



**Anthropology**  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

**Guide to Independent Work  
in Anthropology**

# Guide to Independent Work in Anthropology

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## ANTHROPOLOGY MAJORS:

Upon declaring your major, please read through each section of this Guide carefully, and return to the Guide over the course of your junior and senior years as questions arise.

### I. Portrait of the Discipline

**Anthropology** is the study of human experience and social change. Through situated and relational methods, anthropology considers the ways people think, act, and make sense of their lifeworlds, against the backdrop of multiple structural forces and across intersecting domains and scales. Always in a deep interdisciplinary dialogue, the connections between ethnography, theory, social engagement and storytelling are a hallmark of anthropology.

Created in 1972, our department reflects the discipline's multiple origins and trajectories of critical engagement in the social sciences, the humanities, and the natural sciences. It also reflects the University's central commitment to service. We bring diverse experiences and backgrounds to the research and teaching of pressing contemporary issues, such as health inequity and food justice, systemic racism and carcerality, authoritarianism and democratic insecurity, settler colonialism and human rights, toxic contamination and climate emergency, and the human-machine frontiers of artificial intelligence. Anthropology at Princeton has always been mainly (but not exclusively) sociocultural, but we do see the biocultural as integral to our emphasis on ethnographic and ecological engagements with the everyday praxis of being human, multispecies relations, and research ethics.

Since its beginning as part of the Economics Department in the mid-1950s and as a special program within the Sociology Department in the mid-1960s, Anthropology been a hub for students to tackle urgent societal issues, and it has been at the forefront of making the University more inclusive and its social sciences curricula more people-centered and self-reflexive. Never insular, the quest for critical connections between theory and socially engaged practice remains a hallmark of our department, always in deep dialogue with the arts and the humanities. See <https://anthrohistory.princeton.edu/>.

### II. Curricular Goals

**The Department of Anthropology's key curricular goals for undergraduate majors are:**

- To train our students in anthropological ways of knowing and to empower them to deploy social theory and ethnography in their engagements with diverse lifeworlds and pressing societal issues in and out of the academy and workplace;
- To explore how anthropology emerged historically in the context of colonialism and imperialism and how it continues to evolve towards a decolonial humanistic discipline;

- To foreground anthropology's situated and relational mode of evidence making – ethnography – and its contributions to other critical perspectives in the social sciences and the humanities and to civic engagement;
- To introduce students to key subfields within anthropology (e.g., sociocultural, medical, legal, political-economic, environmental, science studies, visual) and core topics and concepts (e.g., ritual, kinship, gender, language, exchange, biocultural, psychosocial, multispecies, structural violence, race and racialization, colonialism/decolonization);
- To familiarize students with ethnographic theorizing and to train them in the multimodal practices of fieldwork (e.g., participant observation, interviews, oral history, archival and big data research, and virtual methods);
- To engage students in debates over research ethics and to learn regulatory ethics, while designing and conducting independent ethnographic research projects;
- To offer research opportunities in classwork and through independent work that advance critical thought and the understanding of contemporary human conditions;
- To develop students' capacity for sociocultural analysis in multiple settings, including academia, public and private sectors, social organizations, and local communities;
- To maximize students' capacities and skills to work collaboratively, convey thoughts clearly both orally and in writing, conduct independent research, contribute to scholarly debates, and experiment with modes of expression and data presentation.

### III. Evaluation of Independent Work

In their **Independent Work (IW)** in Anthropology, students are expected to clearly address and rigorously research and theorize a socio-cultural phenomenon, and then skillfully present the case with engaging storytelling and with recommendations for further study or action. The Independent Work should demonstrate apposite integration of a set of purposively selected curricular goals from the list above.

Advisers help students design, develop, and carry out their individual IW projects.

**Junior Independent Work (JIW)** is mentored by an assigned Junior Paper (JP) adviser who mentors individual students within a framework of practices and expectations that are uniform across all junior advising in the department. A **Junior Arc team** (see *Advising*) provides common support to students, regardless of the individual mentoring assignments. The JP advisers are Department of Anthropology Lecturers who, in addition to teaching ANT courses on anthropological theories and pressing societal issues, are working together in continuous conversation within the Junior Arc team to share advising practices and assessment standards. Every ANT major's JIW writing, interim drafts, and final JP are evaluated by the mentoring adviser who offers the student feedback throughout the year and then provides a written assessment of the final JP in addition to assigning the final letter grade. Along the way, the JP advisers compare notes and discuss individual cases in calibration and with agreement that, as a literature review, a

successful JP is one in which the student has clearly articulated a noteworthy debate drawing from multiple anthropological works (classical and contemporary).

The **Senior Thesis (ST)** is mentored and facilitated by an Anthropology faculty member in a one-on-one role across the senior year. The final ST is evaluated and assessed by the mentor and one additional faculty reader who collaborate to offer a set of written feedback and a letter grade. Successful senior theses are ones that offer a contribution to scholarship and debates in the academy and out in the world, at a scope and/or scale appropriate to the topic and the research approach taken.

Throughout both junior and senior years, the *process* of conducting independent work is evaluated as well as the final *product* of the Junior Paper and Senior Thesis projects. Completion of drafts within departmental deadlines and demonstration of receptiveness to adviser recommendations are process elements that count in final project evaluations. Students who consistently fail to communicate with their advisers throughout the year and miss deadlines for action or draft submissions without pre-authorization of extensions from their advisers may expect to see a deduction on the IW grade.

The **Senior Departmental Exam** is the final component in assessing Independent Work. The exam is designed to be a milestone reflection by each student on their personal achievement of curricular goals through purposeful integration of the goals into their independent work projects. Students are encouraged to study the curricular goals and to incorporate them into their project structures and outlines at the beginning of each IW project and to return to the curricular goals periodically throughout the academic year to fine tune the relationship between the goals and independent work.

The specific guidelines, structure, and mentoring frame of junior and senior independent work are discussed below in separate sections addressing *timeline*; *process*; *advising*; and *style, structure, and format*. Important points are sometimes reiterated in these separate sections as well as in the following sections on *funding*, *University resources*, and *frequently asked questions*. This Guide ends with the *academic-year calendars* for ANT independent work and departmental *contact* information.

## IV. Timeline (see also *AY2023-2024 Calendars*)

An **ANT Senior Calendar** and an **ANT Junior Calendar** with dates for meetings, milestones, action items, and deadlines are distributed to students at the beginning of each academic year and as the final section of this guide. The current year's calendars may also be found [online](#).

### A. The Junior Year

In early September, junior majors attend a mandatory meeting to learn about the course of Independent Work in Anthropology, expectations, and timeline for the junior year, including JP writing workshops during the spring term along with preparation for summer thesis research (encouraged but optional); to meet the JP advisers; and to get answers to questions they might have.

