

**VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY**

**ANTHROPOLOGY**  
(Honours & General)



**Under Graduate Syllabus**  
(3 Tier Examination Pattern)  
w.e.f. 2014-2015

**REVISED**

**Vidyasagar University**  
Midnapore 721 102  
West Bengal

## **Honours Course in Anthropology (Three-Year)**

**Total Marks: 800**

### **Year wise Distribution of Courses with Marks**

<b>Part (Year)</b>	<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Marks</b>
Part I (1 <sup>st</sup> Year)	ANTH/101	Theoretical	100
	ANTH/102		100
Part II (2 <sup>nd</sup> Year)	ANTH/103	Theoretical	100
	ANTH/104		100
	ANTH/105	Practical	100
Part III (3 <sup>rd</sup> Year)	ANTH/106	Theoretical	100
	ANTH/107		100
	ANTH/108	Practical (Fieldwork)	100

## Curriculum structure of the B.Sc. (Hons) in Anthropology

Course Code	Course Name	Marks			Exam Time
		Exam.	IA*	Total	
ANTH/101	Foundations of Anthropology	90	10	100	4 hours
ANTH/102	Biological Anthropology	90	10	100	4 hours
ANTH/103	Prehistoric Archaeology	90	10	100	4 hours
ANTH/104	Sociocultural Anthropology	90	10	100	4 hours
ANTH/105	Biological Anthropology and Prehistory	100		100	4 hours
ANTH/106	Indian Anthropology	90	10	100	4 hours
ANTH/107	Anthropology and Development	90	10	100	4 hours
ANTH/108	Ethnographic Fieldwork	100	--	100	4 hours

\*IA=Internal Assessment

# **Course Contents**

## **Honours Course in Anthropology**

### **Part I**

**Course code: ANTH/101**

**Course name: Foundations of Anthropology**

**Marks: 90 + 10 (IA) = 100**

- 1.1 Anthropology: definition, objectives, scope and branches.
- 1.2 Uniqueness of Anthropology: holism, comparative method and fieldwork.  
Concepts of cultural relativism and ethnocentrism.
- 1.3 Relation of Anthropology with different biological and social sciences.
- 1.4 Sub-branches of Biological Anthropology, Sociocultural Anthropology and Prehistory: objectives and scope.
- 1.5 History of Anthropology and its different phases of development. History of development of Biological and Sociocultural Anthropology with special reference to India.
- 1.6 Origin of man. Man's place in the animal kingdom.
- 1.7 Biological basis of inheritance in man.
- 1.8 Fieldwork and its importance in Anthropology. Fieldwork ethics.
- 1.9 Application of Statistics in Anthropology: basic ideas about frequency distribution, central tendency, standard deviation and variance.
- 1.10 Utility of Anthropology in the contemporary world.

**Course code: ANTH/102**

**Course name: Biological Anthropology**

**Marks: 90 + 10 (IA) = 100**

- 2.1 Human anatomy: study of different long bones, cranial bones, vertebral column, pelvic and pectoral girdles.
- 2.2 Primate order: definition, features and classification. Geographical distribution of living primates. Morphological and anatomical comparison between man and the great apes. Primate behavior.
- 2.3 Concept of species; sympatric, allopatric and allochronic species. Speciation.
- 2.4 Concept of organic evolution. Evolutionary theories: Lamarckism, Darwinism, genetical and synthetic theory. Stages of human evolution. Hominization process with special reference to molarization, encephalization and erect posture.
- 2.5 Study of hominid fossil evidences: *Dryopithecus*, *Ramapithecus*, Australopithecines, *Homo habilis*, *Homo erectus* (*Pithecanthropus* and *Sinanthropus*), *Homo sapiens neanderthalensis* (*La-Chapelle-aux-Saints*), *Homo sapiens sapiens* (Cromagnon and Chancelade fossils).
- 2.6 Biological basis of human variation: cell division (Mitosis and Meiosis). Normal chromosomal structure and constitution; autosomes and sex chromosomes; Mendelism in man.
- 2.7 Methods of Human Genetics. Single factor inheritance (autosomal and sex-linked), multifactorial inheritance, multi-allelic and polygenic inheritance. Heredity-environment interaction: importance of twin studies. Basic idea of population genetics.
- 2.8 Pre-Mendelian and post-Mendelian concepts of race; scientific concept of race. Racial criteria.
- 2.9 Factors responsible for race formation: natural selection, social selection, sexual selection, mutation, genetic drift, isolation and hybridization.
- 2.10 Classification of World population by Hooton. Racial classification of India (H.H. Risley, B.S. Guha and S.S. Sarkar).

