Major in Anthropology with Social Action Focus

Students interested in the ways in which anthropological approaches to inequality, diversity, and social justice can inform policymaking, the provision of social services, international aid, and advocacy may wish to consider tailoring their major in Anthropology to focus on social action. Here we outline the social action focus by suggesting a program of courses centered on linguistic and cultural anthropology that interrogate power, inequality, poverty, and social movements in varying sociocultural and historical settings. These suggestions are designed for students with an interest in social justice, non-profit and non-governmental organizations, international development, human rights, and social services, advocacy, and policy.

All three of these core courses in cultural and linguistic anthropology (9 credits):

- ANTH 021: Cultural Anthropology (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 028: Linguistic Anthropology (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 178: Sociolinguistics (3.00 credits)

Four elective courses related to approaches to social activism and social justice in linguistic anthropology and cultural anthropology (12 credits), including the following:

- ANTH 023: Anthropology of Global Development (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 123: Anthropology of Crisis (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 157: Doing Anthropology (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 169: Latinos in the US
- ANTH 172: Gender, Sex, and Culture (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 175: Topics in Linguistic Anthropology (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 184: Street Children (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 185: Food and Culture (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 187: Race and Ethnicity (3.00 credits)

And at least two of the following 200-level courses (6 credits):

- ANTH 220: Development and Applied Anthropology (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 225: Anthropological Theory (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 272: Language, Gender, and Sexuality (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 284: Linguistic Anthropology Methods (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 290: Ethnographic Research Methods (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 296: Human Evolution and Diversity (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 296: Ethnography of the War on Terror (3.00 credits)

Plus additional courses required by the major, including:

Two additional required core courses (6 credits):

- ANTH 024 and ANTH 026

One additional elective course at the 100- or 200-level (3 credits):
These may include any of the 100- or 200-level courses above not already used to fulfill major requirements and/or other 100- or 200-level courses in Anthropology designated as counting toward the major in the standard major guidelines for Anthropology. If your other 100-level are not drawn from at least two different subfields (e.g., linguistic and cultural anthropology), you will need to ensure that this course is from a separate subfield.

**One additional course at any level (3 credits)**

This may include any of the courses above not already used to fulfill major requirements and/or other course in Anthropology designated as counting toward the major in the standard major guidelines for Anthropology. A course of particular interest may be:

- ANTH 095: Street Children (TAP) (3.00 credits)
- HCOL 086: Medical Anthropology and Global Health (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 181: Law, War, and Disorder (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 183: The Anthropology of Genocide (3.00 credits)
- ANTH 189: Aging in Cultural Perspective (3.00 credits)

**Additional recommendations:**

Beyond the coursework described above, it is also highly recommended that majors take the *proseminars ANTH 105 and/or ANTH 205* and seek one or more relevant *capstone experiences*, such as an internship, practicum, or research experience involving social justice, activism/advocacy, policy, or the provision of aid or social services. In particular, the following internship course is strongly recommended:

- AS 195: Internship in the Social Sciences (3.00 credits) OR
- ANTH 201: Practicum and Internship

*We also urge students to do the following:*

- Participate in foreign language training beyond the introductory level to enhance their cultural awareness and communication skills.
- Identify opportunities for service in the greater Burlington community that engage with the student's interests
- Pursue training in statistics such as STAT 051 or higher to develop quantitative social science skills
- Seek employment, study abroad, and summer opportunities working with organizations that are engaged in advocacy, development, provision of social services, or policy research, whether within the US or internationally

**Additional notes on the major:** Students interested in completing the Major in Anthropology with a focus on Social Action are encouraged to consult their faculty advisor early in their program. Students with the focus will fulfill all requirements of the Anthropology major but choose the courses that they take to primarily focus on topics related to social justice and advocacy.