

California State University, Long Beach 2025-2026 Undergraduate and Graduate Catalog

Courses

[Contract All Courses](#) |

Anthropology

Note: General Education Category A must be completed prior to taking any upper-division course except upper-division language courses where students meet formal prerequisites and/or competency equivalent for advanced study.

• ANTH 110 - Introduction to Physical Anthropology

(3 units)

Physical nature of human beings: relation of humans to other animals: heredity and principles of biological evolution: human fossils: significance of physical variation in modern populations: the origin and adaptive value of technology.

Both grading options.

• ANTH 120 - Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

(3 units)

Nature of culture; comparative and historical approach to religion, social organization, subsistence patterns and other aspects of cultures around the world; meanings of human nature, cultural universals and cultural differences.

Both grading options.

• ANTH 140 - Introduction to Archaeology

(3 units)

Exploration into the many enigmas that remain in the study of the human past. Investigates how archaeologists are able to produce answers to many enduring problems using a scientific understanding of the archaeological record and material remains.

Both grading options.

•ANTH 155 - Medical Technologies and Human Bodies

(3 Units)

By examining innovations in medical technologies and their potential for modifying the human body, this course highlights the profound social, legal, and ethical questions that patients and clinical professionals face given recent health discoveries and events.

Both Grading Options Lecture, 3 Hours Per Week Not repeatable for credit

•ANTH 170 - Introduction to Linguistics

(3 units)

Nature of language; its relation to culture; language structure and processes of change; language universals, contrasts and relationships.

Both grading options. Same course as [LING 170](#)
. Not open for credit to student with credit in LING 170.

•ANTH 305 - Radical Social Analysis

(3 units)

Radical examination of society and culture, focusing on classic Marxian texts as well as current critical theory and analysis. Special emphasis on critiques of capitalism and the effects of global inequality on humanity.

Both grading options.

•ANTH 307 - Modernization in Global Perspective

(3 units)

Exploration of psychological and material problems in modern society (both western and Third World) due to accelerating change beginning with advance of technology, rise of capitalism, abandonment of "old values," increasing complexity of bureaucracy, and lowering of social barriers.

Both grading options.

•ANTH 313 - World Prehistory

(3 units)

Prerequisite: GE Foundation requirement.

Origin of human beings and their cultures, development of agriculture, growth of city life, and the rise of civilization; a survey of world-wide prehistory from the Old Stone Age to the Iron Age.

Both grading options.

ANTH 314 - Global Ethnography

(3 units)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirement.

Recent and contemporary cultures around the world; a comparative survey of their ecological adaptations, social institutions, technology, subsistence strategies, degrees of complexity, and patterns of change.

Both grading options.

ANTH 315 - Human Variation

(3 units)

Biological variation and differences in modern humans. Biological concepts of biospecies and subspecies. Biological adaptations. Racism and genocide. Rise of the race concept and the social meaning of this concept. Biology of several American ethnic groups.

Both grading options.

ANTH 319 - Human Growth and Development

(3 units)

Analysis of the sequence of events in the development of people from conception to death; organ development; rapid and retarded growth patterns; the processes of aging and death from a broad ethnic and ecological perspective.

Both grading options.

ANTH 321 - North American Indians

(3 units)

Comparative study of traditional Native American societies, social organization, belief systems and religions, crafts and adaptation to varied environments; cultural changes in response to European contacts.

Both grading options.

ANTH 322 - California Indians

(3 units)

Survey of native Californian groups; discussion of the diversity of aboriginal culture prior to western contact as background for analysis of the impact of Europeans; problems of intercultural relations; and the current status of native Californians.

Both grading options.

ANTH 329 - Cultural Diversity in California

(3 units)

Prerequisite: GE Foundation requirement.

Prerequisites: Students must have scored 11 or higher on the GVAR Placement Examination or successfully completed the necessary portfolio course that is a prerequisite for a GVAR Writing Intensive Capstone. **(Note: The preceding prerequisite statement related to GVAR is temporarily suspended effective Summer 2025.)**

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Completion of 60 Units.

