

Anthropology with Native American Studies

Please note that this programme specification is currently being revalidated and will be updated by end of July 2014.

Final award	BSc (Hons)
Intermediate awards available	Cert HE, Dip HE
UCAS code	L6T7
Details of professional body accreditation	None
Relevant QAA Benchmark statements	Anthropology
Date specification last up-dated	July 2014

Profile

The summary - UCAS programme profile

BANNER BOX:

During your year abroad you will be incorporated within the Anthropology Department at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, which is internationally recognised for the breadth and depth of its teaching and the quality of its research.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

If under 21 you will need 240 UCAS tariff points or equivalent to include two subjects at A2.. If over 21, you must be able to demonstrate in the context of an interview that you are ready for degree level study - this may be by successful completion of an Access type programme, by the accreditation of some prior learning or by providing us with a portfolio of written and other work so that we can make a proper assessment of your skills and capabilities. No specific subject requirements are required for the study of anthropology at UEL.

Overseas students will need an overall IELTS score of 6.0, with no individual component of less than 5.0.

At UEL we are committed to working together to build a learning community founded on equality of opportunity - a learning community which celebrates the rich diversity of our student and staff populations. Discriminatory behaviour has no place in our community and will not be tolerated. Within a spirit of respecting difference, our equality and diversity policies promise fair treatment and equality of opportunity for all. In pursuing this aim, we want people applying for a place at UEL to feel valued and know that the process and experience will be transparent and fair and no one will be refused access on the grounds of any protected characteristic stated in the Equality Act 2010

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

What is Anthropology?

Anthropology is the study of all cultures, animal and human. It combines the study of primate societies, hominid fossil remains and archaeology with the varieties of contemporary human cultures around the world and their components, including everything from their kinship systems to their myths and fairy tales

Anthropology at UEL

Anthropology at UEL

- Anthropology at UEL will answer some of the big questions of life - what is it to be human, what is culture, what are our origins and what is our future?
- Unusually, we try to answer these questions at UEL by closely comparing animal and human societies - why don't chimps talk, why do we walk upright, is animal dominance a necessary part of human culture?
- And by looking at the variety of human cultures, do all the world's cultures divide us, or do we share properties that can unite the world?
- Is division by gender, race, class or belief inevitable? How are the details of our lives affected by global forces?
- Besides library study, lectures and seminars, at UEL we also ask you to carry out small anthropology field projects throughout your degree. The skills you acquire in observing, listening and interviewing are very important for later professional life.

Anthropology at the University of New Mexico(UNM)

- Your year abroad will increase your choice of options, pathways and enrich your educational experience, while maintaining the structure of your BSc (Hons) Anthropology degree.
- Provide you with an opportunity to study reflexively anthropology at an American University.
- Broaden and enhance your competencies such that you will have increased opportunities in the workplace.
- Promote your positive engagement in a multi-cultural society by associating with your UNM counterparts in an environment which shares the same multi-cultural policy objectives as UEL.

Programme structure

The four year full-time route is the single honours degree B.Sc.(Hons) Anthropology with Native American Studies.

When you have finished your second year of the B.Sc. (Hons) Anthropology programme, you take a study year at the University of New Mexico which is incorporated into your UEL degree. When you arrive at UNM you take Anthropology courses not on offer at UEL, and in which UNM specialises. You then return to UEL for the final year of your degree.

Students during level 2 have to demonstrate that they will benefit from a year's study abroad and that they are capable of successfully completing that year.

Choice of anthropology modules increases through the degree, and you may specialise for example in either biological or social anthropology. All anthropology students are required to take the field methods and dissertation modules in the final year.

The degree can also be studied part-time over a longer year period with a full-time year at the University of New Mexico.