## Part II

**Course code: ANTH/103**

**Course name: Prehistoric Archaeology**

**Marks: 90 + 10 (IA) = 100**

- 3.1 Concept of Prehistoric Archaeology. Methods of studying Prehistoric Archaeology with reference to excavation and exploration.
- 3.2 Studies of environmental, biological and behavioural evidences; conjunctive approach.
- 3.3 Early man's environment: Quaternary period, glacial and pluvial phases.
- 3.4 Evidences of Pleistocene environment: sand dunes, loess, moraines and river terraces.
- 3.5 Concept of dating. Relative dating (stratigraphic dating, river deposition, Flurine dating and pollen analysis) and absolute dating (C14, Potassium-Argon, Dendrochronology, Thermoluminescence).
- 3.6 Origin and development of culture. Biocultural interaction.
- 3.7 Lithic tools: typological and technological development. Tool making techniques.
- 3.8 Culture of early man: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic cultures of Europe. Prehistoric culture of Africa: Olduvai Gorge and Stellenbosch. Neolithic revolution: concept and characteristic features.
- 3.9 Culture of early man in India: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic sites and their typotechnological features.
- 3.10 Megalithic culture in India. Indus Valley Civilization: sites, origin, features, contact with other culture and causes of decline.

**Course code: ANTH/104**

**Course name: Sociocultural Anthropology**

**Marks: 90 + 10 (IA) = 100**

- 4.1 Definition of Sociocultural Anthropology. Theories on development of culture: evolutionism, diffusionism and structural-functionalism.
- 4.2 History of development of culture concept. Contributions to culture concept: Edward Burnett Tylor, Nirmal Kumar Bose, Alfred L. Kroeber, Bronislaw Malinowski, Leslie White, and Ralph Linton.
- 4.3 Aspects of culture. Culture trait, culture complex and culture area. Concept and features of society. Relation between culture and society. Patterns of culture: Ruth Benedict's contribution.
- 4.4 Concept of culture change; factors of culture change: diffusion, acculturation, adaptation and innovation; culture and world view.
- 4.5 Family, marriage and kinship: definition, functions and types. Preferential and prohibited categories of marriage. Ways of acquiring mates with special reference to Indian tribes. Concepts of descent, lineage, clan, phratry, moiety and social organization.
- 4.6 Methods of Social Anthropology. Fieldwork and different data collection methods and techniques: observation, interview, genealogy, case-study and questionnaire. Pilot survey and key-informant.
- 4.7 Personality: definition and basic types. Relationship between culture and personality as proposed by Margaret Mead. Role of culture in personality formation.
- 4.8 Economic system: concepts and types. Subsistence patterns of Indian tribes: hunting-gathering, pastoralism, shifting hill cultivation, and agriculture.
- 4.9 Ethnography and its importance in Anthropology. Ethnographic fieldwork. Sampling techniques. Utility of questionnaire, schedule and photography.

- 4.10 Ethnographic contributions of some pioneer anthropologists: B. Malinowski, T.C. Das, S.C. Roy, D.N. Majumdar, and M.N. Srinivas.

