What Is Anthropology?
From the Greek anthropon (human) and logia (study), the word *anthropology* itself tells us it is the field that seeks to understand humankind, from its beginnings millions of years ago up to the present day. Anthropology considers how people’s behavior changes over time, and how people and seemingly dissimilar cultures are different and the same.

Forensic Anthropology
Seeks to identify skeletal, or otherwise decomposed, human remains

Business Anthropology
Helps businesses gain a better understanding of their activities and customers

Visual Anthropology
Documents everyday life through filmmaking

Environmental Anthropology
Believes that the well-being of the environment goes hand in hand with the well-being of people

Museum Anthropology
Interprets ethnographic and archaeological collections to the general public

There are many areas of anthropological study...

Careers in Anthropology

Today’s anthropologists do not just work in exotic locations. They can be found in corporations, all levels of government, educational institutions and nonprofit associations. Anthropologists even work in disaster areas, including Ground Zero in New York and the Gulf Coast in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

There are not many limits on career choices for anthropologists. AAA doctoral fellows’ research projects have focused on virtually everything from the spread of mariachi music across the globe to reducing the exposure of farm workers’ children to pesticides.

*To determine if a career as an anthropologist is for you, think about the following questions:*

What do you want to know?
Anthropologists want to know why things happen. For example, we know how AIDS is spreading, but do we know why? Anthropologists tackle big human problems, such as overpopulation, warfare, and poverty.

What do you want to do?
Anthropological study and training provide the knowledge, skills and tools to work with people, study the past, and shape the future.

Where do you want to work?
Anthropologists work in practically every environment and setting imaginable. They can be found working in large corporations such as Intel and GM or studying primates in Africa. Anthropologists work in deserts, cities, schools even in underwater archaeological sites.
Helpful links to point the way ...

**Career DVDs**
Anthropology: Real People, Real Careers
Beyond Ethnography: Corporate and Design Anthropology
www.aaanet.org/publications/pubs/

**Careers Page**
Employment and career resources
www.aaanet.org/profdev/

**AnthroSource**
Online portal to journals, newsletters and monographs in anthropology
www.anthrosoure.net

**Join AAA**
www.aaanet.org/membership/benefits/

**Resources for Students**
Information on the usefulness of an anthropology degree, online course opportunities and more
www.aaanet.org/resources/students/

**AAA Bulletin Board**
Fellowships, field schools, grants and more
www.aaanet.org/profdev/coop.cfm

**AAA Sections and Interest Groups**
www.aaanet.org/sections/

**AAA RACE Project**
A look at race through history, human variation and lived experience
www.understandingRACE.org

For more information contact the American Anthropological Association at Careers@aaanet.org

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**What do Anthropologists Do?**

**Anthropology Career DVDs**
Anthropology: Real People, Real Careers
Beyond Ethnography: Corporate and Design Anthropology

www.aaanet.org