Learning environment

Learning environment at UEL

- Most of the teaching of Anthropology is conducted in lectures and seminars.
- The Carnival module in the first year, unusually, requires you to make a mask and costume appropriate to presenting a carnival performance in a public setting.
- Field project based modules require you to locate settings and informants for observation and interviewing. At first all field work is campus based. But in later years of the degree you negotiate with us safe settings for off-campus field work.
- Information technology is an essential requirement of degree level study. We assume no prior knowledge in this before coming to UEL, and provide computer laboratory based tuition in IT and exploring the web in the first year of the degree.
- There is a very full programme of anthropology field trips including trips to Newgrange in Ireland, the fire society festivals in South Sussex, the Prescelli Hills in SW Wales and Avebury and Stonehenge for summer solstice.
- The anthropology programme initiated the UEL Samba Society. Professional percussion and dance teachers are employed to train people with no previous experience in samba drumming and dancing. Joining the samba society is a useful way of exploring the meaning of carnival.

Learning environment at UNM

- UNM Anthropology Department has approximately 37 faculty staff and is ranked in the top ten anthropology departments in the USA.
- Besides tapping into the UNM's in-depth regional specialties (Hispanic culture and the Anthropology of Native Americans) you will also be able to draw upon their theoretical and methodological strengths.
- The Department runs five separate major and minor programmes of study-- archaeology, biological anthropology, human evolutionary ecology, ethnology and linguistic anthropology.
- You will be provided with the opportunity of specialising in your chosen sub-fields.

Assessment

Assessment at UEL

- Most library-based anthropology modules are assessed by weekly reading tests (10%), an essay (20%) and an examination (70%).
- Field and skills based modules like Carnival, Field Methods and Information Technology are assessed by project work alone.
- The Dissertation module is assessed by giving a small presentation (30%) and by submitting a written Dissertation (70%).

Assessment at UNM

An algorithm/agreed formula translates the achievement during the UNM year into marks for the modules taken at UNM (MEX2-6).

The following is the conversion table equating grades between the University of East London and the University of New Mexico based specifically upon their individual grading systems:

UEL Numeric Grade UNM Letter Grade

First Class Honours: 70 - 100 "A+/A"
Second Class Honour: 60 – 69 "A-/B+"
Upper Div
Second Class Honours: 50 - 59 "B/B-"
Lower Div
Third Class Honours: 40 - 49 "C+/C"
36 - 39 "D"
Failure Below 36 "F"

While there may be variation among institutions, this is the specific conversion that has been agreed between our respective institutions.*

***Resources utilised in determining grade conversions include:**

- The Handbook on the Placement of Foreign Graduate Students
National Association for Foreign Student Affairs
Washington, D.C. 1990 Edition
- The Admission and Placement of Students from the United Kingdom
and Study Abroad Opportunities
Projects for International Education Research 1991
National Council on the Evaluation of Foreign Educational
Credentials
AACRAO and NAFSA: Association of International Educators

Work experience/placement opportunities

You are encouraged to choose a research setting for third year field work relevant to your future professional employment.

Project work

Project work is required in all three years of the degree. Topics are chosen by yourself in negotiation with staff. By the final year of the degree, our aim is that you will have become very experienced at observing and listening to people, and able to interpret the hidden meanings of a culture. This is a very useful professional skill for later life and employment.

Added value

Added value at UEL

Our ex-students have told us that they get enormous confidence from studying anthropology at UEL (see our web page for their comments). By 'finding themselves' through degree level study that they find interesting and challenging, this sets them up for a wide variety of future professions.

Added value at UNM

You will be eligible to attend Summer School at UNM, which include participating in Archaeological digs and visiting Native American Reservations.

IS THIS THE PROGRAMME FOR ME?

If you are interested in...

- People-watching and learning how people live their lives?
- Other cultures - when travelling, or watching TV programmes, do I find myself fascinated by cultures very different from my own?
- Unravelling my own and humanity's history? Do I find myself trying to trace back difficult questions to the origins of things?
- Hearing about the latest fossil discoveries of ancestral humans?
- Watching TV programmes about animal behaviour?
- Fairy tales or myths? Do I love films that have a magical or mythical component?
- Traditional systems of thought and ritual (e.g. possession, sweat lodges, masking etc.).
- Who built Stonehenge and why?
- Native American culture?
- Learning Spanish or Native American language in situ?
- Going on an archaeological dig in New Mexico?

