The Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Pace University offers a combined Bachelor of Arts in Sociology/Anthropology, as well as a minor. The BA in Sociology/Anthropology is currently available only on the New York City campus, and the minor is offered on both the New York City and Pleasantville campuses. The Department also offers a minor in Urban Studies on the New York City campus.

The disciplines of sociology and anthropology have many commonalities: both investigate the social world that we inhabit, both examine and explain human behaviors in their social and cultural contexts as a response to their natural and social environments, and both study the social interactions of people, groups, and entire cultures and societies. While traditionally, anthropologists researched non-industrial societies and small communities using participant observation and in-depth interviews, the field has expanded its scope and now studies a variety of communities, including brokers on Wall Street, migrants in the European Union, mine workers in Africa, factory workers in Asia, indigenous groups in the Americas, and environmental refugees in Oceana. Sociologists often utilize a different set of methodological tools, but also study both large and small-scale social processes. Contemporary sociological research has shed light on racial bias in mortgage lending, the mating and dating habits of city residents, how the industrial food system developed globally, and how and why revolutions occur.

Our courses reflect this broad focus and methodological diversity, and, when combined with numerous internship and independent study opportunities, our curriculum and departmental program will prepare you both for a broad range of employment possibilities and for engaged and thoughtful global citizenship.

BA IN SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY

Our classrooms—combined with faculty presentations, lectures and case studies—provide a mix of techniques and methods that appeal to many different learning styles. Students in introductory-level classes learn more about the disciplines of sociology and anthropology through systematic observation of group processes, through lecture and discussion-based pedagogy, and often work together in small groups to analyze and investigate the social world. Students in upper-level classes conduct individualized research using different anthropological and sociological methods.

www.pace.edu/dyson/socanthro

SOCIOLICAL AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL PRACTICE

What can you do with this degree?

Our program offers students the opportunity to acquire unique skills that make for highly competitive candidates on the job market. Besides training for research and teaching, sociologists and anthropologists are involved in a wide variety of applied fields: social work, city planning, community organizing, housing advocacy, labor organizing, museum management, counseling, human resource management, grants development, program management, police and legal services, advocacy for the homeless, AIDS and public health work. They work in hospitals as case managers and as public health officials in government. Others work as policy analysts for think tanks, the World Bank, or the United Nations.

Because sociologists / anthropologists know a lot about people and diverse cultures, and know how to gather a combination of quantitative and qualitative data, they are frequently hired as consultants by businesses and governments. Some start their own consulting firms.

Many sociology and anthropology graduates choose to continue their education by attaining master’s degrees or PhDs in one of the two disciplines. Those with master’s degrees are typically qualified to teach at the secondary/high-school level, or in community colleges. Those with PhDs can teach at four-year colleges and universities, and normally are required to maintain an active research agenda, which includes publishing the results of their research in books and scholarly journals.
STUDENT-FACULTY PARTNERSHIPS

Sociology / Anthropology students frequently have the opportunity to work in collaboration with department faculty on research projects that allow for exploration and development of themes that closely match developing scholarly interests. Several recent projects have received Dyson Faculty-Student Research Grants, many have been presented as senior theses through the Pforzheimer Honors College or have been presented at the Annual Meetings of the Dyson Society of Fellows. Some have been presented on professional panels at academic conferences such as the Eastern Sociological Society.

FACULTY

Ida Dupont, PhD, Criminal Justice, City University of New York. Professor Dupont's research and teaching interests focus on gender, crime and violence, and structures of the family.

Amy Foerster, PhD, Sociology, Cornell University. Professor Foerster's research and teaching interests focus on immigration, popular culture, and the sociology of organizations.

Judith Pajo, PhD, Anthropology, University of California, Irvine. Professor Pajo's research and teaching interests focus on environmental anthropology, the anthropology of Europe, and political and economic anthropology.

Roger Salerno, PhD, Sociology, New York University. Professor Salerno's research and teaching interests focus on social psychology, sociological and psychoanalytic theory, and the history of sociology.

Claire Panetta, PhD, Anthropology, The Graduate Center-City University of New York. Professor Panetta's research and teaching interests are at the intersection of politics and space in Middle Eastern cities, with a focus on the role of grassroots urbanism in the transformation of political subjectivity in post-uprising Egypt.

RESEARCH

Government agencies, for-profit corporations, and nonprofit organizations employ large numbers of researchers with training in sociology or anthropology. These organizations include international governing bodies such as the United Nations as well as federal, state, and local governments. The field of medicine is also open to those with training in sociology or anthropology. For example, medical anthropologists can be found in the Brazilian rainforest researching traditional treatments for modern illnesses, and in the United States conducting research on access to healthcare in underprivileged communities.

CO-CURRICULAR

Our department provides a rich co-curricular environment, typically offering several off-campus outings per semester. We’ve made visits to the Brooklyn Museum to view the We Wanted a Revolution! Black Radical Women exhibit, painter Kehinde Wiley’s exhibit, A New Republic, and social documentary photographer LaToya Ruby Frazier’s investigation of deindustrialization and urban decay in the exhibit A Haunted Capital. Our students visited the Tenement Museum, the Bronx Museum of the Arts, the Museum of the City of New York and attended the Margaret Mead Film Festival at the Museum of Natural History. Several were treated to a docent-led tour of the exhibit Chinese American: Inclusion/Exclusion at the New York Historical Society. The department also hosts events featuring guest speakers and filmmakers, and recently hosted authors David Halle (New York’s New Edge: Contemporary Art, the High Line and Urban Mega Projects on the Far West Side), community organizers from African Communities Together, Black Alliance for Just Immigration, and Make the Road New York.

INTERNSHIPS

In cooperation with the Career Services office at Pace University, the department offers academic credit for most internship placements. Students have been appointed to internships at institutions such as the American Museum of Natural History, the United Nations, the International Rescue Committee, Planned Parenthood, Black Entertainment Television, the New Shul, the Henry Street Settlement, and Immigration Equality.

www.pace.edu/dyson/socanthro