Anthropology and Health

Indianapolis

Graduate Faculty
(An asterisk [*] denotes membership in the University Graduate School faculty with the endorsement to direct doctoral dissertations.)

Director
Associate Professor Susan Hyatt, Anthropology, Cavanaugh Hall 413, (317) 274-8207

Professors
W. Kenneth Barger* (Emeritus), David Burr* (Anatomy), Della Collins Cook*, Richard Gunderman* (Philosophy, Radiology), Barbara D. Jackson (Emerita), Paul Jamison* (Emeritus), Robert Meier* (Emeritus), Susan B. Sutton*, Richard E. Ward*

Associate Professors
Jeanette Dickerson-Putman*, Gina (Sanchez) Gibau, Susan Hyatt, Elizabeth B. Kryder-Reid, Paul R. Mullins

Degrees Offered
Graduate Minor, Master of Arts in Applied Anthropology

The M.A. in Applied Anthropology, IUPUI, was approved by the Higher Education Commission in September 2009. A description of the degree program is available from the department.

Graduate Minor

The graduate minor in anthropology and health is an integrated field of 12 credit hours of study designed to supplement the graduate training of students with an interest in careers in the health field. The program has three goals: to provide students with a holistic perspective on the anthropology of health, which integrates human biology, ecology, and culture in a systems model of health; to develop students’ anthropological inquiry skills in understanding health in human groups; and to develop students’ abilities to apply anthropological concepts and skills to health interventions in the areas of their career focus. The graduate minor in anthropology and health will provide students with training that will add greater depth and breadth to their qualifications in their major field. They will be able to use the cross-cultural and biocultural perspectives of anthropology to supplement their primary graduate training to better prepare them for a career in the health fields. This focused training will enable students to use anthropological concepts and skills to identify biocultural factors in the occurrence of disease, to understand ethnic behavior related to illness, and to identify where health programs across social and ethnic lines can be made more effective.

Course Requirements

Twelve hours of credit approved for the minor in anthropology and health with a grade point average of at least 3.25, including E445; A594; one course selected from B521, B523, B525, E404, E606, and L605; and one elective.

Courses

A594 Independent Learning in Applied Anthropology (3 cr.)
P: Authorization of instructor. Independent research/training using anthropological perspectives/methods in addressing social issues. The project must be a discrete activity with a concrete product, conducted in conjunction with the student’s anthropology advisor and the member of the organization where he or she will be located. (May be repeated for no more than 6 credit hours total.)

E445 Medical Anthropology (3 cr.) A cross-cultural examination of human biocultural adaptation in health and disease, including biocultural epidemiology; ethnomedical systems in the presentation, diagnosis, and treatment of disease; and sociocultural change and health.

Research Methods in the Anthropology of Health

B521 Bioanthropology Research Methods (3 cr.)
B523 Anthropometry (3 cr.)
B525 Genetic Methods in Anthropology (3 cr.)
E404 Field Methods in Ethnography (3 cr.)
E606 Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology (3 cr.)
L605 Field Methods in Anthropological Linguistics (3 cr.)

Electives
Electives in the anthropology of health (3 cr.). Electives will be selected from approved anthropology courses offered at
Indianapolis and Bloomington, in consultation with the minor advisor.

**Master of Arts in Applied Anthropology**

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The following courses have been approved:

**E507 Popular Culture (3 cr.)** This course studies how traditional anthropological insight can analyze social and political complexities of contemporary popular cultural phenomena. Focuses on how anthropological subjects such as class, racism, and regionalism lurk within popular cultural phenomena including post-1950 music subcultures, civil religion, and consumer culture.

**E509 Modern Material Culture (3 cr.)** This course examines how contemporary social experience is impacted by material culture ranging from toys to theme parks. Focuses on how consumers perceive themselves and others in modern consumer culture through the medium of commodities and examines systems of inequality that are reproduced and subverted through consumption.

**E521 Indians of North America (3 cr.)** Assesses the complexities of the academic study of the Indigenous peoples of North America, emphasizing the diversity of Native cultures, representations of them by the public and by scholars, and examining cultural adaptations from Pre-Contact to Contemporary.

**E606 Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology (3 cr.)** This course provides an introduction to the use of ethnographic field work methods, including participant-observation, semi-structured interviewing, and use of mapping, among others. Every year this course will focus on a community-based research project.

**P501 Community Archaeology (3 cr.)** Community archaeology implies direct collaboration between a community and archaeologists. Collaboration implies substantial adjustment in archaeological methods and epistemologies incorporating community members in setting research agendas, working on excavations, and interpreting results. This course examines a wide range of issues and looks at both successful and unsuccessful projects to arrive at an assessment of best practices.