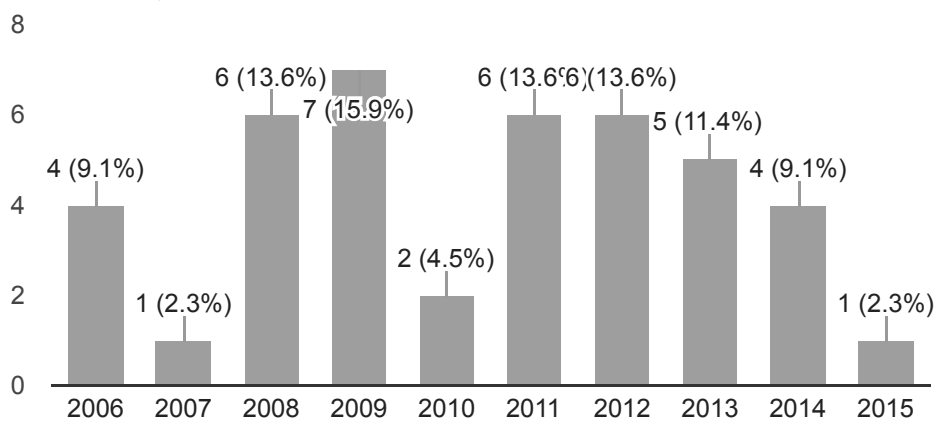




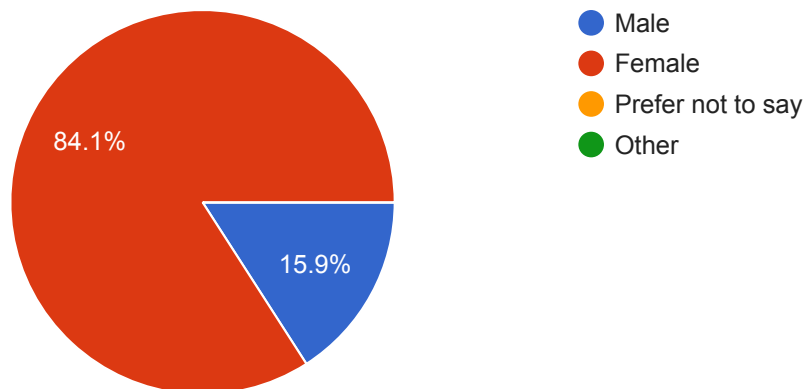
Vandy Anthropology Post-Graduate Survey

44 responses

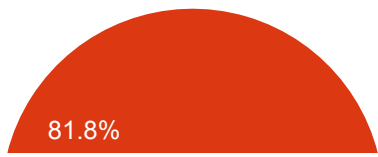
What year did you graduate? (42 responses)



With what gender do you identify? (44 responses)

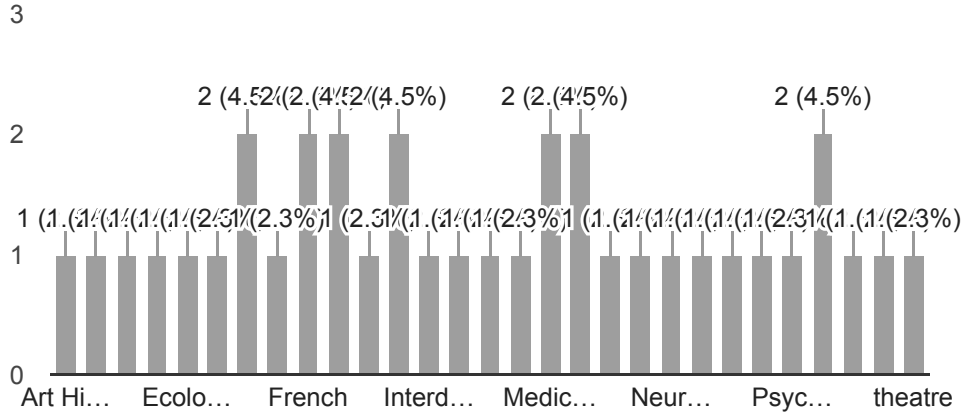


Did you have a second major? (44 responses)

