U-M’s Department of Anthropology is ranked #1 in the nation because of the excellence and intellectual diversity of our faculty and the varied, real-world research opportunities we provide to our students.

No other discipline can match the holistic vision of anthropology, where we study all aspects of the human condition. From corporate boardrooms to urban communities, from remote settings to familiar neighborhoods, anthropologists can be found exploring questions about our world and the moral and material interests that influence us: How are humans affecting the planet? Are our political and economic systems just and sustainable? Where have we come from as a species, and where are we headed? Our research identifies solutions to worldwide problems, influences government policies and guides industry practices.

In our increasingly global society, an anthropology education cultivates a fluency with issues of culture and change that is more vital than ever. While our “anthro” students have the option to focus on one of four subfields (anthropological archaeology, biological anthropology, sociocultural anthropology, and linguistic anthropology) and a variety of majors and submajors, all will study the discipline’s history and foundational ideas, new developments, area and topical literatures, practical methods, and advanced modes of data collection and interpretation. Our department is an environment of inclusion, innovation, rigorous scholarship and generous support for research and study. U-M anthropology students find success in a wide variety of fields, including business, government, medicine, science, conservation, law, social work and the arts. And many of our graduates become leading scholars in anthropology and related fields.

Your support will help prepare new anthropologists to engage our increasingly complex world with intelligence, insight and compassion. Through your generosity, you will impact lives far beyond the university campus.
UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING FUND

A gift of $25,000 or more will establish an endowment to support the experiential learning opportunities that are most inspiring for students, including working alongside faculty on projects, in laboratories, and at field research sites around the world. Gifts to this fund also enable students to present their research at professional conferences.

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP/FIELDWORK FUND

An expendable gift of $50,000 or an endowed gift of $1M will support our graduate students’ tuition, stipends, grad care, and fieldwork, all of which help us attract the brightest and most promising program applicants.

DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC FUND

Expendable, undesignated gifts of any amount are critical to the department’s growth and success. We use these funds to organize conferences and events, support faculty research and supply resources to our student organizations.

WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT

Your gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will enable the best and brightest minds to experience a liberal arts education, solve problems in a changing world, and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

CONTACT INFO

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“All the subfields of anthropology make this such a diverse major since it draws on biological/evolutionary, linguistic, and social perspectives of humans as well as material culture to create a holistic understanding of humanity. This major challenges you to consider a wide array of perspectives and forces you to question basic assumptions that are taken for granted. You come face to face with complex questions and ideas which make you grow intellectually and force you to consider your own identity. Ultimately, I think people who study anthropology want to continue to bridge the gap in our understanding of humanity so that we can apply it to the world.”

–Isabel Matias, LSA Class of ’23