WHAT CAN I DO WITH AN ANTHROPOLOGY DEGREE?

Learn about the world and yourself. Anthropology is a broad field that seeks to understand what it means to be human in all possible ways, from understanding our evolutionary origins to examining our cultural variability. Students can follow their curiosity and study human behavior in the past or present and gain skills in linguistics, cultural studies, critical thinking, writing and analysis that are applicable to careers in academia; the corporate and business world; government; education; historic preservation and archaeology; museums; advocacy; design; market research; international development; and health care.

ANTHROPOLOGY AT SRU

Through the anthropology curriculum, students will gain skills and experiences in the classroom with real-world application, regardless of career path. Anthropology majors and minors begin the program by taking Introduction to Anthropology, which explores the fundamentals of human evolution, the culture concept and cultural diversity. Each student then designs a complete anthropological curriculum around a specific area of focus (e.g., sociocultural, archaeological, evolutionary, applied) over a period of individualized advisement by taking courses across a range of disciplines. This interdisciplinary degree is designed to enrich students’ lives and prepare them for successful careers after graduation.

WHY CHOOSE ANTHROPOLOGY AT SRU?

1. Individualized Curriculum: Students are expected to develop and coordinate an individualized curriculum with the help of their adviser who develops their academic and career interests with an eye on their future.

2. Mentorship and Advising: Each undergraduate works with the same professor, Aksel Casson, to design and implement their path through the major, seek internships and consult with professionals in the field or graduate programs.

3. Projects and Research with Faculty: Anthropology students are encouraged to collaborate with faculty and each other in undergraduate research. Collaborative research of this kind often includes work with other departments and faculty, and it is a high-impact practice that significantly increases future success.

4. Archaeology Lab: All anthropology students have access to the new Archaeology Lab. Opened in 2017, the lab includes 3D-printing, microscopic analysis and imaging, curation and archaeological analysis capabilities.

5. International Travel: All anthropology students are strongly encouraged to participate in international study abroad programs and foreign language immersion programs. Current programs include spring break travel to Mexico or Turkey and access to semester programs all over the world.
INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
SRU Anthropology students have completed internships at various locations including:

• Local and regional historical societies
• Local, regional and national park systems
• Cultural resource management firms
• Museums and libraries
• Global and public health nongovernment organizations
• Software and technical design companies

CAREER OUTCOMES
In Pennsylvania, career opportunities in anthropology and archaeology are expected to grow through 2024. This has been stimulated by a growing need for analysts and researchers with sharp thinking skills who can manage, evaluate and interpret large volumes of data on human behavior. Areas of employment include:

• Advertising, market research, public relations
• Archaeology
• Biological anthropology
• Cultural anthropology
• Environmental anthropology
• Global and public health
• Government agencies
• Hospitals and insurance companies
• International and consulting firms
• Medical anthropology
• Medical school, forensics
• Military cultural liaison
• Museums and cultural resource management
• Nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations
• Research and service institutions

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS
• Archaeology Club
• Sociology and Anthropology Honor Society

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT
Kyle Perza, ‘17 - Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and Anthropology with a certificate in Middle Eastern Studies
Pursuing a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice and Security Studies at Slippery Rock University
“I began my undergraduate education at SRU studying criminal justice. During my sophomore year, I added a second major in anthropology that allowed me to combine my emerging interests in culture, political science and the Middle East. I’m currently building on those skills by pursuing a master’s degree in criminal justice and security studies, which I hope will lead to a career at the State Department. Studying anthropology at SRU allows me to see the world, and our place in it, in more meaningful and complex ways, which is an important skill in my field.”

Coryn Bookwalter, ‘16 - Bachelor of Arts in History and Anthropology
Pursuing a Master of Arts program in International Development at George Washington University
“My anthropology coursework opened my eyes to many different perspectives and made me realize that I wanted to go into the humanitarian/development sector. I am so thankful for the strong educational foundation that the anthropology program provided me. It was a great starting point for pursuing a master’s degree in international development. Thank you, SRU.”