### B. The Senior Year

During the first week of the fall term, senior majors attend a mandatory meeting to get information about the senior thesis timeline for the academic year, to meet thesis advisers, and to learn about available

resources, opportunities to conduct ethnographic thesis research during fall and/or winter, and senior thesis writing workshops. The *process* and *advising* sections in this Guide elaborate on the timeline as set forth in the ANT Senior Calendar.

### C. Study Abroad Planning

Students anticipating **study abroad** during junior year should consult with the Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) as early as possible.

Many ANT majors are interested in conducting ethnographic field research, especially in the summer before their senior year, as a component of their senior thesis project. **Students are required to take ANT 301 *The Ethnographer's Craft* before starting field research except in rare circumstances.**

For an exception to the ANT 301 requirement, a student must be recommended by their JP adviser and approved by the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Anthropology majors normally take ANT 301 during the spring term of junior year. It is highly advisable for a major or prospective major to consult the DUS as early as possible as part of study abroad planning. **A student may request permission from the department to take ANT 301 during the spring term of sophomore year.**

### D. Student responsibility

- ✓ **Students are responsible** for attending the September organizational meetings or taking prompt and immediate steps to get missed information in case of an unplanned emergency or an excused absence (by exception, by the ANT director of undergraduate studies, a.k.a. the ANTDUS).
- ✓ **Students are responsible** for understanding the contents of their relevant calendar.
- ✓ **Students are responsible** for meeting independent work deadlines and understanding the grading consequences of unexcused missed deadlines. (See also *FAQs-ANT Majors' Frequently Asked Questions*).
- ✓ **Students are responsible** for communicating with their advisers, as proactively as possible, if a deadline needs to be missed; communication in advance is expected.
- ✓ **A student is responsible** for informing the department (by email to [antdus@princeton.edu](mailto:antdus@princeton.edu)) if their adviser has authorized an extension to a deadline.
- ✓ **Students accept responsibility** for IW grade deductions due to unauthorized missed deadlines that result from a lack of communication with advisers.

## V. The Process

**Independent work (IW)** with acceptance of responsibility is a key part of undergraduate education and development at Princeton. In this Guide, you will find information about how we guide majors through the process of IW in the Department of Anthropology.

### Relating Coursework to Independent Work

**Before declaring Anthropology** as their major, students have the opportunity to choose from an array of courses in the department that address present-day challenges through an anthropological lens. These 200-level courses (and freshman seminars) introduce students to anthropological ways of knowing while studying topics such as the environment, policing, debt, religion, and more.

Anthropology course offerings are organized into three tracks: **Sociocultural Anthropology (SCA)**; **Medical Anthropology (MedAnth)**; and **Law, Politics, and Economics (LPE)**. **Ethnographic data visualization** is infused throughout all tracks. Regardless of track, majors are expected to gain a broad understanding of the discipline through their coursework. The common core courses are structured towards collaborative learning and training for successful conduct of mentored independent work in Anthropology in both the junior and senior years.

In the core course *ANT 300 Ethnography, Evidence, and Experience* (required of all tracks), ANT majors explore anthropological ways of knowing and how ethnography shapes social theorizing and storytelling; along the way they will acquire tools for theorizing social experience. In the course *ANT 301 The Ethnographer's Craft* (required of all tracks), students learn the methods and ethics of ethnographic research. **Throughout ANT 300 & 301, students are encouraged to apply their coursework to their IW and to incorporate themes from their IW into course writing assignments.**

*ANT 390 Histories of Anthropological Theory* is required for the SCA and LPE tracks and taken as an elective in the MedAnth track. In *ANT 390*, students will learn concepts and theories developed and deployed by anthropologists in their research and consider how these concepts might help them in their IW.

MedAnth students add context through concepts studied in required foundational medical anthropology and biological anthropology courses. Students in this track take a course in each of these areas in addition to the two required foundational courses (ANT 300 & 301) which counts towards their nine courses for departmental degree requirement.

After students declare the major, the Anthropology Director of Undergraduate Studies (ANTDUS) becomes their academic adviser and assumes the course advising role previously housed in the residential colleges. During the course advising periods in each subsequent spring and fall term, ANT majors are expected to continue to complete the Academic Planning Form in TigerHub as they did before declaring their major, and to do so in each new term in a timely manner as instructed by the department. Adherence by ANT majors to the announced advising process will give the ANTDUS opportunity to help them relate coursework to their independent work.

### **Choosing an IW topic and research methodology**

Majors complete **Junior Independent Work** by writing one **Junior Paper of approximately 8,000 words**, based on a **literature review of anthropological debates on a topic of the student's interest**. Research and critical reading skills developed during the junior year feed directly into writing of the senior thesis.

**Senior-year independent work is typically structured as a multi-part or multi-chapter thesis project ranging from 20,000 to 25,000 words.** The Senior Thesis is expected to address a significant research problem from an anthropological perspective, while critically engaging relevant literature and presenting original analysis of ethnographic or other types of data. Senior work is usually based on fieldwork or archival and database research conducted during the previous summer and/or during fall or Wintersession of the senior year. Senior work may also be library based and/or built around an artistic or multimedia project.

In their independent work, ANT majors will develop their research, writing, and multimedia representation skills using anthropological methods that entail conducting research in the field, in archives, and in libraries.

Some majors will conduct research in a laboratory or museum as well. As for the topic of their IW, **ANT majors are encouraged to identify and pursue research questions of interest to them. Advisers will discuss potential research questions with students and will help them settle on a methodological approach**, including using resources offered through the [VizE Lab](#) for Ethnographic Data Visualization.

When choosing an IW topic, some students find it helpful to review the curricular goals and peruse ANT course syllabi. The latter are available to majors in the [Canvas for Anthropology Concentrators](#). A discussion with one's adviser about the department's curriculum may be especially fruitful if a student is having trouble identifying an IW topic.

Through this guided learning process, **the goal of IW in the Department of Anthropology is for each student to contribute to scholarship and societal debates**. The scope and scale of each thesis varies and can come in the form of original ethnographic research, the comparison and synthesis of data from multiple sources, the development or critique of important anthropological concepts or a public-facing anthropological intervention, among other possibilities.

### Conducting Independent Work in Anthropology

The **guided arc of learning** for an Anthropology major **starts in the junior year** with the required year-long course sequence of *ANT 300* in the Fall semester and *ANT 301* in the Spring semester. (See *Relating Coursework to Independent Work* above).