If you answer yes to many of these questions, then anthropology at UEL is for you.

If you enjoy...

- Getting at the deep meaning of things, otherwise normally hidden.
- Working with staff and students highly committed to studying the world's cultures.
- Meeting new people and getting to know them and their lives.
- Working in groups to collaborate in project work.
- Setting yourself new targets that will stretch you and get you to a new place.
- Working to a high individual standard in presenting evidence and ideas to others.

If you want...

- A wide range of subjects, in which anthropology integrates animal behaviour, palaeontology, archaeology, social anthropology, cultural studies, myth and folk-lore analysis.
- The chance to study some subjects in great depth, like: the origins of language; refugees; African cosmologies; stone circles; Amazonian cultures; carnival; divine kingship; the Australian myth of the rainbow-serpent; the varieties of 'racial' identities.

- The chance to bring your own enthusiasms and experience and integrate them into an anthropological interpretation.
- To link anthropology with, for example, development issues, archaeology, psychology or a language. Almost any combination is possible.

Your future career

Anthropology can provide a route into many professions, some of which are:

Health Officer, Medical Researcher and Advisor, Ecological Protection, Environment Officer, Relief and Refugee Field Officer, Development Planner, Race and Ethnic Relations Officer, Child Protection, Care of the Elderly Officer, Human Rights Officer, Tourism and Media Management, Management and Project Officer (especially in voluntary and minority rights groups), Events Organiser, Research (especially in areas of applied evolutionary theory such as health and in social policy and research), Teaching, including special needs and ESL etc..

As anthropology trains you to deal with cultural difference, it is particularly suited to prepare you for work abroad, or in special cultural settings in this country.

How we support you

How we support you at UEL

- While at UEL you will have a personal tutor to advise you about your individual engagement with the degree.
- We train you in a wide variety of retrieval systems to obtain up-to-date information and the latest research findings.
- While in your third year we run a careers day school, to assist you in choosing your professional career, preparing your CV, and accelerating the chances of a successful application.
- UEL provides medical, counselling and financial support and advice to all students.
- A wide range of student societies enriches your degree experience.

How we support you at UNM

Before you leave for UNM you will enrol on the module, Reflexive Reporting: the Anthropology Study Year at UNM. As one of the module's requirements you will attend a workshop where you will be prepared and equipped for your year abroad. At that workshop UEL exchange students not at the UNM Summer School and who have just completed their year abroad report back on their experiences at UNM. We talk through the various course options open to you, and you will negotiate with your UEL tutor those that you wish to select. We will not only discuss the financial implications of a year abroad, the UNM's academic requirements, and health and residency facilities at UNM, but also the USA visa requirements and the support and safety procedures that are in place for you during your study year. You will prepare your UNM application forms, and will be inducted into the monitoring and self-reporting procedures that you will employ during your year abroad.

When you arrive at UNM you will attend an induction programme at the International Office. The International Student Adviser will direct you to your rooms in a hall of residence. The adviser is especially prepared to deal with problems of students coming from outside the United States. If you have questions concerning housing, registration, immigration problems, monetary exchange, unfamiliar rules or facets of university life, or difficulties of a personal nature, you are urged to visit the International Programs Office for counselling.

You will go to the Anthropology Department where you have been assigned an anthropology faculty member as an academic adviser. In addition, a teaching assistant has been selected as your personal tutor and you are expected to visit him or her during his/her office hours. In particular, you should check with your personal tutor the units you are planning to take during your year at UNM. A 'hot line' has been set up between your UNM academic adviser and your UEL tutor in case of emergency.

You will be expected to e-mail a progress report to your UEL tutor each mid-term. This is in addition to your study year abroad final report that that you must complete at the end of the academic year. In case of emergency you should e-mail your UEL tutor for support and assistance. At the end of year you are expected to provide feedback at a workshop to the next cohort of UEL exchange students applying and preparing for their year abroad. UNM Health Insurance is mandatory for all exchange students. In very rare circumstances is a waiver issued and a student permitted to use another type of health insurance.