Examination of current cultural diversity in California, including ethnicity, nationality, class, gender, religion, and region; and the impact of this diversity on public institutions will be covered.

Letter grade only (A-F).

ANTH 351 - Sex Roles and Culture

(3 units)

Interaction of biological, cultural and historical factors on male/female roles and status in traditional and contemporary cultures and societies.

Both grading options.

•ANTH 353 - Health and Healing

(3 units)

Cultural perspective of health and health care delivery; coverage of diverse cultures in the United States and abroad; emphasis on increasing personal awareness through exposure to diverse perceptions of illness and treatment.

Both grading options.

•ANTH 363 - Natural History of Primates

(3 units)

Prerequisites: [ANTH 110](#)

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Relationship of primates to other mammals; adaptation of arboreal mammals; functional and evolutionary aspects of primate anatomy and physiology; effects of size; primate ecology; survey of the Order Primates: Prosimii, Tarsioidea, New World and Old World Monkeys, and Hominoids.

Both grading options.

•ANTH 401 - Foundations of Anthropology

(3 units)

Prerequisite(s): Anthropology majors only.

Introduction to history of anthropological theory from inception to current approaches; frames theories in the social context in which they emerged.

Letter grade only (A-F).

•ANTH 402 - Evolutionary Theory

(3 units)

Development of evolutionary thought and its impact on Anthropology; origins of physical anthropology; Mendelian genetics, transmutationalism, populational genetics, Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium, non-Darwinian evolution, and modern synthesis; scientific method, the application of evolutionary theory to human origins, primate biology, and behavioral biology. Current theoretical perspectives.

Letter grade only (A-F).

•ANTH 405 - Principles of Archaeology

(3 units)

Prerequisite(s): ANTH 140 or Consent of Instructor

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Completion of 60 Units.

Exploration of the techniques, methods, and goals of archaeological research. Study of ceramics, lithics and other parts of the archaeological record. Examination of issues in sampling, survey, excavation and dating of archaeological materials. General problems encountered in explaining archaeological phenomena.

Letter grade only (A-F). (2 hours lecture, 2 hours activity)

•ANTH 412 - Culture and Communication

(3 units)

Culture and its influence on the communication process; practical application to intercultural and multicultural situations; cultural patterns in America and abroad and their effect on verbal and nonverbal communicative behavior; cultural dimensions of ethnocentrism, stereotypes, and prejudices and their effect on communication; multicultural approaches to human interaction.

Both grading options.

•ANTH 413 - Language and Culture

(3 units)

[ANTH 170](#)

or [LING 170](#)

or consent of instructor.

Relation of language to social and cultural practices and processes; issues of meaning, identity and power within and across cultures.

Both grading options. Same course as [LING 413](#)

. Not open for credit to students with credit in LING 413.

•ANTH 414 - Anthropology of Religion

(3 units)

Anthropological examination of religious behavior and beliefs, which focuses on these phenomena in sociocultural and adaptive contexts. Using the cross-cultural and cultural evolutionary approach, hunter-gatherer religions through civilized ones will be covered.

Letter grade only (A-F). Double Numbered with: ANTH 514

•ANTH 417 - Applied Anthropology

(3 units)

Brief orientation to applied anthropology, its history and ethics; policy and applied anthropology domains (needs assessment, program evaluation, social impact assessment, environmental, advocacy); applied research methods; student proposals for internship research.

Both grading options. Double Numbered with: ANTH 517

•ANTH 418 - Methods in Linguistic Anthropology

(3 units)

Prerequisites(s): [ANTH 170](#)
or [LING 170](#)

This course covers research methods and approaches to data collection and analysis in linguistic anthropology. Students become familiar with various methods for identifying and analyzing linguistic phenomena in different contexts. Students also learn technologies for capturing and analyzing data.

Letter grade only (A-F). (2 hours lecture, 2 hours activity)

•ANTH 419 - Encounters and Identities

(3 units)

Examination of how cultural anthropologists have dealt, theoretically, with the concept of identity; concentrates more on theories than geographic regions, emphasis on recent theoretical developments such as post-modern and post-colonial approaches to the study of contemporary subjectivities.