#### **The learning arc for Anthropology majors extends beyond traditional coursework.**

Anthropology majors are required to learn about and utilize Princeton's rich library resources. They have on-demand access ([Canvas for ANT Concentrators](#)) to recorded instructional materials on doing **library research in anthropology databases** and they are required to meet with the Firestone Anthropology librarian early on as juniors. Throughout junior and senior years, ANT majors are encouraged to seek consultations with the librarian as frequently as needed.

In the **fall of their junior year**, students begin to work collaboratively with peers. **Guided by their assigned JP advisers**, students develop their individual ideas that get expressed, critiqued, refined, and reiterated in small peer groups. Organized and run by our teaching staff, **"I-Workshops" (Independent Work Workshops)** extend through the spring term of junior year to provide students with ample opportunities to think and write together in a safe community in which they can freely offer and receive helpful peer feedback on each other's independent works in progress. In this way, students learn from one another while providing mutual support and motivation as they work concurrently with their individual advisers.

For students whose senior theses are based on original ethnographic fieldwork, *ANT 301* helps them design a research plan, write a proposal that can be used in applying for funding, and apply for approval to conduct human subjects research, if applicable. In preparation for application to the **Institutional Review Board (IRB)** for Human Subjects Research, an annual **"IRB bootcamp"** is offered for ANT majors in **late spring of the junior year** to help them navigate the IRB application process. For students who do not conduct summer research, the spring bootcamp provides an early opportunity for them to acquire useful tips for later use should they decide to conduct ethnographic research during their senior year that requires IRB approval.



**Anthropology juniors who are planning to conduct senior thesis research during the summer before senior year will be assigned thesis advisers in the junior-year spring term.** The adviser will help the student obtain IRB approval for their summer research as well as serve as evaluator of any funding application that the student submits for summer research.

At the **start of the senior year**, any student who has not already been matched with a senior thesis adviser will be assigned to one. The senior thesis adviser will help the student **identify and/or refine a research topic**. One student's challenge may be to find sufficient anthropologically relevant readings, while another student's challenge may be to narrow the research scope. In all cases, the key is for students to **talk to advisers early and regularly**.

The department further supports seniors with a series of **fall-term workshops** led by faculty and designed to help students break down thesis writing into manageable steps. **Before fall break**, students work one-on-one with advisers to define their thesis projects. **After fall break**, the faculty-led workshops provide students with opportunity to work on articulating their research topic to one another; share strategies for organizing research materials; practice presenting and analyzing evidence; get comfortable with drafting and revising; and so on. **Throughout the senior year**, students continue the **collaborative writing process** they began to learn as juniors, first through the **faculty-led senior workshops**. **In the spring term**, while working closely with their advisers towards thesis completion, seniors continue to have opportunity for regular group support through the department's **"I-Workshops."**

**Students are responsible for scheduling advising meetings, sustaining communication with their advisers, and making use of the fall and spring workshop offerings. Advisers are also readers and graders of the final senior thesis. Failure to communicate with one's adviser throughout the year and missing deadlines on the ANT Calendar without getting adviser's pre-authorization will result in a 1/3 grade deduction on the student's final Independent Work grades. (See FAQs-ANT Majors' Frequently Asked Questions.)**

Finally, after submission of the senior thesis, majors reflect individually on their course of learning in Anthropology, beginning with their coursework and culminating in the writing of their senior thesis. The trajectory of the Anthropology major's journey is not completed until they reflect on the ways in which they applied anthropological theory and methods to their chosen areas of independent work and expertise. The reflection is completed through the **Senior Departmental Exam**, an opportunity for students to submit either a written reflection or a multimedia recorded submission which will contribute to the Anthro-Wisdom Archive. The exam is scheduled annually by the University to be given on the two days immediately following the spring-term Dean's Date.

## VI. Advising

Anthropology majors are assigned one faculty adviser for the Junior Paper and another faculty adviser for the Senior Thesis. Assigned advisers work with their advisees throughout the academic year.

### A. Junior Independent Work Advising

In the **junior year, majors are assigned randomly into advising groups** with one Lecturer in the Department of Anthropology per group who serves as the JP adviser for every student in the group. The Lecturers work

closely with the *ANT 300* and *ANT 301* instructors, all in conjunction with the Director of Undergraduate Studies, the Department Chair, and undergraduate administrative staff. Together this **Junior Arc team** tailors the academic trajectory of the students in the fall to prepare them for Independent Work. In the spring, students are guided in preparation for summer thesis research, if they choose. The Lecturers meet frequently with students over the course of the academic year, both individually and in groups, helping students to narrow topics of interest, identify relevant literature, and develop their unique anthropological voice. Group collaboration infused with individual advising results in each student completing a **JP proposal of approximately 500-750 words by the second day of the Wintersession**. The JP proposal is the basis for the student's JP writing in the spring term. The department continues to offer opportunities for group work in the spring term, through scheduled **I-Workshops**, while students consult with their advisers individually. **A full JP draft is due at the end of spring break. The department deadline for final JP submission is before the University's posted deadline. JP Advisers have sole authority to grant extensions to their advisees up to the University deadline.** (See *Additional Advising Information*)

## B. Senior Thesis Advising

Students are encouraged to consider their Senior Thesis as early as their junior year and those students wanting to conduct fieldwork-based research should consider their senior thesis in their junior year. Students are encouraged to **discuss their ideas with their JP adviser or any of their professors.**

If you are interested in conducting summer research between junior and senior years, you must take *ANT 301*, and you should begin planning no later than the start of the spring semester, consulting your JP adviser for advice. You should plan adequate time to prepare for and to conduct the summer research (usually a minimum of 3-4 continuous weeks for field-based research, possibly longer, depending on your project). The **ANT Junior Calendar** gives the deadline for you to declare to the department your **intent to conduct Summer Ethnography.**

Fieldwork-based Senior Thesis research requires approval from the **Institutional Review Board for Human Subjects** (the IRB), a process that you will learn about in detail in *ANT 301*. If you have summer research plans that are supported in principle by your JP adviser and/or an *ANT 301* instructor and you have declared by the deadline that you intend to conduct summer ethnography, **you will be assigned a faculty adviser** (possibly different from your JP adviser) **who will serve as the Principal Investigator (PI) on your IRB application and the evaluator of any application that you submit in the Student Activities Funding Engine (SAFE)** for summer thesis research funding. In most cases, this adviser will also become your senior thesis adviser. In case your intended thesis adviser is on academic leave during the spring of your junior year, the Director of Undergraduate Studies will assign you another faculty member to stand in temporarily as the PI for your IRB protocol and the evaluator of your SAFE funding application. In the case of temporary advising, the student is responsible for notifying the IRB, as soon as senior year begins, that the PI for their research protocol has changed.

