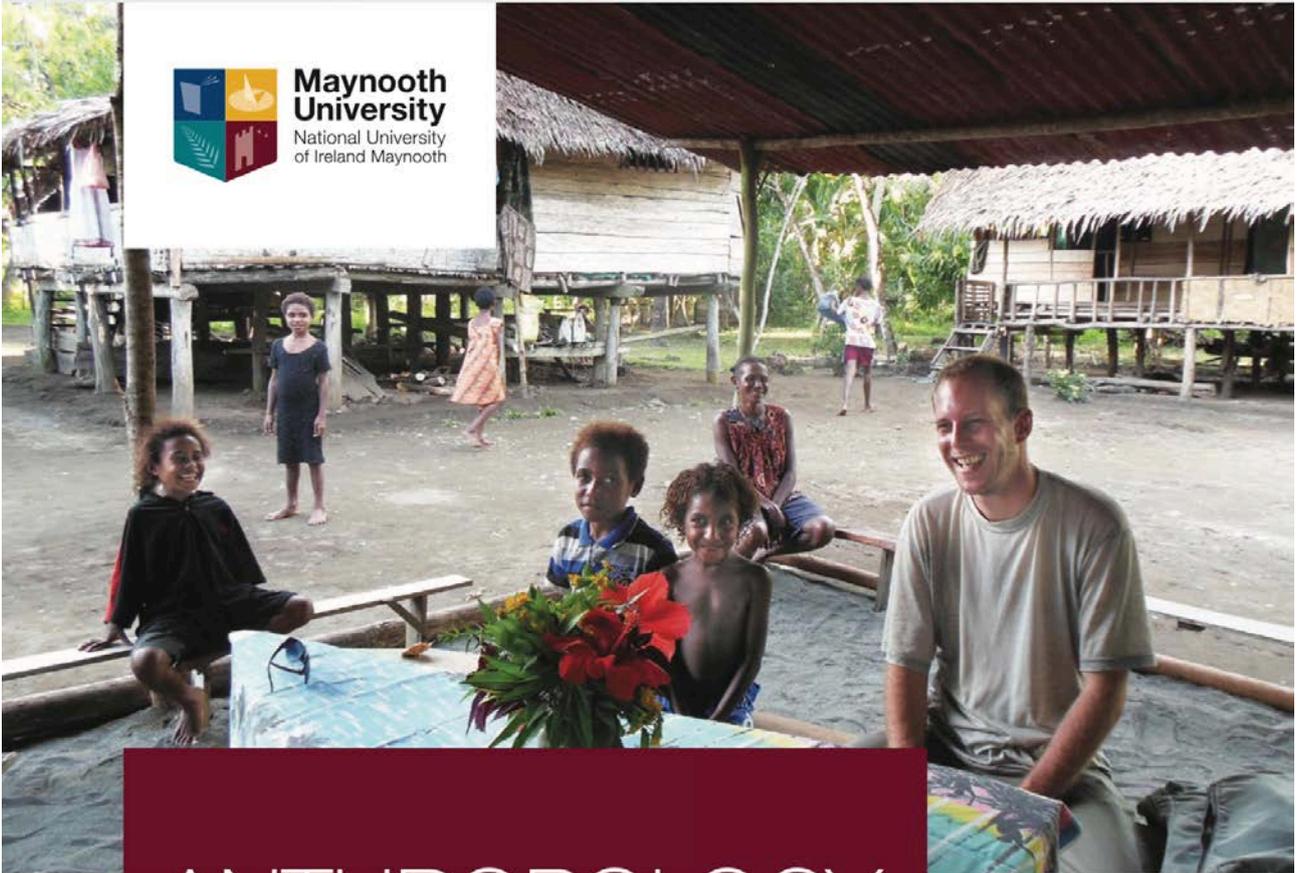




**Maynooth
University**
National University
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ANTHROPOLOGY

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Postgraduate Programmes in Anthropology at MU

Postgraduate programmes in Anthropology are designed for students who have a curiosity about culture and about diverse forms of social life the world over. The fieldwork orientation of anthropology focuses on the links between global and local processes, between abstract theory and real behaviour, and between the various dimensions of human life: political, economic, familial, religious, technological, and more. This course prepares students to solve real-world problems by equipping them with a sophistication in social theory tempered by practical engagement with people in their lived contexts.