The Student Health Service on campus provides facilities for medical advice, treatment, and if necessary, bed care for acute illnesses of short duration. The Student Health Service is not a teaching department and is staffed by experienced doctors and nurses.

Bonus factors

Bonus factors at UEL

Strong linkage to the Radical Anthropology Group, and inclusion in their central London evening class programme and other field trips.

Bonus factors at UNM

The location of UNM provides it with a wealth of historical source material; its proximity to Native American, Hispanic and Mexican cultures makes it a natural place for the promotion, study and appreciation of these cultures. One product of this emphasis on cultural diversity is the ability of UNM to offer major anthropology studies of Latin America and annual field sessions in anthropology and archaeology.

This opportunity will broaden your horizons and give you new opportunities in the workplace. Not only will you be entering a new learning environment and gaining new competencies in anthropology, you will also have the opportunity to hone your foreign language skills.

Outcomes

Programme aims and learning outcomes

What is this programme designed to achieve?

This programme is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- Understand the key concepts and theoretical themes of anthropology and how these define the subject matter of the degree programme.
- Demonstrate anthropology as a unifying discipline between the life sciences and the social sciences, and in particular the linkage between cultural anthropology and recent developments in evolutionary and Darwinian anthropology.
- Demonstrate the radical critique offered by the conceptual systems of traditional cultures when investigating modern western culture.
- Demonstrate the vocational and professional relevance of their degree studies for future employment and careers.

In addition, while at UNM the programme is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- Outline and discuss the main approaches of Anthropologists to Native American Studies.
- Analyse and compare aspects of Native American social and cultural life.
- Outline and discuss the main approaches of Biological Anthropologists and/or Human Evolutionary Ecologists.
- Have increased fluency in Spanish or a Native American language.
- Evaluate and have a heightened awareness of the similarities and differences of the professional profile of Anthropology at UNM compared to UEL.
- Culturally interpret the respective pedagogy of anthropology at UNM and UEL.
- Demonstrate additional life skills, in particular those associated with networking in an unfamiliar culture, not normally acquired through home study alone.
- Build upon the respective strengths of each institution for your own future professional advancement.

What will you learn?

Knowledge and understanding

- The strengths and weaknesses of different paradigms for interpreting culture.
- The relationship between evolutionary and social anthropology.
- A working knowledge of some of the classic ethnographies of social anthropology.
- A working knowledge of Native American Culture

'Thinking' skills

- An ability to apply and test the relevant main paradigms for interpreting culture.
- An ability to select relevant data to evaluate cultural theories.
- An ability to evaluate a complex anthropology text with relevant evidence and theories.
- An ability to synthesise disparate evidence and theories creatively.

Subject-Based Practical skills

- The collection of observation and interview data by applying the ethnographic method.
- Interpretation of ethnographic data.
- IT and web-based information retrieval systems, especially those relevant to anthropology

Skills for life and work

- The professional production of reports.
- Interactive and group skills
- Reflexive analysis and reporting from experience.
- Planning and management of lifelong learning.
- Problem solving.
- Communication and presentation skills to peers.
- IT and web skills.
- Design, implementation and management of group project work.

Structure

The programme structure

Introduction

All programmes are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

- 0 - equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree programme
- 1 - equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 2 - equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 3 - equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- M - equivalent in standard to a Masters degree

Credit rating

The overall credit-rating of this programme is 480 credits.

Typical duration

The typical duration of this programme is full-time. It is possible to move from full-time to part-time study and vice-versa to accommodate any external factors such as financial

constraints or domestic commitments. Many of our students make use of this flexibility and this may impact on the overall duration of their study period.

How the teaching year is divided

How the teaching year is divided at UEL

The teaching year is divided into two semesters of roughly equal length. A typical full-time student will study three 20 credit modules per semester and a typical part-time student will study one or two modules per semester.