A student who is not assigned a thesis adviser in the spring of junior year will be assigned an adviser early in the fall term of senior year. **For the senior thesis, the department matches advisers for students based on students' interests, faculty's areas of expertise, and availability.** Advisers help students develop and refine their research topics, find relevant literature, conceptualize their approach, and improve written expression and [data visualization](#).

**In August**, rising seniors are invited to complete a **survey to evaluate their JIW experience and to provide the department with current information regarding their senior thesis research status and/or plans**. Responses will help the department complete thesis advising assignments by the start of September. Seniors should meet with advisers as soon as possible to prepare a **senior thesis proposal (new or updated) no later than the last week of September**. (If applying for fall cycle senior thesis research funding, this proposal must be submitted in advance of the Office of Undergraduate Research's funding deadline). Advisers may help students prepare and submit IRB applications in the early fall for later fall and/or winter research that requires IRB approval. They may also help students with funding applications for winter cycle thesis research which may necessitate a **revised thesis proposal due in November**.

**Fall cycle thesis research funds** may be used from the beginning of fall break through the first day of the last week of fall classes.

**Faculty-led Senior Thesis writing workshops** begin after fall break and are offered through the end of fall classes. In total, the faculty-led writing workshops are offered during six weeks of the fall term.

**At the end of the fall-term, during the Reading Period in December, students are expected to give advisers samples of thesis writing that they have workshopped. Students are responsible for follow-up by scheduling an advising meeting to discuss the workshopped writing before winter break begins.**

Advisers may modify assignments for advisees at various mileposts to extend certain deadlines, depending on individual status and progress, including whether the student conducted summer research or began thesis work later.

**Non-mentored I-Workshops** are scheduled weekly in December during Reading Period; Wintersession; and throughout the spring term until the department's senior thesis deadline in April.

**Winter cycle thesis research funds** may be used from the fall-term final exam week in December through the last day of spring break in March. Faculty advisers will help students decide if they may start or continue conducting thesis research or to focus on writing from January on. Students are expected to **complete one full thesis chapter by the last day of Wintersession**, meet with the adviser to discuss the chapter before the end of the third week of spring classes, and **submit a full rough draft by the Monday following spring break**.

**The departmental deadline for Senior Thesis (ST) submission is the Friday of Week 11 in the spring term; IW work submitted after this date is considered late and requires an approved extension or will result in grade penalty. The University posted deadline for senior thesis submission is the first day of Reading Period and ten days after the department's deadline. Advisers have sole authority to grant extensions to their advisees up to the University deadline, if students have maintained communication with their advisers and followed the calendar up to the point of the department's thesis deadline.**

### C. Additional Advising Information

Anthropology majors are welcome to consult any faculty member, within or outside Anthropology, in developing their JP and thesis research. However, barring exceptional circumstances, a senior's thesis adviser will be a member of the Anthropology Department faculty.

Juniors are expected to attend the **annual IRB bootcamp** organized by the Anthropology Department in April to receive direct guidance from IRB staff regarding IRB applications submitted in the spring for summer research or to get tips on submitting an IRB application later, during senior year. The spring schedule for

planning summer research overlaps with coursework, independent work, and extracurricular activities. If you plan summer ethnography, it is important to plan early to manage conflicting deadlines. For the most part, administrative questions pertaining to IRB applications are answered by the IRB Office, not by Anthropology faculty.

Advisers also evaluate and grade completed independent works. **Good communication on a regular basis with your adviser is crucial to a successful advising process.** Some students prefer structured deadlines to motivate their work; others prefer more independence and flexibility. In all cases, independent work demands focus, initiative, and organization. It is your responsibility to schedule advising meetings and to meet each departmental benchmark on time (see the *ANT Senior Calendar* or the *ANT Junior Calendar*). **Failure to communicate with one's independent work adviser throughout the year and missing deadlines outlined on your class year's calendar without adviser's pre-authorization will result in a 1/3 grade deduction on a student's final independent work.** (See also *FAQs*).

If you have any problems with communication with your adviser, please immediately contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies. In the rare case where the DUS is also your senior thesis adviser, please contact the Department Chair. The department is committed to providing every major a fruitful and satisfying advising experience and welcome student feedback.

## VII. Style, Structure, and Format: Guidance for Majors

### A. The Junior Paper

The JP in anthropology is based on a **literature review of a specific anthropological question or area of study.** Your review begins with a set of texts (books, articles, essays, and other written sources) that you have consulted as you have pursued your research topic. But you should go beyond a mere description or summary of this body of literature. The goal is to develop your own sense of your key historical and contemporary debates through critical evaluation, engaging the authors' use of evidence, methods of research, styles of interpretation, persuasiveness, and scope (among other things). An important part of your work as a JP writer is to identify, assemble, and read relevant sources in a meaningful way, in the service of a coherent, overarching perspective on the anthropological literature as a whole as it relates to your topic. You can find good models for anthropology literature reviews at <http://www.annualreviews.org/journal/anthro> in the *Annual Review of Anthropology*.

#### 1. Junior Paper Topic

Topics for JPs in anthropology are varied and should speak to students' interests. The department's curricular goals are one source of ideas. Some students use the JP as preparation for their senior thesis research. But this is neither required nor expected. The JP is a vehicle for you to develop and deploy your anthropological training and toolkit to analyze pressing societal issues and problems you encounter inside or outside the University (including, perhaps, professional domains in which you hope to work). Many students have chosen to explore human conditions that call for social change. You are encouraged to review and reuse in your JP sources and ideas you have encountered in your Anthropology courses, as well as any other relevant courses you have taken. While JP topics are completely open to your individual interests – and may even concern phenomena about which professional anthropologists have not yet written – you need to find some

significant set of historical and contemporary anthropological sources as an analytical context for making sense of your topic. Your advisers can help you make these connections. The **Firestone librarian** is also an invaluable resource to tap. You may also refer to Anthropology course syllabi as sources of ideas for topics, connections, and readings. You can find these posted in the [Canvas for Anthropology Majors](#), and you are encouraged to use them freely. Several sample JPs from past years (with their earlier proposals) are also available for your reference on Canvas.

## 2. JP Length

JPs are expected to be about 8,000 words (excluding notes, bibliography, tables, illustrations, and appendices) — approximately the length of a published journal article. In the past, the strongest Junior Papers have citations from at least 25 texts, with over 60 percent of their bibliographic citations being anthropological texts. Authoritative anthropological texts include peer reviewed journal articles, book chapters, and/or books by reputable publishers. As a guideline, you should draw on at least 2-3 academic monographs and 5-7 academic articles in your literature review. Subheadings are encouraged to help structure the paper and to outline its flow and arc, but JPs normally do not have multiple chapters. For help to find sources to build your bibliography, consult the Anthropology librarian at Firestone as well as your adviser.