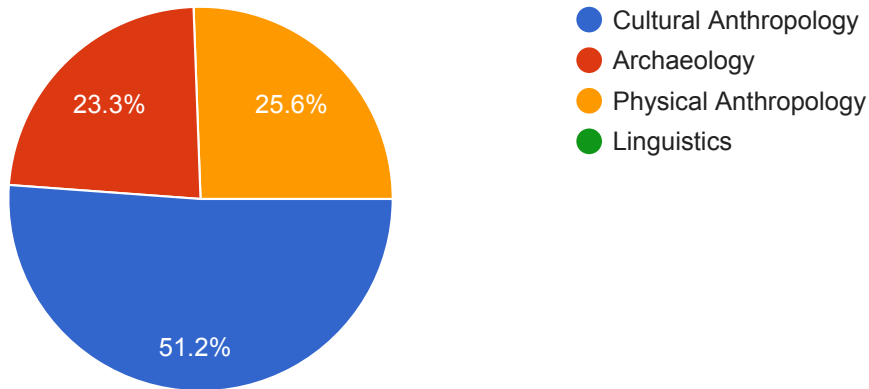


- No
- Yes

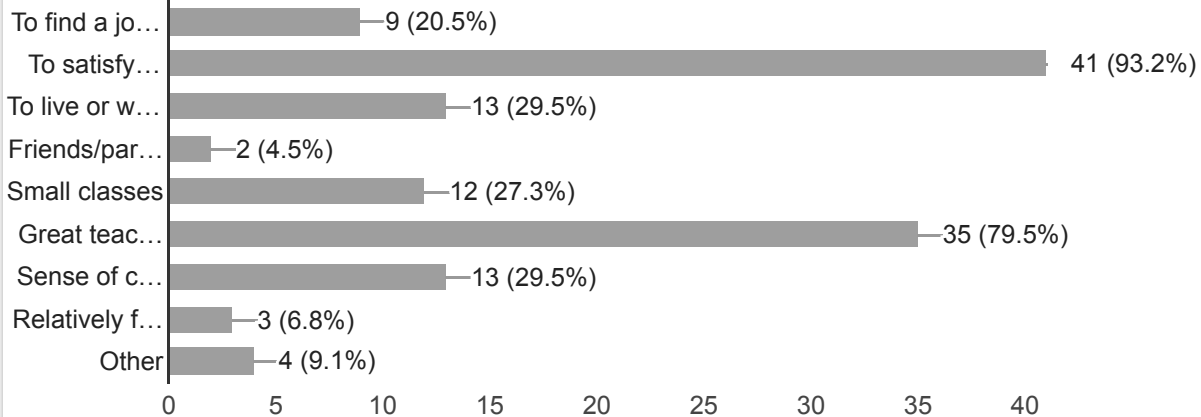
If so, what was it? (36 responses)



What sub-field of anthropology was your focus? (43 responses)

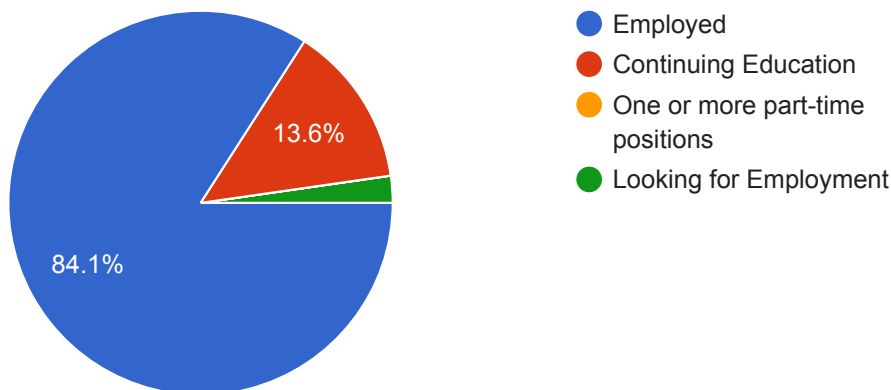


Why did you choose to major in anthropology? (44 responses)