**Course code: ANTH/105**

**Course name: Biological Anthropology and Prehistory [Practical] Marks: 90 + 10 (Viva-voce) = 100**

- 5.1 Concepts of Anthropometry, landmarks and FH-plane.
- 5.2 Somatometry: (i) Maximum head length; (ii) Maximum head breadth; (iii) Least frontal breadth; (iv) Bizygomatic breadth; (v) Nasal length; (vi) Nasal breadth; (vii) Nasal depth; (viii) Upper facial height; (ix) Total facial height; (x) Bigonial breadth; (xi) Head circumference; (xii) Height vertex; (xiii) Height tragon; (xiv) Height acromion; (xv) Height suprasternale; (xvi) Height radiale; (xvii) Height stylion; (xviii) Height dactylion; (xix) Height iliospinale; (xx) Sitting height; (xxi) Tibial length; (xxii) Biacromial breadth; (xxiii) Biiliac breadth; (xxiv) Hand length; (xxv) Hand breadth; (xxvi) Foot length; (xxvii) Foot breadth.
- 5.3 Craniometry: (i) Maximum cranial length; (ii) Maximum cranial breadth; (iii) Least frontal breadth; (iv) Bizygomatic breadth; (v) Nasal length; (vi) Nasal breadth; (vii) Upper facial height; (viii) Total facial height; (ix) Bimaxillary breadth; (x) Bimastoidal breadth; (xi) Biorbital breadth; (xii) Inner-orbital breadth; (xiii) Outer-orbital breadth; (xiv) Orbital length; (xv) Orbital breadth; (xvi) Length of foramen magnum; (xvii) Breadth of foramen magnum; (xviii) Nasion-basion line; (xix) Nasion-inion line; (xx) Frontal arc; (xxi) Sagittal arc; (xxii) Occipital arc; (xxiii) Maximum frontal breadth; (xxiv) Occipital breadth; (xxv) Cranial circumference.
- 5.4 Indices: (i) Cephalic Index; (ii) Nasal Index; (iii) Jugo-frontal Index; (iv) Upper Facial Index; (v) Total Facial Index.



- 5.5 Somatoscopy: observation on (i) Skin colour; (ii) Nose; (iii) Head hair; (iv) Eye; (v) Lip; (vi) Ear.
- 5.6 Osteology: identification of humerus, radius, ulna, femur, tibia, fibula, clavicle, scapula, frontal, parietal, occipital, temporal, maxilla and mandible.
- 5.7 Testing of colourblindness; ABO blood group testing.
- 5.8 Prehistory: (i) Drawing and description of prehistoric tools - choppers, handaxes, scrapers, blades, microliths, spears, celts, ring stones, harpoon heads, battons and needles; (ii) Identification of prehistoric tools and techniques.
- 5.9 Visit to an archaeological site or a museum.
- 5.10 Evaluation of Laboratory note books on (i) Somatometry, Craniometry, Somatoscopy and Osteology and (ii) Prehistory.
- 5.11 Viva-voce.

### Part III

**Course code: ANTH/106**

**Course name: Indian Anthropology**

**Marks: 90 + 10 (IA) = 100**

- 6.1 Contributions toward development of Anthropology in India: Iravati Karve, Nirmal Kumar Bose, S.C. Dube, H.D. Sankalia, M.N. Srinivas, LP. Vidyarthi and S.C. Sinha.
- 6.2 Racial and linguistic elements in Indian population.
- 6.3 Geographical distribution of tribal population in India. Classification of the Indian tribes on the basis their of subsistence activities. Primitive Tribal Group (PTG) and Denotified Tribe: concepts and distribution.
- 6.4 Relation between tribe and caste in India. The concept of tribe-caste continuum as proposed by Surajit Chandra Sinha. N.K. Bose's concept of Hindu method of tribal absorption.
- 6.5 Constitutional safeguards and special provisions for Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Communities as specified in the Indian Constitution.
- 6.6 Problems of the tribal population in India in the context of malnutrition and health, education, poverty, indebtedness, landlessness, unemployment, and social unrest.
- 6.7 Traditional socializing institutions. Role of youth dormitories (*Dhumkuria and Ghotul*) in tribal life and change.
- 6.8 Joint Forest Management. Forest Policy in India and its impact on the marginal people.
- 6.9 Caste system: concept, characteristic features and changes. Comparison between caste and class.
- 6.10 Social organization of Indian tribes: Santal, Lodha, Chenchu, Toda and Garo.