## B. The Senior Thesis

The department encourages innovative and interdisciplinary projects. That said, Anthropology theses must engage or incorporate core anthropological sources and reflect anthropological ways of knowing. The research and critical reading skills that you developed in writing your JP will be crucial to writing your senior thesis. Theses take many different forms in anthropology; ethnographic research is encouraged, and many styles of writing and interpretation are valid. Whichever way you approach your thesis, **it should address a clear research question, explain the significance of the question, critically engage literature relevant to the question, and present an analysis of ethnographic or archival or other dataset that bears on the question.** You may find it helpful to refer to the “*Curricular Goals*” section of this guide to help you define and shape your senior thesis.

### 1. Senior Thesis Topic

Theses in the Department of Anthropology have focused on a wide variety of subjects and have been based on ethnographic fieldwork or library, laboratory, and museum research. Some theses have also included creative components – for example, a website, theater production, photography exhibit, dance performance, or documentary film – but such projects must be accompanied by a substantial written essay. If you are planning to do a **creative thesis**, consult your adviser early and again periodically as your thesis project progresses for guidance regarding the minimally acceptable length of written work that must accompany the non-written portion of your senior thesis. (See *FAQs* for information about **creative theses**).

Bound copies of most anthropology theses written in 2019 or earlier are archived in the Department, and students are welcome to look at them. In addition, within the Princeton domain, **the Mudd Library** has made available online reading of most senior theses written since 2014, through [Dataspace](https://dataspace.princeton.edu/jspui/) <https://dataspace.princeton.edu/jspui/>.

### 2. Senior Thesis Length

Senior theses are expected to be more complex than JPs in their treatment of research topics and methodological approaches. Anthropology theses require original research and are usually multi-part or

multi-chapter projects. While length varies greatly, a typical thesis might be between 20,000 and 25,000 words (footnotes, bibliography, illustrations, tables, and appendices excluded) and contain three or four main sections. The ultimate structure and length of each senior thesis is determined by discussions between student and adviser.

### C. Citation Style in Anthropology Independent Works

You should consult anthropology journals, such as *American Anthropologist*, for guidance on the proper style of footnotes, citations, and bibliographies. Familiarizing yourself with these conventions at the start of your note-taking process can save you a great deal of woe when it comes to finalizing your references as deadlines approach. **Note that the citation of sources is not usually placed in footnotes in anthropological journal articles, but parenthetically in the text itself; footnotes are reserved for clarifications and other asides.** For more detailed guidelines, you can refer to *The Chicago Manual of Style*, used by the American Anthropological Association (AAA). See the Princeton University Library's homepage for Anthropology at <https://libguides.princeton.edu/anthropology> for a direct link to the current AAA Publishing Style Guide.

The above guidelines notwithstanding, your best source of information on the recommended format of your JP or Senior Thesis is your assigned faculty adviser.

## VIII. Funding

The **Student Activities Funding Engine (SAFE)** is a student portal to many University funding opportunities, including support for senior thesis research offered by departments, programs, and centers on campus.

### Anthropology Field-Based Senior Thesis Research Grants

One of the funding opportunities you will find in SAFE is the Anthropology Department's "**Field-Based Senior Thesis Research Grant Program**," through which awards are made to Anthropology majors to conduct "long term" field research, defined in this grant as a duration of at least four continuous weeks. The Anthropology Department's grant program is intended primarily as support for senior thesis research conducted during the summer, but you may also apply in the spring for Department funding for senior thesis research that you plan to begin during the fall semester, for example, weekly or other periodic research to be conducted in New York, Philadelphia, or other nearby sites over the course of the fall semester.

### Non-Anthropology Funding Resources for Senior Thesis Research

**The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) and other University departments, programs, and centers also accept applications in SAFE for senior thesis research funding conducted during various periods of each academic year.** See <https://undergraduateresearch.princeton.edu/funding/thesis-funding> for information and application deadlines for fall, winter, and summer funding cycles.

Some academic units invite juniors to apply to participate in selective programs that offer support and funding for senior thesis research. Examples of these opportunities include the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies ([PIIRS](#)), the Program in Global Health ([Global Health Scholars](#)), Humanistic Studies (Behrman Society) and the Center for Culture, Society, and Religion, among others.

## Anthropology Funding Off-Cycle

An Anthropology senior who has a thesis research funding need before or during one of the normal SAFE application funding cycles is expected to apply to every funding opportunity for which the student is eligible, including at minimum the Anthropology Department's Field-Based Senior Thesis Research Grant Program and the Office of the Undergraduate Research's OUR funding. However, if a thesis funding need arises at a time when there are no open funding opportunities available for application (i.e., off-cycle, after all SAFE deadlines have passed: for example, a previously unknown conference at which interlocuters may be present for thesis research; or one or more day trips to an existing nearby field site in order to complement or to complete research already started) and a small amount of funding would enable the senior thesis writer to make use of the opportunity, the student may talk to their adviser about the relevance and usefulness of the proposed activity. The Anthropology Department may be able to provide funding as reimbursement of actual expenses upon submission of itemized receipts. A budget with a concise written proposal will need to be submitted to [antdus@princeton.edu](mailto:antdus@princeton.edu) for review and possible approval. An award made in this manner will be offered and disbursed through SAFE as a funder-initiated opportunity. The budget with explanatory narrative should be saved as a PDF document and uploaded in SAFE at the time such an award is accepted. Off-cycle funding may not duplicate or replace funding received through other sources.

## IX. Additional Resources

- **Anthropology@Princeton website** - <https://anthropology.princeton.edu/>
- **Canvas for Anthropology Majors**  
Repository for calendars and other information for junior and senior majors, Anthropology course syllabi, research-related instructional videos, and lots of other information. Collection vehicle for independent work proposals, progress reports, and final JPs. Majors should refer to this resource regularly.
- **Firestone Library**  
Many Firestone reference librarians have special expertise in particular subject areas. **The reference librarian for Anthropology is Wayne Bivens-Tatum.** He can help you find books, journal articles, databases, and other resources relevant to your research topic, as well as materials from fields outside anthropology that might be useful. You may contact him directly by email ([rbivens@princeton.edu](mailto:rbivens@princeton.edu)) to set up an appointment. You can also use the URL links provided below to the online resources prepared by the Princeton University Library for anthropology:
  - **Anthropology Libguide**  
<https://libguides.princeton.edu/anthropology>
  - **Anthropology Databases**  
<https://library.princeton.edu/databases/subject/anthropology>

- **Library Research Methods**  
<https://libguides.princeton.edu/c.php?g=381322&p=2678582>

- **Anthropology JP Research Quick Guide**  
<https://libguides.princeton.edu/anthropology/jpquickguide>

- **Institutional Review Board (IRB) for Research with Human Subjects**

<http://www.princeton.edu/ria/human-research-protection/committee-information/>

“Above all, I will do no harm” is a pledge that all anthropologists make when starting research into human lives. Members of the Anthropology Department of Princeton University – undergraduate and graduate students as well as faculty – must abide by that commitment. This requires vigilance, informed imagining of the social relationships that will make your research project possible, and sincere efforts to foresee the consequences of your research and public revelation of its content, in order to mitigate harmful effects. Careful and explicit discussion of your methods and of the expected end products of your research with everyone involved is necessary so that all participants can give genuinely well-informed consent for their participation.

