

What can I do with a degree in Anthropology?

Anthropology.



Career planning: what do I need to know?

Knowledge of yourself is important for career decision making. Start by looking at your personal goals, abilities, values and interests to explore study and career options that are relevant to you. Some of these may change over time, so it is important to self-reflect and evaluate your career on an ongoing basis.

What do employers look for?

Many employers look for generic skills such as communication, customer-focus, bicultural competence, cultural awareness and teamwork. With technology and globalisation changing the nature of society, skills such as resilience, problem solving and adaptability are valuable at work as well as in life.

How can I develop these skills?

- Some skills are developed through your degree

- Extra-curricular activities can help, for example getting involved in clubs, mentoring, cultural groups, part-time work or volunteering
- Be open to professional and personal development opportunities. Whether it is undertaking an internship, overseas exchange, skills seminar, or joining an industry group — these activities will enhance your employability.

What else should I know?

The career options in this brochure are examples only and the list is not exhaustive. Some careers may require further study beyond a first degree or additional work experience. Some pathways and degrees have a recommended school background.

Find more subject details at

📄 www.canterbury.ac.nz/subjects/anth

If this brochure does not answer your questions, talking to an expert such as a career consultant can help you to identify the next steps in your career decision making journey.

📄 www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

What is Anthropology?

Anthropology is the study of humanity (the Greek anthropos means 'human being'). You will study culture, society and the wide variety of ways in which people around the world live. By appreciating what humans have in common, and the fundamentals on which social life is based, comparisons across societies and observations about the nature of human beings can be made. In this sense Anthropology promotes considerable cross-cultural awareness and self-understanding.

Traditionally, anthropology concentrated on the study of non-western societies, but now students can expect to learn about a variety of things relevant to western societies, such as ethnic relations, migration, social change, environmental policies, human-animal relations, and the preservation of cultural resources.



AT A GLANCE

7099 known living languages in the world*

1900 any NZ site (including buildings) which had activity pre-1900 is considered to be an archaeological site*

79% the Waitangi Tribunal has reported on 79% of Aotearoa New Zealand's land mass**

What skills have UC graduates gained?

Through their Anthropology degree, graduates develop a valuable set of transferable skills that includes:

- Holistic and contextual understanding
- Thinking critically and creatively, and challenging ideas
- Logical and quantitative thinking
- Knowledge of cultural and ethnic changes, policies and resources
- Problem solving skills
- Ability to show sensitivity to people
- An appreciation of cultural diversity
- An ability to see the world in different ways
- Interpretive and analytical thinking
- Oral and written communication
- Research and computing skills.

Opportunities to apply your learning outside the classroom are available, for example undertaking an internship can deepen your skillset, awareness of others, working knowledge and employability.

Where have UC graduates been employed?

Anthropologists are employed in sectors or institutions such as:

- Research
- Museums
- Education
- Community work
- Local and central government
- Non-governmental or not-for-profit agencies.

Due to their transferable skills, Anthropology graduates are found in a variety of destinations:

- International relations
- Media and public relations
- Social work
- Libraries
- High-tech industries
- Tourism
- Human resources
- Resource management
- Health.

The ability to see the world differently

Anthropology offers insights into many of the social issues and opportunities in Aotearoa New Zealand and the world today. Anthropologists therefore have an important role to play in areas of public policy, social equity, human rights, technological development, culture and behaviour.

* Ethnologue: Languages of the World 2017
www.ethnologue.com

* Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014. Section 40:
an authority is required if an archaeological site may be modified/damaged. An archaeologist must be at a demolition.

** As of October 2015, 40th Anniversary of Waitangi Tribunal
www.waitangitribunal.govt.nz

What jobs and activities do graduates do?

Graduates with this degree are employed in a range of jobs — see some examples below.

Note: Some of the jobs listed may require postgraduate study. See the 'Further study' section.

Social researcher

- Designs and develops research projects
- Uses a range of quantitative and qualitative methods to gain insight
- Analyses and interprets data and findings
- Writes reports and briefings

Policy analyst / advisor

- Identifies and investigates issues and opportunities eg, in society, law or governance
- Interprets and consults on existing policies
- Prepares reports and recommends changes

Corporate anthropologist, ethnographic researcher, digital anthropologist

- Tailors products/services to people's real needs
- Looks at the human side of search or selection
- Analyses human differences, appetite for change and interaction on behalf of a business
- Assesses how culture can impact data and digital technologies (and vice versa)

Archaeologist

- Preserves archaeological sites
- Carries out excavations
- Helps restore monuments and sites

Librarian

- Categorises and catalogues library materials
- Selects materials for library use
- Helps customers find and use materials

Marketing officer / manager

- Collects and analyses market insight

- Prepares and implements marketing plans
- Works with others to promote goods or services

Museum officer

- Plans museum programmes
- Ensures security of items and arranges logistics
- Informs museum visitors

International aid worker

- Manages and assesses projects
- Supports long-term development
- Evaluates responses to emergency situations

Data analyst

- Collects, analyses and interprets data
- Identifies and forecasts trends and needs
- Presents information to assist decision-making

Curator

- Chooses display items at museums or galleries
- Manages collections and exhibitions
- Conducts research and communicates details

Entrepreneur and self employment

Entrepreneurship and innovation are an increasing part of the working landscape. Through generating a business idea, or getting involved in a start-up/ business venture, you have the potential to create a work opportunity that aligns with your knowledge, skills, values and risk profile. To get started on how to establish, run and grow a new business, go to Te Pokapū Rakahinonga, Centre for Entrepreneurship at the University of Canterbury
www.canterbury.ac.nz/uce

What professional organisations can I engage with?