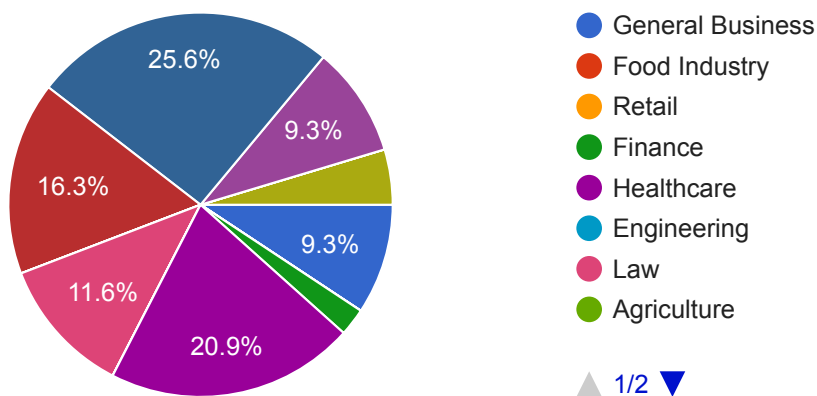


Post Graduate Employment

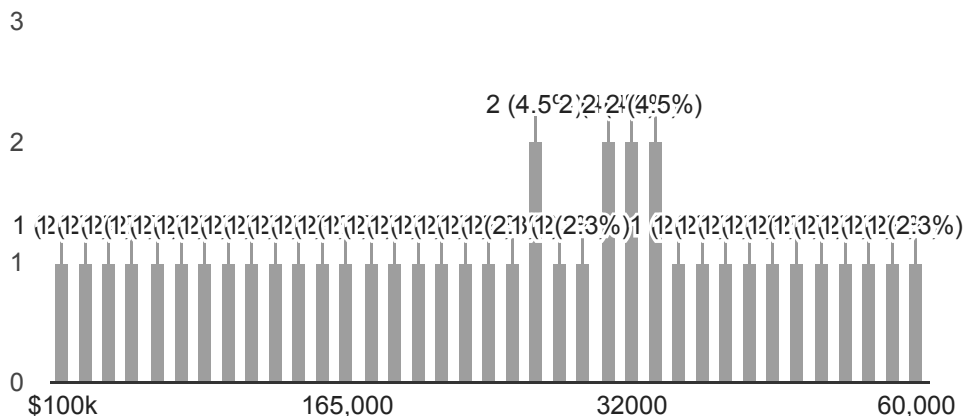
What is your current employment status? (44 responses)



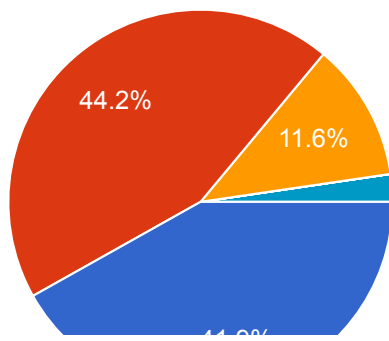
In what field is your current employment? (43 responses)



What is your approximate yearly salary? (41 responses)



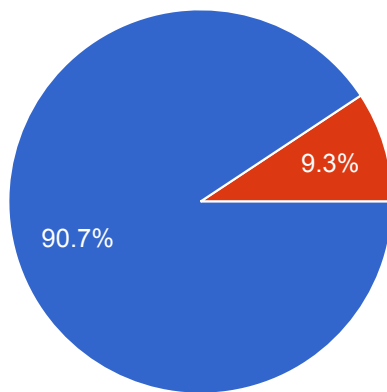
How did you find your current job? (43 responses)



- Personal Contact
- Job Posting
- Previous Employment
- On-Campus Recruiting
- Career Fair
- Cold Call or Letter
- Entrepreneurial Venture

Feedback

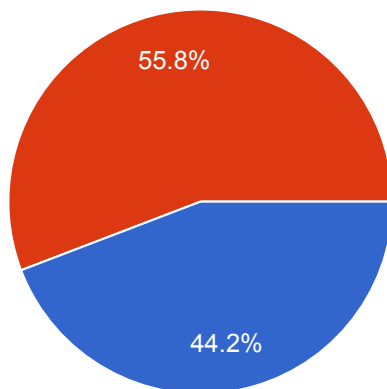
Does your job require a B.A. or B.S. degree? (43 responses)



- Yes
- No

Do you currently / have you previously had a job that required anthropology skills?

(43 responses)



- Yes
- No

Were any particular anthro courses helpful toward your employment?

(28 responses)

All archaeology based courses (employed as a professional archaeologist).

