



ANTHROPOLOGY provides skills that are attractive to employers in a wide variety of fields. Depending on individual interests, goals, and talents, most graduates with an anthropology degree find employment in education, health care, museums, social work, international development, the federal government, the private sector (non-profit management or marketing), publishing, and forensics. Others, earning advanced degrees, often continue along the academic track.

Examples of skills that are valued by employers:

- Knowledge of human behavior and factors (biological, cultural) that affect it
- Ethnic group, cultural, and cross-cultural understanding
- Ability to perform quantitative and social research
- Comprehension of principles of human evolution and genetics
- Report writing (descriptive and analytical)
- Experience in problem solving, especially in the context of groups from different cultural backgrounds, and knowledge of causal analysis

The important thing is to talk to employers, emphasizing the critical thinking and writing skills you have acquired and how anthropology relates to **their** job. Here are just a few of the options:

ALL SUBFIELDS

MUSEUMS: Museums often hire graduates with training in anthropology to curate and conserve collections, design exhibits and educational programs, and interact with the public. If you are interested in pursuing a career with a museum, look into volunteering or interning at a local museum and taking a class in museum studies.

ARCHAEOLOGY

CONTRACT ARCHAEOLOGY: Most archaeologists today are employed in cultural resource management (CRM), working with state and federal governments to preserve archaeological sites in compliance with historic preservation laws. Although a master's degree is advisable for students interested in upper-level positions (or membership in the Register of Professional Archaeologists), CRM firms frequently employ recent college graduates as field and laboratory assistants. You can improve your chances for being hired by participating in field schools (e.g., Turkana Basin Institute), pursuing on-campus opportunities for field and/or lab experience, and taking classes in archaeological methods.

CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGY FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT: Many federal agencies offer employment opportunities for anthropologists. The U.S. Census Bureau, the National Park Service (NPS), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and USAID all have permanent staff anthropologists. Areas of work include public policy, international development, and military and intelligence sectors. Many of these positions require additional training, such as courses in statistics and geographic information systems (GIS).

PRIVATE SECTOR: BUSINESS AND MARKETING: Many multinational companies – for example, Intel and Disney, among others – are now hiring students with degrees in anthropology. For corporations interested in expanding in the global market, “corporate ethnography” improves the ability to tailor product sales and is an invaluable tool for enhancing business performance. In addition to their training in the field of ethnography, the open mindset towards other cultures and individual perspectives that is required from students with anthropological training can be extremely attractive to marketing executives.

Beyond the federal government and the private sector, numerous organizations offer positions that can be staffed with anthropologists. Examples include women's, ethnic, cultural, or refugee organizations and agencies focusing on community services, social services, law enforcement or security, cultural management, or international development.

BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY LABS: Although jobs in forensic anthropology like those shown on *CSI*, *NCIS*, and *Bones* generally require more advanced degrees (and are much less glamorous than shown on TV), positions are available as technicians in physical anthropology laboratories preparing fossil specimens, managing molecular and endocrinology labs, and assisting researchers with laboratory analyses.

CAPTIVE PRIMATES: CARETAKERS AND ZOOKEEPERS: Scientific research is not the only way to get up-close experience with lemurs, monkeys, and apes. Primate caretakers work daily with captive-housed individuals, keeping them healthy and providing environmental enrichment. Within the US, non-human primates are housed in a range of facilities, from zoo and not-for-profit sanctuaries to biomedical research laboratories. Positions in animal husbandry can be very competitive (and not just among anthropology majors), so set yourself apart by checking into volunteer positions and summer internships at local zoos or veterinary clinics to get early experience.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CAREERS IN ANTHROPOLOGY:

American Anthropological Association: <http://www.aaanet.org/profdev/careers/>

Society for American Archaeology: <http://www.saa.org/Careers/tabid/131/Default.aspx>

American Association of Physical Anthropologists: <http://www.physanth.org/career>

Primate Info Net: <http://pin.primate.wisc.edu/edu/careers/>

JOB POSTINGS:

Society for American Archaeology: <http://www.saa.org/ForthePublic/FAQs/ForStudents/tabid/101/Careers/JobAnnouncements/tabid/256/Default.aspx>

Office of Professional Management (USAJOBS): <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>

Primate-Jobs: <http://pin.primate.wisc.edu/jobs/list/avail>

SAMPLE OF CAREER PATHS OF RECENT GRADUATES

Dental school, medical school, nursing school, science journalism, teaching (both in the US and overseas), MS in Primate Biology, PhD in Archaeology, PhD in Biological Anthropology, PhD in Cultural Anthropology