**Course code: ANTH/107**

**Course name: Applied Anthropology**

**Marks: 90 + 10 (IA) = 100**

- 7.1 Applied Anthropology: concept, scope and history. Applications of Biological Anthropology in Forensic Science, public health, sports, medical genetics and occupational health; applications of Sociocultural Anthropology in decentralized planning, public administration, education and health; applications of Prehistory in preservation of cultural material or relics, and understanding of biocultural interaction.
- 7.2 Action Anthropology: concept, objectives, methodology and history.
- 7.3 Demographic studies. Concepts of fertility, mortality and morbidity.
- 7.4 Biocultural aspects of human nutrition; human growth and development studies. Medical Anthropology and its importance.
- 7.5 Recommendations of the Elwin and Dhebar Commissions on development of the tribal population in India. Tribal welfare programmes in India.
- 7.6 Endangered tribes in India: Lodha, Birhor, Kheria, Chenchu and Andaman Islanders, Development Anthropology.
- 7.7 Application of anthropological knowledge in the context of specific human problems with special reference to India: health and disease, malnutrition, reproductive health, infant and child mortality, poverty and unemployment, displacement and development, and social unrest.
- 7.8 Problems of national integration; ethnic and sociopolitical movements in India. Feminist movement.
- 7.9 Concept of Human Rights and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. Indigenous people and their rights.

**Course code: ANTH/108**

**Course name: Ethnographic Fieldwork (Practical)**

**Marks: Evaluation of Report - 70, Viva-voce - 30 = 100**

8.1 Fieldwork is to be carried out for at least 10 days in a tribal or rural village/hamlet taking into consideration the following aspects:

- (a) Review of earlier literature on the community to be studied;
- (b) Setting up of a camp at a different locale;
- (c) Establishing rapport with the community;
- (d) Mapping;
- (e) Household census;
- (t) Application of anthropological methods and techniques; and
- (g) Collection of data on economic, social and religious aspects.

# General Degree Course in Anthropology (Three-Years)

**Total Marks: 400**

## Year wise Distribution of Courses with Marks

Part (Year)	Course Code	Type	Marks
Part I (1 <sup>st</sup> Year)	ANTG/101	Theoretical	100
Part II (2 <sup>nd</sup> Year)	ANTG/102	Theoretical	100
	ANTG/103A		50
	ANTG/103B	Practical	50
Part III (3 <sup>rd</sup> Year)	ANTG/104A	Theoretical	50
	ANTG/104B	Practical (Fieldwork)	50

## Structure of the curriculum for General Course in Anthropology

Course Code	Course Name	Marks			Exam Time
		Exam.	IA*	Total	
ANTH/101	Foundations of Anthropology	90	10	100	3 hours
ANTH/102	Biological Anthropology and Prehistoric Archaeology	90	10	100	3hours
ANTH/103	Group A: Sociocultural Anthropology	40	10	50	2 hours
	Group B: Biological Anthropology and Prehistory (Practical)	50		50	3 hours
ANTH/104	Group A: Applied Anthropology	40	10	50	2 hours
	Group B: Ethnographic Fieldwork (Practical)	50		50	3 hours

\*IA=Internal Assessment

# **Course Contents**

## **General Course in Anthropology**

### **Part I**

**Course code: ANTG/101**

**Course name: Foundations of Anthropology**

**Marks: 90 + 10 (IA) = 100**

- 1.1 Anthropology: definition, objectives, scope and branches. Anthropology as a multidisciplinary subject.
- 1.2 Uniqueness of Anthropology: holism, comparative method and fieldwork.
- 1.3 Relation of Anthropology with different biological and social sciences.
- 1.4 History of development of Anthropology; major phases of development of Anthropology in India.
- 1.5 Origin of man. Man's place in the animal kingdom.
- 1.6 Biological basis of inheritance in man: cell, chromosome, gene, DNA, RNA.
- 1.7 Fieldwork and its importance in Anthropology. Fieldwork methods: observation, interview, case study, genealogy and sampling.
- 1.8 Geographical distribution and subsistence activities of the Indian tribes.
- 1.9 Problems of Indian tribal population: poverty, malnutrition, illiteracy, indebtedness, displacement, and social unrest.
- 1.10 Caste system in India: definition, features and changes.

