

Study Abroad in Anthropology

Department of Anthropology,
UC San Diego
Social Sciences Building, Room 213
http://www.anthro.ucsd.edu/Undergraduate_Programs/



The Department of Anthropology strongly encourages you to study abroad. You will find programs worldwide that will complement their studies of biological anthropology, anthropological archaeology, and sociocultural anthropology at UCSD. Through the UCSD Anthropology Department's own faculty-led programs, University of California's Education Abroad Program (EAP), UCSD's Opportunities Abroad Program (OAP), UC San Diego's Global Seminars (GS), or other specialized programs in Anthropology, you will find hundreds of programs of varying lengths and levels of cultural and language immersion, one of which is sure to suit your individual needs.

"I decided to study anthropology, after majoring in philosophy, because it seemed to be a way to pursue many of the same questions that interest philosophers, but with data (that is, without the armchair). The intellectual, emotional, and personal strengths that anthropology offers depend, for me, entirely on the experience of fieldwork, which in the sort of anthropology I do means immersion in a language, a place, a community, and an understanding of the social and natural worlds unfamiliar to me" --
Professor John B. Haviland

Why study abroad?

Anthropology is the core discipline that studies human culture -- worldwide, past and present, and in all its infinite diversity. Anthropologists work in every corner of the world, and on problems that range from primate behavior to globalization and the nation state. Students considering a career in anthropology, other international or cultural studies, or business and public service owe it to themselves to see worldwide Anthropology firsthand.

Regardless of your future career choice, study abroad in Anthropology will help you develop skills that are critical to a liberal arts education and a new view of the world. If your reason for choosing anthropology as your major is to understand the diversity of social institutions and cultural traditions, what better way to broaden your education than immersing yourself in a foreign culture?

Consider your value to an employer or a graduate program if you've:

1. Participated in a different educational system and gained a new cultural perspective
2. Increased your proficiency in another language
3. Improved your critical thinking skills
4. Expanded your worldview by experiencing another culture firsthand
5. Developed self-confidence and independence
6. Prepared for a career in an internationally competitive world
7. Enhanced résumés and/or applications for graduate school

When should I study abroad?

It is possible for Anthropology students to go abroad at almost any point in their academic careers. The particular quarter, semester, summer or year that you study abroad depends on your individual progress in your major and what courses you plan to take while abroad.

Most students are advised to take one to three upper division courses at UCSD before they leave. See Requirements section below for more information.



Pyramids at Teotihuacan, Mexico

What are my first steps?

1. Consult with your Anthropology professors or the Director of Undergraduate studies about UCSD faculty-led programs in Anthropology
2. To find out about other programs, attend a [First Steps](#) meeting at the International Center
3. Visit <http://pao.ucsd.edu> to find out more!
4. Start your research in the Programs Abroad Library
5. Meet with a Programs Abroad advisor
6. Complete your Academic Planning Form
7. Schedule a visit with Dr. Paul S. Goldstein, the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Anthropology (psgoldstein@ucsd.edu)
8. Visit your college advising office

Requirements

Anthropology majors are advised to take one to three upper division courses at UCSD before they leave and to chart their major course requirements well in advance with an advisor. This is particularly important for students who must graduate in little more than four years, as well as those who anticipate writing a senior honors thesis.

Students who plan to write a senior honors thesis, but will be abroad during the spring quarter of their junior year, should plan ahead before leaving. This means completing four upper division courses at UCSD before going abroad, discussing possible thesis topics with faculty, and considering the possibility of using course work abroad as background for the thesis. Please refer to this information on the Senior Thesis Program for more information.

What will it cost?

Foreign study can be comparable to the cost of study at UC. The major cost categories include program fees that cover the operating costs of the program, credit fees or tuition, and your international airfare. The UCSD faculty-led Anthropology study abroad programs work hard to be cost-competitive with comparable programs worldwide.

Students on UCSD faculty-led programs, or EAP programs pay regular UC fees and continue to receive UC financial aid while abroad. Furthermore, UCSD or EAP program students are eligible for special grants and scholarships from UC, the host country, and other sources. OAP students may retain all or some of their funding while abroad, including special study abroad scholarships, but because of the variety of the programs found through OAP, costs for individual programs can vary greatly.

In addition to EAP and OAP, UC San Diego has **Global Seminars** (GS) in various countries throughout the world. Each Global Seminar consists of two courses taught by a UCSD professor. You are required to take both classes for a letter grade. These courses transfer automatically to your UCSD transcript as though you took these courses on campus over the summer.

Check here for specific information about scholarships and financial aid: <http://programsabroad.ucsd.edu/pao/funding.htm>

“Really inspired me to take more risks and do what I wanted to do rather than what I thought I should do. Also directly influenced my major and career choice. In my semester abroad I studied international development and social change in southern Mexico, and when I returned to UCSD I changed my major to Anthropology and conducted a thesis project on immigrant health. I am currently getting an MD/PhD, the PhD in Medical Anthropology, and have worked on projects in Nicaragua, Brazil, and Mozambique, using the Spanish I learned abroad to also learn Portuguese.”

- UC San Diego alum

Where should I study abroad?

Your UCSD Anthropology professors are doing research in other countries right now! Have a look at their programs in which you can get involved:

- **Near East Archaeology in Jordan:** The Jabal Hamrat Project Field-school Professor Thomas Levy
- **Travel Study in Mexico and Mesoamerica,** Professor Geoffrey Braswell
- **UCSD Archaeological Field School in Peru** , Rio Muerto Archaeological Project, Professor Paul Goldstein
- **Egypt of the Pharaohs,** Professor Geoffrey Braswell

The Anthropology Department also traditionally advises students on a wide variety of both UC and non-UC “field schools”. Field schools, which may be taken for credit, are how students can experience anthropological field research techniques in a hands-on environment. Consult with the Anthropology coordinator, your professors, or the Director of Undergraduate Studies for some ideas and options. Many archaeological field schools are listed at <http://www.archaeological.org/webinfo.php?page=10000>.

If you can't find a program, university or country that suits your needs through EAP or GS, try OAP. Two sites that will help you in your search are <http://goabroad.com> and <http://www.studyabroad.com>.

What happens when I return?

Please follow the instructions carefully to petition abroad courses toward a Anthropology Major or Minor.

Undergraduate Student Petitions forms are available from the Undergraduate Coordinator, SSB 213, or you can print the online version <http://registrar.ucsd.edu/forms/UNstudentpetition.pdf>. Please see the Undergraduate Coordinator for assistance in filling out petition(s).

1. Fill out an Undergraduate Student Petition form for each course.
 2. Include department course number and course title.
 3. If abroad transcript has been forwarded to UCSD, attach a copy from TritonLink to the petition. (Students may petition abroad courses pending receipt of official transcript verifying appropriate transfer credits and grade.)
 4. Students will need to see the Faculty Adviser, who will review course documents (syllabus, papers, and/or exams).
 5. After receiving approval from the Faculty Adviser, turn in Undergraduate Student Petition(s) to the Undergraduate Coordinator.
 6. The Director of Undergraduate Studies will have final approval of all abroad courses to be applied for the Major or Minor.
- NOTE: The Department ordinarily transfers no more than four upper-division courses toward the major, and two upper-division courses for the minor. Petitions for exceptions will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

For more information contact Paul Goldstein, Undergraduate Coordinator at psgoldstein@ucsd.edu



UC SAN DIEGO GLOBAL SEMINARS



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