To aid researchers at Princeton in avoiding harmful practices, a university committee reviews all proposed research with human subjects that is conducted in the university, whether by faculty, graduate students, or undergraduates. This committee is known as the **Institutional Review Board for Human Subjects (IRB)**, with members drawn from all the social sciences, together with community members and a university physician and lawyer. **Approval of your project by the IRB is required before you may start on it.** The [eRIA-IRB](#) system is used for IRB submissions. Once an application is submitted, the Board may ask for further information from the applicant – a process that may take two months to complete. You should apply early and respond to the IRB’s questions and requests in a timely manner. For details, go to the web address listed above.

Resources available to help students with IRB applications (besides direct consultation with the IRB):

- In the course *ANT 301 The Ethnographer’s Craft*, students receive guidance on making successful applications to the IRB.
- Each spring the Anthropology department organizes an **IRB Boot Camp** for majors who need to submit IRB applications.

Step-by-step advice about IRB applications can be found in the Anthropology Department’s IRB memo on the [ANT Majors’ Canvas Site](#).

- **JP Handbook**

<http://www.princeton.edu/writing/center/resources/JPHandbook.pdf>

A general guide to the junior paper (*Writing a J.P.: The Handbook*), produced by the Princeton Writing Program, is available at the web address listed above.



- **The McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning**

<https://mcgraw.princeton.edu/undergraduates>

Programs and services currently offered include academic strategies workshops, learning strategies consultations, academic consultations, group study hall and individual tutoring, virtual learning blogs, peer educators, digital learning lab, and more.

- **Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR)**

<https://undergraduateresearch.princeton.edu>

OUR provides the most comprehensive list of University resources for conducting research at Princeton, including independent work guides and [PURC](#), the central calendar for funding, events, and deadlines.

- **Student Activities Funding Engine (SAFE)**

<https://studentfunding.princeton.edu/>

The Student Activities Funding Engine (SAFE) is a student portal to all University funding opportunities, including support for senior thesis research offered by departments, programs, and centers on campus.

- **The VizE Lab**

<https://anthropology.princeton.edu/research-programs/vize-lab/resources>

- **The Writing Center**

<https://writing.princeton.edu/center>

Many juniors and seniors find that, even though they have substantial experience with research papers, their independent work poses new writing challenges. In addition to consulting your adviser, you are strongly encouraged to make use of the **Princeton Writing Center**. Located in New South, The Writing Center offers student writers free, one-on-one conferences with experienced fellow writers trained to consult on assignments in any discipline. Writing Fellows can help you with any part of the writing process: brainstorming ideas, developing a thesis, structuring an argument, or revising a draft. The goal of each conference is to teach strategies that will encourage you to become an astute reader and critic of your own work. Although The Writing Center is not an editing or proofreading service, Fellows can help you learn techniques for improving sentences and checking mechanics. Writing Center conferences complement, but do not replace, the relationships you have with your teachers and advisers. To get more information or to set up an appointment, go to the web address listed above.

## X. FAQs – ANT Majors’ Frequently Asked Questions

### A. Academic Integrity and Double Submissions

If you are considering using Junior Paper (JP) research or prior course work as the basis for your Senior Thesis, you will need to get approval from both your thesis adviser and your JP adviser or course instructor, as applicable. Similarly, if you are considering using prior course work as the basis for your JP, you will need to get approval from both your JP adviser and the course instructor. Sufficient difference between your Independent Work (IW) and your previously graded work will need to be established. If your proposed IW topic appears to be a continuation of the previous work, your new work must be adequately expansive in comparison, and written approval from advisers and/or course instructors will be required. You are solely responsible for ensuring that written permissions as described above are completed and filed *before* you proceed with the Senior Thesis or Junior Paper project as planned. Students must obtain permission from their advisers before using AI composition software (like ChatGPT) for any part of their Independent Works. Using these tools without their adviser’s permission puts their academic integrity at risk.

### B. Independent Work Drafts and Deadlines

Being late with independent work deadlines can affect your final grade. Due dates are shared with students in the beginning of the academic year to allow students to plan accordingly. The due dates for proposals and drafts are set to give your adviser time to offer you feedback before your next deliverable or to suggest revisions before your final submission. To ensure that independent work is original (i.e., not derived from previous work, purchased, or plagiarized, every student is required to submit at least one rough draft, and receive feedback, before handing in the final submission). Even if you miss the original draft deadline for your Junior Paper or Senior Thesis, the department requires that a draft is submitted at least two weeks before its final submission deadline. **Your final draft of any form of Independent Work may not be your first draft; the department will not accept work that has not been submitted in draft form.** Doing so will initiate late work submission penalties as there is a required two-week period between submission of the draft and the submission of final work. (This means your paper will be accepted as a rough draft— even if you consider it to be your final completed work. You will need to wait two weeks from the date of your draft submission to make your final submission. If the University’s JIW or Senior Thesis submission deadline is less than two weeks away from the date of this rough draft submission, you will then need to request an extension from your Dean until the date that is two weeks after your first draft was submitted and accepted to the department. Your final grade will then likely be marked down.)

