Undergraduate Programme in Anthropology
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
什麼是人類學？
What is Anthropology?

人類學是人類學的學科，而文化是人之所以為人的所在。文化，可理解為人類運用符號和象徵性行動來創造和再造意義的過程。生活於世界上不同環境的人們，創造出不同的社會、政治、宗教及生態系統，並在日常實踐中為事物賦予各種意義，造就了人類豐富的文
化多樣性。人類學家透過研究這些文化系統的異同，探尋人類存在的本質。

人類學家運用整合觀和系統的研究方法，來理解文化生活的方方面面。我們重視人們自身的觀點，強
調與研究對象的互動：人類學家親身進入所研究的社群當中，觀察他們的生活方式，並與他們討論，
了解背後的原因。對於現今不再存在的文化，我們則使用考古學的方法進行研究。

扎根於實地研究，人類學提供對社會的深刻理解。在香港的人類學家的研究所舉例：

- 美國與日本關於人種主義的觀念
- 堪察加的海洋資源開發、社會轉型和社區適應力
- 日本的茶文化
- 印度的公民社會與民主主義論述
- 中國的傳統道家及儒家養生的興趣
- 香港及臺灣獨立音樂部眾的生活方式
- 西方主流心理治療在中國內地的普及
- 在香港的毒品及家庭問題
- 印度城市中宗教活動與公共設施之關係
- 不同文化及環境下個體認知的差異
- 文化遺產對香港人的意義
- 香港的都市化過程
- 中國鄉村時報及農業的經濟變革及社會變遷

人類學本科生課程啟發學生從不同的角度來審視他們所處的世界。跨文化知識的掌握，對人際關係
的理解，對研究、組織、溝通、多元思考等多方面技能的訓練，將為學生的職業發展奠定堅實的基礎。

Anthropology is the study of humanity, the distinctive feature of which is culture. Culture may be thought of as a process by which humans make and re-create meaning through the deployment of symbols and symbolic practices. Cultural diversity exists because people around the world in varying environments create different social, political, economic, and religious systems, imbuing them with different symbolic meanings.

Anthropologists study the similarity and diversity of these cultural systems to find out the nature of human existence. Anthropologists take a holistic viewpoint and use systematic research methods. We try to understand the views of people themselves and put emphasis on interaction with people: being immediately among them, observing and talking with them about what they do, and why. For cultures that do not exist today, we use archaeological methods.

Anthropology’s emphasis on ground-level research allows it to produce deep understandings about the social world. Anthropologists in Hong Kong study contemporary issues such as:

- Meanings of life in the U.S. and Japan
- The intimate relations between asylum-seekers and the local population in Hong Kong
- Coastal resource development, social transformation, and community resilience in Lai Fau Shan, New Territories
- Scent and the practices of incense in Japan
- Alternative medicine and rationalist discourse in India
- The urbanization process in China and the rise of its film industry
- The independent music communities in Hong Kong and Taiwan and their non-accumulative aspirations
- The popularization of Western-style psychotherapy in mainland China
- Filipino domestic workers in Hong Kong and their motivations to be beauty queens
- The relationship between religious and civic infrastructures in India cities
- Cultural and situational differences in the distribution of responsibility and blame
- The significance of cultural heritage to Hong Kong people
- How metal technology developed in ancient China
- Economic and social development during the Bronze Age and Han Empire

The anthropology undergraduate programme teaches students to see the world they find themselves in from different perspectives. The mastery of cross-cultural knowledge, the understanding of interpersonal relationships, and the training of research, organization, communication, and dynamic thinking skills will lay a solid foundation for students’ career development.
Course Objectives

系的人類學本科課程主要涵蓋社會文化人類學及考古學。課程內容包括人類學及考古學的理論和方法，亞洲及世界的民族誌研究，以及當代社會文化議題。

Through their training in anthropology, students will be able to:

- Understand the world's cultural diversity and human universals;
- Know anthropology's subfields, comprehend and apply different theories to explain a wide range of sociocultural phenomena;
- Design and carry out research projects using anthropological tools and perspectives;
- Think critically about one's society and the world using anthropological modes of understanding.

