We study humanity from multiple perspectives: from our development as a species to our rich social and cultural diversity.

CONTACT US

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UBC Anthropology Department (est. 1947)

Fig. 4 Blanketing the City (2018), part one
Artist: Debra Sparrow (xʷməθk̓ʷəy̓əm, Musqueam)
Location: The pillars of the Granville Street Bridge
Vancouver Mural Festival
Photo: Ben Gelsberg

Debra Sparrow is an acclaimed weaver who is deeply involved in the resurgence of Musqueam weaving.

Our department is located on the traditional ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam) people.
OUR PROGRAMS

Our research and teaching cover three interrelated streams:

Archaeology
We explore the material remains of the past, emphasizing hands-on experience, through the direct study of artifacts in classes and labs, including the Laboratory of Archaeology.

Sociocultural Anthropology
We have strengths in engaged and ethnographic methodologies and expressive cultures, as well as in language, health, law, migration, social inequality, violence, rights, and place.

Museum and Visual Anthropology
We interrogate cultural heritage, popular culture, art and institutions. We embrace different media and methods including ethnographic film and museums. We enjoy a close working relationship with the iconic Museum of Anthropology (MOA).

ABOUT US

Our faculty consists of 26 scholars committed to UBC’s vision of inspiring people, ideas, and action for a better world. We are internationally recognized for our research, especially our dedication to collaborative research with Indigenous peoples facing inequality across the world.

WHY STUDY ANTHROPOLOGY?

Anthropology gives us the framework to better understand our relationships with one another and our communities. It is an engaging field that offers insights into what it means to be human. Whatever your career path, a degree in anthropology develops the critical thinking abilities needed to succeed, whether in academics or in corporate, non-profit and government sectors.

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Our faculty conduct research across the globe, creating unique opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students.

Our students engage in a wide variety of hands-on research, especially via field schools, such as: the Vancouver Island Field School, the Urban Ethnographic Field School, and the Archaeological Field School at Anyang, China, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

FUNDING

Our students receive a range of financial support and grants, including:

- Vanier Scholarships
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Fellowships (SSHRC)
- Killam Memorial Pre-Doctoral Fellowships
- Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research grants
- Trudeau Foundation Scholarships