How the teaching year is divided at UNM

UEL's and UNM's calendars do not clash, although they are significantly different. Your application to register at UNM must be made by 1st April. The Autumn term runs from about 20th August to about 20th December, and the spring term from about mid January to about 20th May. Be aware that you must be registered at the UNM by about 20th August.

Upon your arrival at UNM you will be assigned an academic and personal tutor who will be selected to reflect your academic region specialities and theoretical interests.

On your return, you will attend a feed-back session.

What you will study when

This programme is part of a modular degree scheme. A typical full-time student will take six 20 credit modules per year. A B.Sc. (Hons) Anthropology with Native American Studies student will complete six modules at level one, six at level 2, complete a full year of study at UNM (5 UNM modules and one UEL module) and six at level 3.

Modules are defined as:

- Core - Must be taken
- Option - Select from a range of identified modules within the field
- University wide option - Select from a wide range of modules across the University

The following are the core and optional requirements for the single, major, joint and minor routes for this programme.

LEVEL	TITLE	CREDITS	STATUS
			SINGLE
1	Introduction to Anthropology	20	Core
1	Introduction to Human Origins	20	Core
1	Study Skills for Anthropologists	20	Core
1	Kinship and Marriage	20	Core
1	Field Methods in Urban Anthropology	20	Core
1	The Anthropology of Carnival	20	University Wide Option

2	Anthropological Theory	20	Core
2	Political Anthropology	20	Option
2	The Origins of Culture	20	Option
2	Cultures of Dominance, Cultures of Resistance	20	Core
2	The Anthropology of Refugees	20	Option
2	Visual Cultures	20	Option
2	Anthropology of Europe	20	Option
2	Sexualities in Contemporary Society	20	Option
2	Knowing Humankind	20	Option
2	African Cosmology	20	Option
2	Masks and Masquerades	20	Option
3	5 Anthropology and/or Native American Studies options at the University of New Mexico	100	Core
3	Reflexive Reporting: The Anthropology Study Year at the University of New Mexico	20	Core
3	Field Methods	20	Core
3	Biological Anthropology	20	Option
3	Linguistic & Cognitive Anthropology	20	Option
3	Human Sociobiology	20	Option
3	Anthropology of Amazonia	20	Option
3	Visual Anthropology	20	Option
3	Ethnographic Writing	20	Option
3	Decoding Stonehenge	20	Option
3	Anthropology Dissertation	40	Core

Anthropology with Native American Studies also includes a year of study at the University of New Mexico

Requirements for gaining an award

In order to gain a B.Sc. (Hons) Anthropology with Native American Studies degree you will need to obtain 480 credits including:

- A minimum of 120 credits at level one or higher
- A minimum of 120 credits at level two or higher
- A minimum of 240 credits at level three or higher

In order to gain an ordinary degree you will need to obtain a minimum of 300 credits including:

- A minimum of 120 credits at level one or higher
- A minimum of 120 credits at level two or higher
- A minimum of 60 credits at level three or higher

In order to gain a Diploma of Higher Education you will need to obtain at least 240 credits including a minimum of 120 credits at level one or higher and 120 credits at level two or higher

In order to gain a Certificate of Higher Education you will need to obtain 120 credits at level one or higher.

Degree Classification

Where a student is eligible for an Honours degree, and has gained a minimum of 240 UEL credits at level 2 or level 3 on the programme, including a minimum of 120 UEL credits at level 3, the award classification is determined by calculating:

The arithmetic mean of the best 100 credits at level 3 $\times 2/3$ + The arithmetic mean of the next best 100 credits at levels 2 and/or 3 $\times 1/3$

and applying the mark obtained as a percentage, with all decimal points rounded up to the nearest whole number, to the following classification

- 70% - 100% First Class Honours
- 60% - 69% Second Class Honours, First Division
- 50% - 59% Second Class Honours, Second Division
- 40% - 49% Third Class Honours
- 0% - 39% Not passed

Assessment

Teaching, learning and assessment

Teaching and learning

Knowledge and understanding is developed through

- An integrated lecture and seminar programme consolidated through a weekly reading test system.
- Private study and essay writing supported by dedicated guidance handbooks.
- Field work projects to evaluate the power of competing theories of culture.