### C. Extension to the Department Deadline for Independent Work

It is expected that you will submit your final JP or Senior Thesis on or before the department deadlines. Students who have demonstrated consistent effort throughout the year may ask their adviser for a short extension if needed for a serious reason. However, students who have missed deadlines throughout the year and have not met regularly with their advisers are unlikely to receive an extension. **Any Independent Work (Junior Paper or Senior Thesis) submitted after the departmental deadline, without a preauthorized extension from the adviser, will be subject to a grade penalty of 1/3 deduction per day** (for example A to A-). While draft deadlines are flexible and may be negotiated between students and advisors, **Senior Theses must meet the Anthropology Department deadline to be considered for the departmental prize.**

- **For Juniors:**
  - **Failure to complete the JP according to schedule:** A student who has failed to meet the Department's standards for a passing JP grade will not be allowed by University rules to continue to senior year until a passing JP grade is earned through submission to the Department of a new or resubmitted JP. Students should be cognizant that the Department is unavailable for advising between June and the beginning of the following academic year. If granted an authorized Dean's extension with an INC grade in ANT 981, a student may submit a JP by mid-July to be graded by the department. A student who misses this deadline will need to complete the JP requirement while unenrolled and without advising; nevertheless, the Director of Undergraduate Studies will be available to read one draft, if submitted in a timely fashion, and provide comments prior to the final submission.
  - **Two JP Grades:** Students who receive a **C-** or lower grade for poor or a late Junior Paper must set a new due date for a resubmitted JP in consultation with their advisers, the Director of Undergraduate Studies, and their Residential College Dean. The department requires this new due date to be no later than mid-July, based on the University's deadline for recording a JP grade for advancement to senior status. Once the resubmitted JP is graded, transcripts will include the first grade (C- to F) and the new grade. When a student receives two JP grades, the first grade is recorded as ANT 981 and the second grade as ANT 987.
- **For Seniors:**
  - If the senior thesis is handed in so late that the grade falls below D based on the grade penalty of 1/3 reduction per day above, the final senior thesis grade will be recorded as D. Where a grade below **C** is unacceptable for satisfying a departmental course requirement or the JP requirement in the case of the senior thesis requirement a grade of **C-** to **D** grades will be accepted.  
  
While draft deadlines are flexible and can be negotiated between students and advisors, **Senior Theses must meet the Anthropology Department deadline to be considered for the departmental prize.**

#### D. Creative Theses

Creative theses involve a creative arts component (e.g., performance, fiction, poetry, photography, film).

In the case of a senior thesis that has a creative arts component, an anthropological component must be included as well. The student is required to explicitly engage anthropological concepts, arguments, themes, and/or literatures in an introduction or conclusion, as a separate chapter, or throughout the entire senior thesis in concert with the creative component. The student and the primary advisor will discuss and decide how extensive the anthropological component must be, in view of the context and nature of the creative component.

As guidance, if the creative arts component involves considerable writing or audio interview editing (**e.g., as in film, theater, narrative or nonnarrative fiction, podcasts**), then the anthropological component need not be longer than 35 pages (double-spaced). If the creative component does not include text or audio

interview editing (e.g., as in photo essays, dance, music), then the anthropological component should be at least 60 pages (double-spaced). For creative theses that involve action in the community (e.g., entrepreneurship or activism), the creative component will be considered “mostly nontextual.” Therefore, the standard expectation will be that the anthropological component be at least 60 pages (double-spaced). Advisors have discretion to modify the indicated lengths in light of all factors at hand in any given case.

Students will have a senior thesis advisor from the Anthropology Department; their “second reader” may be an Anthropology faculty member or, where appropriate, a faculty member from a Creative Arts Program.

## E. Grading Standards

Anthropology Independent Work is graded A-F as discussed below.

The final grade must be **C** or higher for the Junior Paper and **D** or higher for the Senior Thesis to satisfy the department’s requirement for graduation.

The department’s “**minimum C grade**” rule applies for any course taken as an Anthropology departmental course (required or elective) inclusive of the Independent Work. A student who gets a grade of **C-minus** or lower on the JP will be required to resubmit the JP with an improvement in the grade to at least **C** work to advance to senior-year status. Enforcement of this minimum grade standard helps both the student and the Department to have an adequate level of confidence that the student will be ready to take on Independent Work in the senior year. Skills built during the conduct of Junior Paper translate directly to Senior Thesis work.

The only exception to the minimum C grade rule is a student who has completed a Senior Thesis with a grade of D or above; that student will be eligible to graduate, if the student has satisfied all other academic requirements for graduation.

- A+ This grade indicates highly original work of publishable quality and is rarely given.
- A to A- Independent work in the **A** range shows intellectual originality beyond a review of literature or a routine use of empirical methods. It contains an imaginative and well-rounded analytic argument. It shows the work of an innovative and critical mind. It must also be mostly free of errors in fact or logic, and it must be well-written. A is normally the highest grade for written work.
- B+ Independent work that demonstrates persuasive analysis and interpretation of relevant literature, or a well-executed empirical study, qualifies for this grade. Such work organizes a variety of facts and arguments in an enlightening way and is well-written. A partially successful attempt at innovative research could also be graded in this category.
- B to B- Independent work evincing a competent but not superior job qualifies for one of these grades. A well-conceived but ill-executed effort, attempting any of the goals described for higher grades, might also be in this range.
- C+ to C Papers in this range may give evidence of substantial work but are flawed by faulty arguments or poor organization. They may be written in a poor style in need of editing.
- C- A **C-** grade denotes written work below the Department's minimum standards. Just as for department course work, independent work for which a student receives a

final grade of C- or below may not be counted for the major.

- D The **D** grade is used for independent work that does not convey a minimum critical understanding of a subject beyond what might be gleaned from superficial readings in the field of study. This limitation may be caused by pervasive faulty logic, by a lack of reference to empirical facts, by very poor presentation, by minimal effort, or by a combination of the above. Even a **D** paper, however, should demonstrate that the writer has some knowledge and comprehension of the issues at stake. Lacking this, a paper will be graded as Failing.

Poor grammar, style, and spelling are serious defects and will result in grade reductions. Late submissions (without approved extensions) **will** also result in grade reductions. The standard penalty for late submissions is one-third of a letter grade per day past the deadline (e.g., A- to B+; B+ to B; C to C-).

Additionally, missing deadlines consistently throughout the year in conjunction with non-communication with the adviser will lead to a 1/3 letter grade reduction from the final grade otherwise assigned without the inclusion of such a reduction (e.g., A- to B+; B+ to B; C to C-). Nevertheless, a 1/3 grade reduction may not be applied to a final grade that would result in the reduced final grade becoming an F grade.

**[Note regarding Spring 2020 and/or academic year 2020-2021 P/D/F Courses:** ANT majors who chose **P/D/F grading** for certain ANT courses or ANT independent work with PASS grades in ANT-primary course offerings during those semesters *will* count towards satisfaction of departmental course requirements. PASS grades for Anthropology JPs completed in 2020 or 2021 will also satisfy the departmental JIW requirement. However, for courses that ANT cross-listed during those terms, students must consult the Director of Undergraduate Studies (ANTDUS) for a determination case-by-case.]