All of my anthro courses helped develop my critical reasoning and thinking skills that are essential for any profession.

Not directly because I am a physician

Bioarchaeology

The ones that also overlapped with the MHS major, since I now have a career in public health.

Intro to Biological Anthropology, Human Osteology, Empires of South America, Intro to Archaeology, The Inca, Ethics in Anthropology, Archaeology

I focused my studies on human rights, which led me to a job at a civil/human rights law firm. Dr. Gill was especially helpful to me and let me sit in on her graduate class on human rights.

I now teach Anthropology so all of them, especially the field school opportunities

Cultural anthropology - as a consultant I had to understand and adapt to company cultures regularly.

My archaeology classes-I actually wrote a paper that was published by a legal journal while in law school about the sale of illicit antiquities at auction houses. The publication of this article helped in my job search

What are professionally relevant skills that you learned as an anthropology major?

(32 responses)

Academic writing, archaeological and scientific method, experimental archaeology, project management, lithic analysis.

Questioning and thinking outside of the box.

Learned a lot of basic anatomy through osteology courses which helped with med school. Learned cultural competency, helpful for patient interactions.

Scientific literacy, data analysis, textual analysis

Reading papers critically

Developing research questions, managing a large work load, public speaking, leading productive class discussions (which isn't something many students have at the graduate level), taking a holistic approach to addressing issues in anthropology and in other fields

Research, writing, seeing things from multiple perspectives, cultural sensitivity, linguistic analysis, problem solving

Excavation, skeletal analyses, critical thinking and writing

Open mindedness, willingness to abandon status quo

Cultural competence/sensitivity

What are professionally relevant skills that you'd recommend current anthro majors to acquire?

(26 responses)

Academic writing, archaeological and scientific method, project management, lithic and ceramic analysis, and geophysical survey technologies.

focus on research if you have even a small desire to explore that field.

Networking

N/A - since my professionally relevant skills come from my Master of Public Health degree

Whether or not they decide to go into an academic career, field school experience is important for building skills like teamwork and working in new, unfamiliar conditions. Learning how to read critically and write are imperative, so taking courses that require students to write research papers is important. I think courses that require students to lead discussions and prepare discussion questions for their peers is important in and outside academia: many students leave universities without ever having to give a presentation or lead discussions in their classes, and those are skills they will certainly need.

Same as above

Statistics and economics

Cultural competence, writing skills, listening

See next answer.

What are professionally relevant skills that you think the anthropology program should offer, emphasize, or deepen?

(24 responses)

Use of UAS technology for mapping archaeological sites.

research

statistics

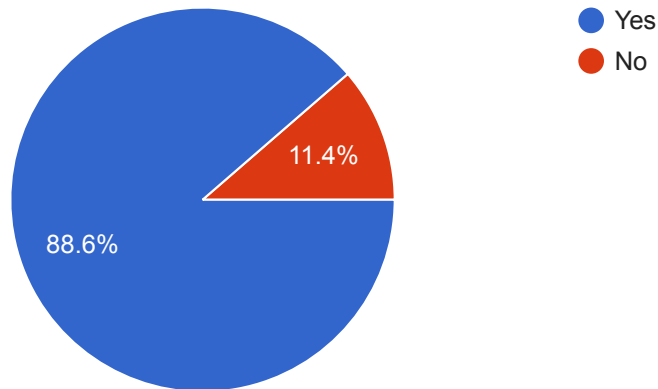
More job relevant skills outside of anthropology, since most anthropology graduates do not end up pursuing a higher academic degree in anthropology

As much as I enjoyed the courses I took in the anthropology department, there were many courses which seemed to emphasize that students simply memorize and recite information. I think overall the courses in the department did a fairly good job at showing the importance of anthropology as a field, but its application to current issues and to solving modern issues could certainly be emphasized more. Furthermore, I wished there were more classes about human paleontology and primatology (though there may be more of those offered at this time verses when I attended Vanderbilt)

I think the program can do a better job emphasizing how anthropology can apply in modern contexts. For example the work Dr. Gill is doing in Colombia, or Professor Tung's work in Sudan, to help with modern day issues around human rights, political violence, class, the economy etc. I think using anthropology to look at history is incredibly interesting and important, but the connections and applications to current practice should be made more clear.