'Thinking' skills are developed through

- A general precis template to assist evaluation of complex texts.
- The linking of key conceptual issues with a set ethnography for each library-based anthropology module.
- Negotiation with staff of the suitability of chosen field work topics.

Practical skills are developed through

- IT & Study Skills module
- Field - based project work

- Field trip participatory organisation

General skills are developed through

- Presentations, especially of field work findings.
- Encouragement of a vigorous programme reps system.

Assessment

Knowledge is assessed by

- Weekly tests
- Essays
- Examinations

Thinking skills are assessed by

- Project work, especially field work projects.
- Dissertation
- Participation in seminar and plenary discussions

Practical skills are assessed by

- Carnival performance (mask, percussion, dance, masquerade).
- Participation in field trip organisation.
- Meeting coursework deadlines.

Skills for life and work (general skills) are assessed by

- Presentations
- Acting as programme representative.

Quality

How we assure the quality of this programme

Before this programme started

Before the programme started, the following was checked:

- there would be enough qualified staff to teach the programme;
- adequate resources would be in place;
- the overall aims and objectives were appropriate;
- the content of the programme met national benchmark requirements;
- the programme met any professional/statutory body requirements;
- the proposal met other internal quality criteria covering a range of issues such as admissions policy, teaching, learning and assessment strategy and student support mechanisms.

This is done through a process of programme approval which involves consulting academic experts including some subject specialists from other institutions.

How we monitor the quality of this programme

The quality of this programme is monitored each year through evaluating:

- external examiner reports (considering quality and standards);
- statistical information (considering issues such as the pass rate);
- student feedback.

Drawing on this and other information programme teams undertake the annual Review and Enhancement Process which is co-ordinated at School level and includes student participation. The process is monitored by the University's Quality Standing Committee.

Once every six years an in-depth review of the whole field is undertaken by a panel that includes at least two external subject specialists. The panel considers documents, looks at student work, speaks to current and former students and speaks to staff before drawing its conclusions. The result is a report highlighting good practice and identifying areas where action is needed.

The role of the programme committee

This programme has a programme committee comprising all relevant teaching staff, student representatives and others who make a contribution towards the effective operation of the programme (e.g. library/technician staff). The committee has responsibilities for the quality of the programme. It provides input into the operation of the Review and Enhancement Process and proposes changes to improve quality. The programme committee plays a critical role in the University's quality assurance procedures.

The role of external examiners

The standard of this programme is monitored by at least one external examiner. External examiners have two primary responsibilities:

- To ensure the standard of the programme;
- To ensure that justice is done to individual students.

External examiners fulfil these responsibilities in a variety of ways including:

- Approving exam papers/assignments;
- Attending assessment boards;
- Reviewing samples of student work and moderating marks;
- Ensuring that regulations are followed;
- Providing feedback through an annual report that enables us to make improvements for the future

Listening to the views of students

The following methods for gaining student feedback are used on this programme:

- Module evaluations
- Student representation on programme committees
- Plenary informal consultation at field trips.

Students are notified of the action taken through:

- circulating the minutes of the programme committee
- providing details on the programme noticeboard
- feedback to students within one week of reps meeting

Listening to the views of others

The following methods are used for gaining the views of other interested parties:

- Questionnaires to and interviews with former students
- Meetings with office administrative staff.

Further Information

Alternative locations for studying this programme

Location	Which elements?	Taught by UEL staff	Taught by local staff	Method of Delivery
RAG evening class, Camden	Year 0	Yes	No	Evening class part-time

Where you can find further information

Further information about this programme is available from:

- [The UEL web site](#)
- The student handbook
- Module study guides
- [UEL Manual of Regulations and Policies](#)
- [UEL Quality Manual](#)
- [Regulations for the Academic Framework](#)
- UEL Pathway catalogue for the Academic Framework