**Course code: ANTG/102**

**Course name: Biological Anthropology and Prehistoric Archaeology**

**Marks: 90 + 10 (IA) = 100**

- 2.1 Anatomical study of human skeleton: skull, humerus, radius, ulna, femur, tibia and fibula.
- 2.2 Primate study: definition, features and classification. Comparative study between man and the great apes.
- 2.3 Human origin. Evidences from fossil records: *Ramapithecus*, *Australopithecus (africanus and robustus)*, *Homo habilis*, *Homo erectus (Pithecanthropus)*, *Homo neanderthalensis* (classic and progressive), and *Homo sapiens* (Cromagnon man).
- 2.4 Theories of organic evolution: Lamarckism, Darwinism and synthetic theory.
- 2.5 Cell divisions: Mitosis and Meiosis.
- 2.6 Mendelism in man: single factor inheritance and multiple factor inheritance.
- 2.7 Concept of Prehistory. Methods of studying Prehistory: stratigraphy and dating.
- 2.8 Early man's environment: Quaternary period.
- 2.9 Biocultural interactions; typo-technological development.
- 2.10 Stone age cultures: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic with reference to Europe and India. Indus Valley Civilization: a brief study.

**Course code: ANTG/103**

**Course name: Sociocultural Anthropology and Practical Biological Anthropology**

**Marks: 50 (Theor.) + 50 (prac.) = 100**

**Group A: Sociocultural Anthropology (Theoretical)**

**50 Marks**

- 3.1 Sociocultural Anthropology: definition, scope and limitations.
- 3.2 Concepts of society, culture; institution, and social organization.
- 3.3 Family and marriage: definition, functions and types. Types of kin groups: lineage, clan, phratry and moiety.

- 3.4 Major contributions of village studies in India.
- 3.5 Types of subsistence economy: food gathering, hunting, fishing, pastoralism, shifting hill cultivation, and agriculture with special reference to Indian tribes.
- 3.6 Social and political organization of the Santal, Munda, Birhor, Lodha, Toda and Garo.

**Group B: Biological Anthropology and Prehistory (Practical)      50 Marks**

- 3.7 Somatometric measurements: (i) Maximum head length; (ii) Maximum head breadth; (iii) Least frontal breadth; (iv) Bizygomatic breadth; (v) Nasal length; (vi) Nasal breadth; (vii) Nasal depth; (viii) Upper facial height; (ix) Total facial height; (x) Bigonial breadth; (xi) Height vertex; (xii) Height tragion; (xiii) Height acromion; (xiv) Height radiale; (xv) Height stylion; (xvi) Height dactylion; (xvii) Hand length; (xviii) Hand breadth; (xix) Foot length; (xx) Foot breadth.
- 3.8 Indices: (i) Cephalic Index; (ii) Nasal Index; (iii) Jugo-frontal Index; (iv) Total Facial Index.
- 3.9 Somatoscopy: (i) Skin colour; (ii) Nose; (iii) Head hair; (iv) Eye.
- 3.10 Osteology: identification of humerus, radius, ulna, femur, tibia, fibula, clavicle, scapula, frontal, parietal, occipital, temporal, maxilla and mandible.
- 3.11 Prehistory: Drawing, description and identification of prehistoric tools - handaxes, choppers, cleavers, scrapers, blades, Neolithic celts, ring stones, harpoon heads, battons and bone needles.
- 3.12 Identification of the ethnographic specimens.
- 3.13 Evaluation of Laboratory note books on (i) Somatometry, Somatoscopy and Osteology and (ii) Prehistory.
- 3.14 Viva-voce.



### **Part III**

**Course code: ANTG/104**

**Course name: Applied Anthropology and Ethnographic Fieldwork**

**Marks: 50 (Theor.) + 50 (prac.) = 100**

#### **Group A: Applied Anthropology (Theoretical)**

- 4.1 Applied Anthropology: concept and a brief history of development. Action Anthropology.
- 4.2 Nutritional Anthropology: biocultural aspects of human nutrition.
- 4.3 Medical Anthropology.
- 4.4 Tribal welfare programmes in India. Role of Anthropology in community development.
- 4.5 Role of Anthropology in some current human problems in India: malnutrition, health and disease, illiteracy, unemployment and social unrest.

#### **Group B: Ethnographic Fieldwork (Practical)**

- 4.6 Fieldwork is to be carried out for at least 7 days in tribal/rural area focusing on the following aspects:
  - (a) Mapping;
  - (b) Household census;
  - (c) Application of anthropological methods and techniques;
  - (d) Collection of data on economy, social organization, political organization, ritual rites, and health care practices (sanitation, drinking water, mother and child care, immunization, and birth Control measures).