

**ANTHROPOLOGY****Office:**

Craven Hall, Room 6125

**Telephone:**

(760) 750-4104

**Program Chair:**

Bonnie Bade, Ph.D.

**Faculty:**

Bonnie Bade, Ph.D.

Konane Martinez, Ph.D.

**Programs Offered:**

- Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology
  - Areas of Concentration:
    - Medical Anthropology
    - Indigenous Anthropology
- Minor in Anthropology

Anthropology is the study of humans and what they think and do. Anthropology embraces a holistic perspective—the big picture—when examining human phenomena, seeking to understand human ideas and behavior as they are influenced by biological, ecological, economic, social, political, cultural and religious factors and realities.

The anthropology major at California State University San Marcos is an applied, collaborative, and interdisciplinary course of study that engages students directly with the interests and efforts of local communities. The anthropology major takes into primary consideration the special role of Cal State San Marcos in the north San Diego county region and the opportunities for community-based research and fieldwork. CSUSM anthropology students gain hands-on field research experience through participation in long-term and on-going research among some of San Diego County's diverse communities.

The anthropology major has two areas of concentration—medical anthropology and indigenous anthropology—that interrelate and complement each other as well as articulate with regional community interests. After a core curriculum of anthropological concepts and methods, anthropology students work collaboratively with local communities and agencies, including farm workers, local Native American Bands, migrants and immigrants, local health service providers, state and county Departments of Health, indigenous Mexicans and Oaxaqueños, and other communities. Through an engaged and innovative curriculum that responds to state and regional needs, the anthropology program trains students in qualitative and quantitative research methods that include ethnography, participant observation, ethnographic film, social documentation, ethnomedicine, ethnobotany, survey, and applied archaeology.

The anthropology major distinguishes itself through long-term collaborative research projects that enhance student learning experiences, promote the interests of local communities, and practice complementary exchange between the university and the community.

The interdisciplinary curriculum draws upon existing faculty expertise and incorporates courses from the biological sciences, film studies, ethnic studies, border and regional studies, history, geography, linguistics, mass media, Native American studies, nursing, philosophy, political science, sociology, and visual and performing arts.

There are two areas of concentration that have distinct yet related areas of focus: Medical Anthropology or Indigenous Anthropology.

Medical Anthropology—focuses on the study of medical systems, health disciplines, community health, access to and utilization of health care, medicinal concepts and practices, and forms of diagnosis, prognosis, illness causation, and disease etiologies. Advanced students conduct field research and internships in diverse health care settings.

Indigenous Anthropology—focuses on working collaboratively with regional indigenous communities on long-term research and documentation projects that include but are not limited to ethnobotany, cultural revitalization, social documentation, and issues surrounding cultural survival. Advanced students conduct field and laboratory research in collaboration with community-driven social documentation projects.

**Program Objectives**

- Provide applied learning experiences for students through collaborative, community-based field research using medical, cultural, visual, and environmental anthropological methods.
- Engender holistic understanding of the complex social, economic, cultural, political and environmental influences on the human experience.
- Contribute to raising awareness of issues surrounding indigenous and transnational communities in the region and cultural awareness in general.
- Engage in collaborative, community-based approaches to medical, cultural, and environmental issues.
- Use quantitative and qualitative research methods, including ethnographic fieldwork, community-based needs assessment, interviewing, focus groups, applied archaeology, and social documentation to address long-term community interests.
- Commit to partnerships between the university, students, and community aimed at regional enhancement through collaborative research and action.
- Respect the many ways of knowing and doing that we encounter in professional, civic, and daily life.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Students who graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology will be able to

1. Analyze how human universals, such as world view concepts of self and other, the we/they dichotomy; sex; gender; world view concepts of self and other, relationship, classification, causation, space and time; subsistence (economic production and environmental interaction); political organization; social organization; kinship; and religion, affect human thought and behavior.