Careers

Anthropology complements diverse career paths. Anthropological skills are optimal in an interconnected transnational economy and global political situation, where an understanding of and empathy for cultural difference can help individuals, businesses, and countries to succeed and flourish. As anthropologists we look at human groups and practices comparatively and holistically and this skill prepares students for careers in a wide range of professions including international development, civil service and government, social work, business and finance, journalism, user experience and design research, heritage, ecology and conservation, public health, museum curation, marketing, and more.



The Department of Anthropology has four MA programmes and one PhD programme.

MA Programmes: MA Anthropology, MA Anthropology & Development, MA Linguistic Anthropology, MA Creole (2-year programme)

Students must take a total of 60 credits of coursework and also complete a Thesis AN634T (30 credits)

Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Semester
AN670	Key Concepts in Anthropology I	5	1
AN673	Key Concepts in Anthropology II	5	1
AN675A	Theory in Anthropology	10	1
AN676	Ethnographic Practice	5	1
AN677	Graduate Seminar in Anthropology	5	1
AN617	Cultural Awareness	5	1
AN692	Anthropology and Development (compulsory for MA Anthropology & Development)	10	1
AN691	Linguistic Anthropology (compulsory for MA Linguistic Anthropology)	10	2
AN674	Key Concepts in Anthropology III	5	2
AN662G	Ethnography Winter School	5	2
AN678	Graduate Seminar in Anthropology	5	2
AN647	Foundations in Medical Anthropology	5	2

In the autumn and spring semesters, students complete an intensive course of six-week compulsory modules (5 credits each), which will introduce them to key anthropological concepts and areas of research as well as ethnographic practices and anthropological theory. The graduate seminar in anthropology runs through both semesters and is designed as a space where students learn about the latest developments in anthropology and prepare their own MA research projects in discussion with visiting scholars and Anthropology Department academic staff. Students also have a choice of topical modules, on subjects such as language, development, medicine, cultural awareness, or society and design. Students develop a proposal for a research project during the taught year in consultation with a faculty advisor. In the summer, students undertake a 30-credit Thesis module, and turn in a completed thesis on their project by early September. MA Creole is a two-year programme whereby students are required to spend two of the four semesters at one or more European Partner Institutions (University of Vienna, University of Barcelona, University of Lyon, University of Ljubljana, University of Bern, Adam Mickiewicz University Poznan).

POSTGRADUATE MODULES

AN670 Key Concepts in Anthropology I // AN673 Key Concepts in Anthropology II // AN674 Key Concepts in Anthropology III

These modules introduce major concepts in anthropology, demonstrating a range of theoretical and ethnographic approaches through which anthropologists study human cultures and societies. The goal is to help students understand, interpret and engage with real-world issues by equipping them conceptual and substantive knowledge and capacity to locate these varied approaches within anthropological traditions. The key concepts explored, will include: Module 1) culture as central concept in anthropology; Module 2) exploring how people give sense to misfortunes, crises, and disasters, and how that meaning implicates different kinds of social response; Module 3) major concepts in the anthropology of religion, ritual, and performance.

AN675A Theory in Anthropology

This module provides an advanced foundation to key social theories, especially from the European Enlightenment tradition but also up to the work of recent post-structural and postcolonial figures. Students will be challenged to grapple with different theories, comparing and contrasting theories before developing their own analysis.