Letter grade only (A-F). Double Numbered with: ANTH 519

•ANTH 421 - Education Across Cultures

(3 units)

Effective Spring 2026 prerequisites will be: Completion of at least 60 units.

Cross cultural perspectives on formal and informal education and socialization, using theory and methods from anthropology and linguistics. Cultural variation in schooling and multiculturalism in U.S. American classrooms. Cultural, linguistic and educational issues facing indigenous, minority and immigrant populations in schools.

Both grading options. Same course as [LING 425](#)
. Not open for credit to students with credit in LING 425.

• ANTH 422 - The Anthropology of Gender

(3 units)

Examines anthropological perspectives on gender and how these perspectives have challenged and transformed anthropology and feminism; class will locate gender relations in the production of anthropological knowledge, in colonial and postcolonial social fields, and in the movement of global capitalism.

Letter grade only (A-F). Double Numbered with: ANTH 522

• ANTH 423 - Professional Development in Anthropology

(3 units)

Prerequisite(s): Upper Division Standing or Permission of the Instructor.

This course presents students with information about professional options for anthropology majors, in academia or other fields. The course includes information about applying to graduate programs or pursuing employment with a baccalaureate degree.

Letter Grade Only (A-F) Not repeatable for credit.

• ANTH 431 - New Media Ethnography

(3 units)

Theory and techniques in the planning, production and presentation of multimedia and hypermedia ethnography. Students will work in production teams to produce an ethnography that takes advantage of different modes of ethnographic research and presentation (i.e., interactive video, photography, print, sound).

Letter grade only (A-F). Course fee may be required. (Lecture 2 hours; Lab 2 hours). Double Numbered with: ANTH 531

• ANTH 432 - Peoples of Mexico and Central America

(3 units)

Survey of present-day peoples of Mexico and Central America; indigenous and mestizo cultures and their heritage; examination of recent change.

Both grading options. Not open for credit to students with credit in ANTH 323.

ANTH 434 - Primate Evolution

(3 units)

Primate evolutionary biology, minus the sub-family hominidae; fossil record and analysis of fossils (through the use of fossil casts); detailed cranial anatomy (particularly teeth) examined in the laboratory section; literature on primate evolution surveyed.

Both grading options. (Lecture 2 hours, Lab 3 hours)

ANTH 435 - Human Evolution

(3 units)

Prerequisites: [ANTH 110](#)

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Fossil and molecular evidence for human evolution with a consideration of the importance of cultural factors.

Both grading options.

ANTH 436 - Medical Anthropology

(3 units)

Prerequisites: [ANTH 353](#)
recommended.

Interaction of cultural, biological and environmental elements in human response to disease; emphasis on an ecosystem approach with evolutionary and comparative perspectives.

Both grading options.

ANTH 438 - Evolution of Sex and Reproduction

(3 units)

Prerequisites: Completion of at least 60 units

This course explores the ways that sex, pregnancy, and birth influence the evolution of human and non-human primate anatomy, physiology, and culture. Course employs an evolutionary framework and a biocultural approach to study human biological variation in sex, pregnancy, birth, and beyond.

Letter grade only (A-F). Not repeatable for credit.

ANTH 439 - Methods in Biological Anthropology

(3 units)

Prerequisites: [ANTH 110](#)

and Department approved statistics course

This course provides an overview of methods used in biological anthropology including approaches to research design, data collection and analyses. Students will become familiar with a range of methods for collecting and analyzing biological and biocultural phenomena in various contexts.

Letter grade only (A-F). (2 hours lecture, 2 hours activity)

ANTH 440 - Ethnographic Field School

(3 units)

Experiential course gives opportunity to apply standard ethnographic methods to study, observe, and learn about a non-U.S. culture. Analysis of methodology and data collection will occur throughout the course. Location, topics and activities will vary.

Letter grade only (A-F) May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units, with the same topic in the same semester. Double Numbered with: ANTH 540

ANTH 441 - Ethnographic Film Production I

(3 units)

Intermediate-level theory and methodology for ethnographic/documentary film production. Students will work in teams and learn the fundamentals of how to produce an ethnographic film from conception through completion using professional-quality production and post-production equipment.

