Earn a minor in business or communications.
- Gain experience through internships, volunteer or paid positions.

Archaeology
Areas
- Cultural Resource Management
- Research/Excavation

Employers
Consulting firms
Environmental/engineering companies
Firms specializing in archaeological investigation
Federal, state and local government

Strategies
- Field positions require a B.S./B.A. and previous field experience.
- Obtain graduate degree to direct field crews.

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.
- May need a willingness to travel and endure adverse living/working conditions during field studies or excavations. Working conditions and hours vary with the type of work/research performed.
- As the demand for university/college faculty positions decreases, most openings will be in consulting firms and government agencies.
- For jobs outside of academia, earn a degree in another field such as sociology, political science, law, medicine, business, urban planning, or public administration to increase employment opportunities.
- 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.
- Volunteer to help with a professor’s research.
- Gaining relevant work experience through internships, practicums, part-time jobs, or volunteer positions is critical.

Prepared by the Career Planning staff of Career Services, at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Career Exploration
Illinois State Museum
www.museum.state.il.us/ismdepts/anthro/dlcfaq.html
American Anthropological Association
http://www.aaanet.org/cmtes/copapia/Profiles.cfm
http://www.aaanet.org/profdev/careers/Careers.cfm

Northern Kentucky University.
Careers in Anthropology
www.wadsworth.com/anthropology_d/special_features/anthro_careers.html

Occupational Outlook Handbook - Social Scientists
www.bls.gov/oco/

O’Net - Click on one of the occupations to learn more
http://online.onetcenter.org/find/quick?s=anthropology

Exploring Majors
Kansas State
http://www.k-state.edu/acic/majorin/anthropology.htm

University of Manitoba - Click on Anthropology
http://www.umanitoba.ca/counselling/careers.html

University of North Carolina, Wilmington
http://people.uncw.edu/albertm/what.htm
http://people.uncw.edu/albertm/job.htm

University of Delaware
http://www.udel.edu/CSC/ant.html

American Anthropological Association
http://www.aaanet.org/resources/students/Anthrodegree.cfm

Biological Anthropology Web
www.bioanth.org

Job Listings
American Anthropological Association
http://aaanet.jobcontrolcenter.com

Society for Medical Anthropology
http://www.medanthro.net/jobs/index.html

SMC Job Search - www.stmarys-ca.edu/studentjobs

Society for Applied Anthropology
http://www.sfaa.net/sfaajobs.html

American Association of Physical Anthropologists
http://www.physanth.org/job-postings

Biological Anthropology Web
www.bioanth.org/careers

Archaeology Fieldwork.com
http://www.archaeologyfieldwork.com/AFW/Message/Index/0/1/1

Anthrojob.com
www.anthrojob.com

Horowitz & Associates - market research and consulting
http://horowitzassociates.com/

Professional Associations
National Association for the Practice of Anthropology
www.practicinganthropology.org/

American Anthropological Association
www.aaanet.org/

Society for Medical Anthropology
www.medanthro.net

Society for Applied Anthropology
www.sfaa.net

American Association of Physical Anthropologists
www.physanth.org

Society for American Archaeology
http://saa.org

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http://www.saa.org/