### 1. Junior Paper Grading

Junior Papers are graded by the students' JP advisers. JP advisers will participate in a norming session to ensure common grading practices and equity of grading across advisers. JP letter grades are the same as the A-F grade guidelines shared above. Furthermore, the JP advising team uses the following grading rubric:

1. Cogent formulation and description of an anthropological question (20%)
2. Use of anthropological literatures (40%)
3. Quality of writing (20%)
4. Organization (10%)
5. Originality of argument (10%)
6. Missed deadlines and non-communication with adviser (1/3 letter grade deduction possible)

### 2. Senior Thesis Grading

Senior theses are graded by the Senior Thesis adviser and a second reader assigned by the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

### 3. Late Submissions (*See Independent Work Drafts and Deadlines*)

#### F. Senior Thesis Prize

The Department awards the Senior Thesis Prize in Anthropology to a small number of outstanding theses every year. **To be eligible for a departmental prize, a senior thesis must be submitted on or before the departmental deadline.**

Theses written in anthropology may also be eligible for **prizes offered by other departments, programs, and centers.** In recent years, Anthropology theses have been recognized with awards from the High Meadows Environmental Institute (HMEI), the Program in Global Health and Health Policy (GHP), the Program in Latin American Studies (PLAS), the Program in Judaic Studies (JUD), the Center for Human Values (CHV), and the Program for Community Engaged Scholarship (ProCES), among others.

#### G. Undergraduate Advisory Committee (UAC)

The Undergraduate Advisory Committee is composed of three seniors and three juniors to help with student representation and departmental events planning. Interested students should send Kelly Lake, Undergraduate Program Manager, a brief paragraph expressing their interest with a resumé attached. Statements received by the end of day after two full weeks of fall-term classes will be shared with both the department Chair and the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

## ANT Junior Calendar

September 5, 2023	Fall-term classes begin
September 13, 2023	Lunch meeting for <b>ALL JUNIORS</b> , 12:30 PM, Aaron Burr 219
September 18-29	<b>Advising Group - Meeting</b> , scheduled by your adviser.
<b>October 6</b>	<b>DUE DATE: 250-Word IW Topic Idea</b> due to your adviser and in Canvas, 12 Noon
October 9-13	<b>Advising Group - Peer Review</b> of topic ideas, scheduled by your adviser.
Oct 4- Nov 3	Individual consultation with <b>Anthropology Librarian</b> , Wayne Bivens-Tatum
November 6-10	<b>Advising Group - Peer Review</b> of preliminary bibliography, scheduled by adviser.
December 4-8	<b>Advising Group - Peer Review</b> of proposal draft, scheduled by your adviser.
<b>December 8</b>	<b>DUE DATE: 750-Word Proposal Draft</b> due to your adviser and in Canvas, 12 Noon
January 15, 2024	Wintersession begins
<b>January 16</b>	<b>DUE DATE: Final Junior Paper Proposal</b> due to your adviser & Canvas, 12 Noon
<b>Beginning mid-Jan.</b>	<b>I-Workshops</b> to be scheduled beginning Wintersession and through mid-April
January 29, 2024	Spring-term classes begin
January 29	<b>DUE DATE: Final Track Declaration deadline</b> , via Google form in Canvas 12 PM
<b>Feb. 2 or earlier</b>	<b>Discuss your JP Proposal with your adviser</b>
February 9	SAFE opens for applications for summer senior thesis research funding (STRF)
February 12-16	Lunch meeting for <b>ALL JUNIORS</b> , 12:30 PM, date and Zoom link TBA
February 28	<b>DUE DATE: Deadline to declare summer ethnography</b> via Google form in Canvas
<b>March 15</b>	<b>DUE DATE: Junior Paper Draft Due to Your Adviser</b> , 12 Noon
March 24	SAFE closes for summer STRF @ 11:59 PM. Decisions 4/19; use funds 5/16 to 9/3
April 12 (pending)	<b>IRB Bootcamp</b> , time and Zoom link TBA
<b>April 16, 2024</b>	<b>DUE DATE: DEPARTMENT DEADLINE TO SUBMIT JP</b> to adviser & Canvas, 12 Noon
April 30, 2024	<b>UNIVERSITY DEADLINE TO SUBMIT JUNIOR INDEPENDENT WORK.</b> An extension past this date requires approval from the student's dean, the ANTDUS, and the thesis adviser.
<b>May 16 or earlier</b>	<b>Discuss Your Junior Paper and JIW with Your Adviser</b>

## B. ANT Senior Calendar

August 29, 2023 SAFE opens for applications for Fall Cycle Senior Thesis Research Funding (STRF)

September 5, 2023 Fall term classes begin

September 7 Lunch meeting for **ALL SENIORS**, 12:30 PM, Aaron Burr 219

**September 7-22** Meet with your senior thesis adviser in office hours

**September 25** **DUE DATE: Senior Thesis Proposal** due to your adviser and in Canvas, 12 Noon

September 26 SAFE closes for fall cycle STRF @ 11:59 PM. Decisions 10/13; use funds by 12/4/23

**Beginning Oct. 23** **Weekly writing workshops** begin; schedule TBA

November 6 SAFE opens for applications for winter cycle STRF

**November 10** **DUE DATE: Revised Senior Thesis Proposal**, if applicable, due to your adviser

November 29 SAFE closes for winter cycle @ 11:59 PM. Decisions 12/19; use funds by 3/18/24

**December 8** **DUE DATE: Thesis Writing That You Have Workshopped** is due to your adviser. Ask your adviser for guidance on the expected length and format of this submission.

**Dec. 22 or earlier** Meet with your adviser to discuss the writing you submitted this month.

January 15, 2024 Wintersession begins

**Beginning mid-Jan.** **I-Workshops** to be scheduled beginning Wintersession and through mid-April

**January 26, 2024** **DUE DATE: One Full Thesis Chapter** is due to your adviser and in Canvas, 12 PM

January 29, 2024 Spring-term classes begin

**Feb. 16 or earlier** Meet with your adviser to discuss your submitted **One Full Thesis Chapter**

**March 18** **DUE DATE: Senior Thesis Full Rough Draft** due to your adviser, 5 PM

**March 29 or earlier** Meet with Your Adviser to discuss your rough draft

**April 19** **DUE DATE: DEPARTMENT DEADLINE TO SUBMIT SENIOR THESIS**  
To your adviser and in Thesis Central. The Thesis Central timestamp (@ 11:59 PM on April 19, 2024 or earlier) establishes eligibility for consideration for the Senior Thesis Prize in Anthropology.

**April 29, 2024** **UNIVERSITY DEADLINE TO SUBMIT SENIOR THESIS.**  
An extension to submit your senior thesis past this date requires approval from the student's dean, the ANTDUS, and the thesis adviser.



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