Connecting with professional bodies and organisations can help you to establish professional networks and learn more about different career options in your area of interest.

Gaining valuable insight into a profession can assist in making informed career decisions.

- Association of Social Anthropologists of Aotearoa New Zealand
www.asaanz.org
- Australian Anthropological Society
www.aas.asn.au
- Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania
www.asao.org
- New Zealand Archaeological Association
www.nzarchaeology.org

Having a professional presence on social media networks such as www.linkedin.com and Facebook can help you to keep up to date with important industry developments and trends, networking opportunities, events and job vacancies. Following relevant professional bodies, organisations, companies and thought leaders is a great way to gain a deeper awareness of the industries that interest you. Social media presents an opportunity to build and enhance networks as well as to display your involvement in projects and any academic successes.

Why do further study and what are my options?

Postgraduate study can facilitate career benefits such as specialist skills, entry into an occupation, faster progression rate, and advanced research capability. It is important to determine which, if any, further study will help you in the future.

Anthropology graduates can progress their studies from honours right through to PhD level. These degrees provide advanced research, project and writing skills. Postgraduate study can also lead to an academic career in teaching and research.

UC offers a range of conversion qualifications eg, in Teaching and Learning, Art Curatorship, Health Sciences, Policy and Governance, Linguistics, International Relations and Diplomacy, Business Management, and Māori and Indigenous Leadership. For listings and prerequisites visit www.canterbury.ac.nz/courses

Useful links

- Te Rōpū Rapuara UC Careers
www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers
- Careers New Zealand
www.careers.govt.nz
- UC Arts Digital Lab
<http://dh.canterbury.ac.nz>



Rachel



Studying towards a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, Linguistics and Japanese

What do you enjoy about studying Anthropology?

I enjoy learning to look at the world with a different lens than the one that I have grown up viewing the world with. During your Anthropology courses you will begin to catch yourself analysing the world around you and asking questions about things that most people take for granted. I really like looking at our culture in deeper and more meaningful ways.

What advice do you have for students who are considering studying it?

Going into the degree you need to make sure you enter with an open mind and not to assume that you know all there is about the world. The role of an anthropologist is to question the assumptions that others make!

How was your exchange to Japan?

I got a PMSA (Prime Minister's Scholarship for Asia) and a UC Exchange Scholarship for my 10-month exchange to Japan.

I went to Kwansai Gakuin University in Nishinomiya. It was both a challenging and motivating experience. I think it is important as a student to go and experience living in another

culture that is different to our own. It opens your eyes to different ways of looking at the world and gives you an insight to a different culture that textbooks and readings can never do.

I highly recommend the homestay experience as it will enable you to experience interactions with a local family in that culture that you would otherwise never get to experience.

What are your career goals?

In the future I want to become a teacher, potentially to students learning English as a second language in Korea or Japan. I would also like to conduct an anthropological study within South Korea which would be focused either on the Christian church culture there or the obsessive "saesung" fanbase of K-Pop idols.

Read more online

Read more stories about our students' university experiences online. UC alumni make a difference in varied ways around the globe. To find out where graduates are now visit www.canterbury.ac.nz/getstarted/whyuc/student-profiles

The information in this brochure was correct at the time of print but is subject to change.

More information

UC students seeking study advice.

Te Kura Mātāpuna Tangata | School of Language, Social and Political Sciences

UC specialises in social and cultural anthropology. This branch is highly interdisciplinary and employs a research method called ethnography, where researchers immerse themselves in the activities and relationships of everyday life.

Topics covered include identity, power, human evolution, food and eating, kinship, ritual, history, environment, development, disaster, ethnicity, and multispecies anthropology. Courses are open to all, so come and discuss your interests with us.

T: +64 3 369 3377

E: artsdegreeadvice@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/arts/anthropology

Anyone seeking careers advice.

Te Rōpū Rapuara | UC Careers

UC offers intending and current students and recent graduates a wide range of services, including individual career guidance, seminars, career resources and student and graduate employment opportunities.

T: +64 3 369 0303

E: careers@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

Prospective students seeking study advice.

Te Rōpū Takawaenga | Student Liaison

The liaison team provide advice to future students who are starting their degree for the first time.

They can assist with information on degrees, scholarships, accommodation, and other aspects of university life. We have offices in Christchurch, Auckland and Wellington.

Ōtautahi | Christchurch

T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748)

E: liaison@canterbury.ac.nz

Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland

T: 0800 UCAUCK

E: auckland@canterbury.ac.nz

Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748)

E: wellington@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/liaison