Minor in Cultural Heritage Studies

文化資產學副修

此副修課程着重研究香港及鄰近地區文化遺產的保育和管理，有助於學生在博物館、教育、旅遊業以及其它文化領域發展事業。文化資產學副修課程由人類學學系及歷史系聯合開辦，學生需修畢18學分（6門課）。

This minor programme focuses on the preservation and management of cultural heritage in Hong Kong and adjacent regions. It is beneficial for career development in museums, education, tourism, as well as other areas related to culture. The programme is co-organized by the Department of Anthropology and the Department of History, and students are required to complete 18 units (6 courses).

Minor in Archaeology

考古學副修

此副修課程為香港首個亦是現時唯一的考古類課程，教授考古發掘及研究的基本方法，以及考古資料的鑑賞、策劃與展覽的相關知識。學生將從人類學、文化管理、藝術、地理及地質學、歷史學等跨學科的視角認識考古。考古學副修課程由人類學學系協調，學生需修畢21學分（7門課）。

This minor programme is the first and only programme in Hong Kong that teaches basic skills in archaeological excavation and research, as well as knowledge in the appreciation, curation, and exhibition of archaeological materials. It enables students to develop an integrated focus on archaeology by bringing together inter-disciplinary perspectives including anthropology, culture management, fine arts, geography and geology, and history. The programme is coordinated by the Department of Anthropology and students are required to complete 21 units (7 courses).
Hello

We are a relatively small department with 12 full-time teachers, around 100 undergraduate students, 25 research postgraduate students, and 50 taught master students. Life in the Anthropology Department has a friendly, family feel.

A very important occasion in undergraduate studies is the Summer Field Trip. It is a two-week trip outside Hong Kong, led by a professor and a tutor. Students gain extensive experience of being in another culture and learn how to do fieldwork. Past groups have been to Hunan, Hualien, Cambodia, Turkey, Nagoya, Vietnam etc..

We collaborate with various institutions to offer local and overseas summer internship opportunities to our students, including internships at the Nicholson Museum at the University of Sydney, Australia, the Antiquities and Monuments Office, HKSAR, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, HKSAR, Hong Kong Museum of History, Hong Kong Maritime Museum etc., and a number of local NGOs.

All anthropology-major undergraduate students will do a Final Year Project. Under the supervision of a faculty member, students develop an independent research project on a topic of their own choosing, conduct extensive fieldwork, and then write a thesis.
Researchers of anthropology usually need to discover a research question on their own, which must be burning from inside. Why am I interested in this question? What is its practical significance? How can we better understand the world through answering this question? My research focuses on the cross-border connections of ethnic minorities in various societies. I hope to discover new stories and vocabulary, which may help us comprehend and challenge the current power structures. I believe that to promote social change, we need new forms of knowledge production and more infectious social critique. This group of people I study have not been at the center of attention in this age of globalization, yet the concept of marginality is still a primary theme in anthropological theorization—people on the margins use different perspectives to observe the world.


Chew’s research is about the marginalization of certain communities, particularly in the context of globalization. Her work explores how these groups use different perspectives to observe the world, and how their experiences challenge existing power structures. She believes that by promoting social change, we need new forms of knowledge production and more infectious social critique. Her research focuses on the cross-border connections of ethnic minorities in various societies, and she hopes to discover new stories and vocabulary that can help us better understand and challenge the current power dynamics. She believes that anthropology is essential in understanding the world, especially for those who are on the margins, and that anthropology is still a primary theme in anthropological theorization.
職業前景

Job Prospect

人類學的訓練使得學生善於理解人類之間的複雜關係，敏銳於社群生活的文化面向。本系畢業生擅長批判、比較及整合思考，尤其能適應各種專業環境，與來自不同背景的人互動。

Anthropology students are trained to understand human relations and develop sensitivity to the cultural aspects of human existence. Our students become adept at critical, comparative, and holistic thinking, and are particularly skilled at adapting to various professional circumstances and interacting with people from diverse backgrounds.

本系畢業生從事的行業包括：
Our graduates work in various fields, including:

- 非政府組織 NGO
- 學術研究 Academic Research
- 教育 Education
- 媒體 Media
- 市場推廣及研究 Marketing and Market Research
- 公共關係 Public Relations
- 文化遺產研究及保護 Cultural Heritage Research and Preservation
- 博物館 Museum
- 以及其他多個不同領域。And many more!

入門讀物

Recommended Readings

- 香港中文大學人類學系學者，2020年。《人類學好野——關於人類的，我想說》。傳廣出版。