AN676 Ethnographic Practice

Ethnography most commonly describes a core methodological tool in anthropology, but it is also an epistemological tool that anthropologists employ in positioning ourselves and others in the 'field' of research. In this module, we will explore changing attitudes to research methods in anthropology and use key examples to foreshadow preparations for student research proposals. We will read some classic ethnographic texts while considering a range of methodological problems: entry to the 'field', data collection, inter-subjective dimensions of fieldwork experience. Moreover, students will be encouraged to think more broadly about new territories of ethnographic endeavour such as ethnography in corporate encounters, sensory ethnography and current approaches to gathering, writing and disseminating knowledge. Student participation and peer discussion will be expected in all sessions.

AN677 Graduate Seminar in Anthropology I // AN678 Graduate Seminar in Anthropology II

These seminars are designed as space for postgraduate students (MA and Ph.D. students) to develop their research projects in discussion with visiting scholars and Anthropology Department academic staff. Weekly meetings will consist of: 1) seminars in which visiting scholars present their research; 2) discussions with visiting scholars about the relevance of their work to the students' own research and to the current state of the field; 3) presentations and discussions of students' work in progress under the guidance of Anthropology Department academic staff.

AN692 Anthropology and Development

This module provides the foundations for the study of Anthropology and Development by situating the long process of the making of the contemporary Global South at the intersection of world historical and political economic flows. We will begin with a close reading of key texts in the field of historical anthropology in order to trace the emergence of mass poverty, inequality and conflict in our world today. The latter part of the module introduces current anthropological perspectives on, and engagements with, issues of sustainable international development.

AN691 Linguistic Anthropology

This module offers an advanced introduction to Linguistic Anthropology, focusing on classic theory and its recent extensions. The module features: a concise introduction to linguistic form and structure; a survey of historical theories and methodologies for the study of language in use (interactional sociolinguistics, Conversation Analysis, the ethnography of speaking); the development of conceptual tools for the semiotic analysis of language and related cultural forms; analysis of language style, processes of social, gender and ethnic identification, and communities of practice; introduction to the anthropology of poetic speech, performance, and literary texts; methodologies for the study of social life of language from face-to-face

interaction to the formation of large-scale publics; exploration of new cultural and linguistic forms emerging in electronically-mediated communication.

AN662G Ethnography Winter School

This module is a comprehensive introduction to ethnography. 'Ethnography' is more than a 'method': it comprises a whole style of thought encompassing forms of observation, analysis, and writing. The module therefore emphasizes analysis and theory in addition to the research practices (interviewing, participant observation, note-taking) conventionally associated with qualitative research methodology. Themes covered include: culture and difference, contexts and cases (working in NGOs, clinics, corporations), styles of representation and the politics of knowledge, research ethics and ethnographic engagement. The module is also structured as a workshop, so that ethnographers at various stages of their careers -- from students planning proposals, to dissertation writers analysing previously collected material, to research professionals who may not be based in academia -- will be able to produce work within the module that relates to their respective career stages, locations, and goals. This work, such as a proposal draft or a stretch of ethnographic writing, forms the basis for module assessment.

AN647 Foundations of Medical Anthropology

These modules offer an advanced introduction to the broad field of Medical Anthropology, focusing on the classical anthropological contributions to this important subfield with a focus on global health, health care systems, care more generally, and suffering. Students will explore ethnographic work on patient-physician relationships, the social and community contexts of care provision, and the impact of bio-medicine on Western and non-Western populations.

AN667 Topics in Medical Anthropology

To ground Anthropology students ongoing research on Medical Anthropology with directed readings and small group discussion. Except in certain cases, students must have completed AN647 to take this course.

Students can also avail of selected modules in the Departments of Geography, Media Studies, International Development, and in the School of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures.

PhD in Anthropology / Four-Year Programme

The Department of Anthropology offers a structured PhD programme, which includes theoretical and practical training in Anthropology. The PhD is an advanced research degree that requires considerable initiative on the part of the student to engage in independent, original scholarship. The objective of the PhD programme is to provide students with professional training in Anthropological research and to produce scholars capable of contributing to international networks in the discipline in an original, ethical, and effective fashion. (Open/Rolling Application Deadline, Funding Available via competitive grants and fellowships).

