

## WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN ... ANTHROPOLOGY

### OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:

“Anthropology is the study of humanity and its works, from the most remote point in human history to the cultural, linguistic and biological diversity of the present...Each of the five subfields of anthropology – archaeology, biological anthropology, ethnology, human evolutionary ecology, and linguistic anthropology – contributes to an integrated picture of past and present human variation, offering insights about why human society is as we find it today, and contemporary problems” (from the UNM Department of Anthropology’s website).

### EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENT:

A bachelor's degree is the minimum formal education required, and is excellent preparation for occupations that require people skills and an understanding of cultural differences. However, most professional anthropological jobs require a graduate degree (M.A./M.S. or Ph.D.).

### EMPLOYERS/INDUSTRIES & SUGGESTED STRATEGY:

Please ask your Career Advisor (CDF) for identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

**Education:** Teaching - Research - Administration – Two- and four-year colleges and universities – University research institutes or laboratories – Campus museums

**Suggested Strategy:** As an undergraduate obtain a research assistant position, or attend a field school. Concentrate on maintaining a high GPA and developing relationships with professors to prepare for graduate school applications. An M.A./M.S. will be required for community college positions, while a Ph.D. is required for university/college faculty or research positions.

**Museums and Archives:** Management - Curatorship - Conservation – Research and education – Libraries – Development - Natural history or history museums (universities, government, private) - Archives

**Suggested Strategy:** As an undergraduate obtain internship or volunteer positions to gain related experience. Prepare for and obtain a graduate degree in anthropology, museum studies, library science (with an emphasis on archives), or a related discipline.

**Government:** Administration – Cultural Resource Management – Surveying – Site Management – Excavation – Research – Museum Conservation – Legislative Compliance Review – Program Management/Evaluation – Policy Analysis – Urban Planning (positions in these areas can be found in a variety of federal and state agencies)

**Suggested Strategy:** Get involved in campus organizations to develop leadership abilities and interpersonal skills. Develop statistical, analytical and computer skills and investigate research methodologies. Gain related experience in your area of interest through internships, volunteer, or part-time employment. Research governmental application procedures. A graduate degree may be required for higher level positions. Consider attending a UNM field school, or other field school.

**Nonprofit:** Administration – Program management/development – Policy analysis – Research – Social services agencies – Hospitals and medical centers – Private foundations – International organizations (e.g., WHO) – Nonprofit organizations

**Suggested Strategy:** As an undergraduate obtain internship or volunteer positions to gain related experience. Focus on honing skills in public speaking, writing, and programming.

**Other Areas:** Administration/Management - Advertising – Human Resources - Publishers: Textbook, magazine, newspaper, book – Public Relations – Sales/Marketing – Writing/editing – Advertising agencies – Business/consulting firms – Retail stores

**Suggested Strategy:** Gain relevant experience through internships, volunteer positions, or part-time work in your area of interest. Consider earning a second degree, minor, or pursuing additional coursework in a complementary field of study. Focus on developing “transferable skills” such as computer competency, written/verbal communication, and project management.

### STATE & NATIONAL WAGES (FOR ANTHROPOLOGISTS AND ARCHAEOLOGISTS AS OF 2006):

	10 %	25 %	Median	75 %	90 %
New Mexico	\$ 31,900	\$ 38,200	\$ 48,500	\$ 65,700	\$ 81,500
United States	\$ 29,000	\$ 36,200	\$ 49,900	\$ 66,600	\$ 86,400

**INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:**

**Society for American Archaeology**  
**Careers in Historical Archaeology**  
**American Anthropological Association**  
**American Academy of Forensic Science**

<http://www.saa.org/careers/>  
<http://www.sha.org>  
<http://www.aaanet.org/profdev/careers/>  
<http://www.aafs.org>

**OTHER INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:**



<http://online.onetcenter.org>



<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>