More quant focus

Would you major in anthropology again? (44 responses)



Would you recommend to current students to major in anthropology?
(43 responses)

Why or why not? (27 responses)

with a caveat - I don't think it's a particularly useful degree on its own, but I really enjoyed my classes and I think the classes are great for personal growth and examining our own biases

Cross-compatible skill set makes Anthropology majors universally employable in all fields.

It shaped my view of the world.

Hard to apply anthro skills to business

I actually was deeply intellectually stimulated by my anthropology courses. While the content may not be relevant to my current career path, I would say that my worldview was heavily shaped by my anthropology courses. They taught me to think more deeply and critically. I would also say that they exposed me to new topics and ideas that I would have otherwise never learned. I also found them to be a nice reprieve from my heavier science coursework.

There is no other subject that transcends all other disciplinary boundaries like anthropology. Students who are taught to think like an anthropologist trains them to see the variety of ways people around the world in the present, and in the past, address the issues that face their society. I think anthropology as a major teaches students to see the world as a scientist, as a humanitarian, and as a problem-solver; I don't think any other major gives students that opportunity.

I think the major offered me a really interesting glimpse into how societies and cultures operate, and that perspective has enhanced my education and worldview.

How could anthropology courses be more helpful for your career, or career planning?

(22 responses)

I see this as the career department. When I was there, the career office didn't make any attempt to come to us as anthro majors. If someone from that office was more proactive, it may help in the future.

I think more long term advice as to how anthropology might fit in with other careers outside of higher education and a PhD would be helpful. The anthropology department could do more to support students pursuing other career paths and also help guide them in brainstorming other career paths that might be available to students outside of anthropology.

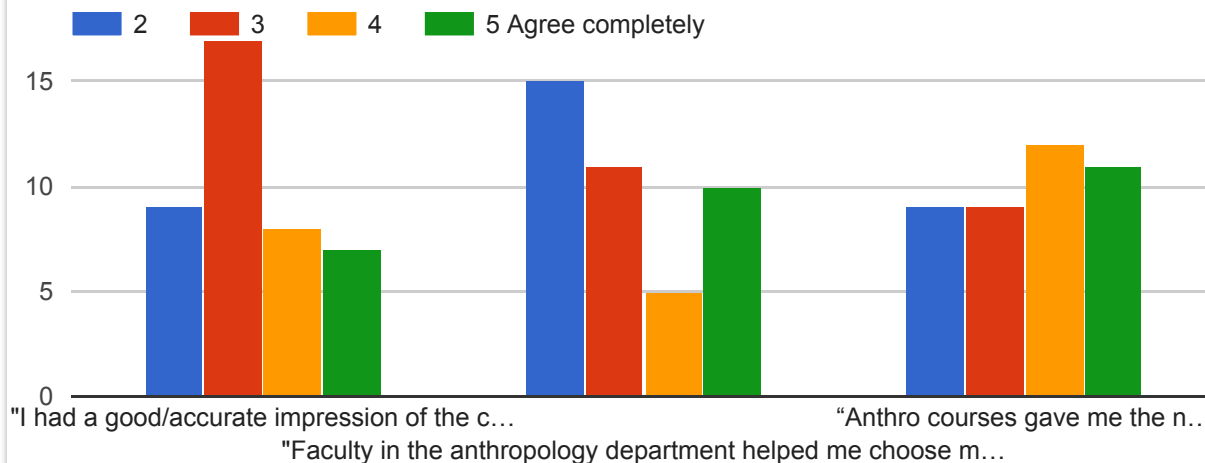
As mentioned above, I think offering courses that require a lot of writing and discussions give students an opportunity to develop critical reading and writing skills, and learn how to lead discussions. Public speaking skills are so important. I found that the mentorship I had from my professors to be incredibly helpful.

As I mentioned above, I know many people go into anthropology to stay in academia and research, however not everyone does. I think the anthropology program can make a better appeal to how the major would be relevant for many jobs outside academia, especially in nonprofit or political circles.

I think it would be helpful (and this is possibly a role for the anthropology club to take on) to give students who are anthropology majors an idea of jobs that they can do with their anthropology degree. A career panel that brings in speakers to talk about such opportunities could be useful for students.

I think anth is widely applicable to many career fields, but an explanation of those connections would be helpful. As well as any fields/careers that directly use anth skills.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



Number of daily responses