Letter grade only (A-F). Course fee may be required. (Lecture 2 hours; Lab 2 hours). Double Numbered with: ANTH 541

ANTH 443 - The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

(3 Units)

This course presents competing Palestinian and Israeli national narratives in order to understand the evolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from the late nineteenth century until the present.

Letter Grade Only (A-F) Not repeatable for credit.

ANTH 444 - Transnational Migrants

(3 units)

Anthropological examination of the lives of immigrants and refugees. Explores the way studies of migration challenge our understanding of the local context of globalization and transnationalism. Focus on theories of culture, ethnicity, and identity as well as theories of incorporation, adaptation and nativism and the relevance of applied anthropology through research and advocacy.

Letter grade only (A-F). Double Numbered with: ANTH 544

• ANTH 448 - Ancient Civilizations of Mexico and Central America

(3 units)

Origin and growth of the Aztec, Maya and other civilizations of Mexico and Central America.

Both grading options. Not open for credit to students with credit in ANTH 345.

• ANTH 449 - Prehistoric Cultures of North America

(3 units)

Archaeological evidence of origin and growth of the native American cultures north of Mexico; regional cultures and broad continental patterns of development.

Both grading options. Not open for credit to students with credit in ANTH 347.

• ANTH 450 - Archaeological Field Research

(1-10 units)

Introduction to field acquisition of archaeological data through remote sensing, geophysics, survey, and excavation; instructional emphasis is on recovery, recording techniques, and the management of field projects; locations will vary and may be offered on Saturdays.

Both grading options. Course fee may be required. May be repeated to a maximum of 10 units in different semesters.

• ANTH 454 - Culture and Aging

(3 units)

Cultural perspectives on aging and the aged in America and elsewhere. Attention to insider views from specific societies and to comparison of aging concerns in diverse settings.

Both grading options.

ANTH 458 - Ethnographic Methods

(3 units)

Prerequisites: [ANTH 120](#)
or consent of instructor.

Introduction to purposes of cultural anthropology fieldwork, methodology used to collect ethnographic data, and ways of analyzing and reporting data collected; focus on identifying and defining research problems and populations, and ethical issues that arise when conducting research.

Letter grade only (A-F) (2 hours lecture, 2 hours activity)

ANTH 473 - Archaeology of California

(3 units)

Overview of the archaeology of California, from initial human colonization through European contact. Emphasis on environmental change, human-environment interactions, the development of social complexity, and the consequences of European colonization.

Letter grade only (A-F).

ANTH 475 - Language and Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective

(3 units)

Analysis of men's and women's communication in its social and cultural context; role of gender in interpreting conversational interactions in the U.S. and elsewhere; acquisition of gender differences; cultural dimensions of perceptions and stereotypes and their effect on communication.

Both grading options. Same course as [LING 470](#)
, [WGSS 475](#)
. Not open for credit to students with credit in [LING 470](#)
, [WGSS 475](#)
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ANTH 478 - Anthropology and Film

(3 units)

This seminar critically analyzes anthropological ideas articulated in anthropological, documentary and fiction films. Students watch weekly films and complete course projects, including photo essays, ethnographic films and/or anthropological podcasts to develop audio-visual critical thinking skills.

Letter grade only (A-F) for majors/minors.

ANTH 480A - Osteology I

(3 units)

Introduction to skeletal anatomy, measurement and analysis of osteological collections, applied anthropometrics and morphometrics.

Both grading options. (Lecture 2 hours, Lab 3 hours)

ANTH 481 - Forensic Anthropology

(3 units)

Learn the basic techniques forensic anthropologists employ to create biological profiles of deceased individuals. How to use dental and skeletal anatomy to estimate characteristics such as sex, age, ancestry, occupation, presence of trauma and disease. Understand contributions to medicolegal investigations.

Both grading options. Not repeatable for credit.

ANTH 487 - Cultural Resource Management

(3 units)

Introduction to the practice of public archaeology in the United States: historical and legal background; federal, state, and local programs; archaeology and Native Americans; contract archaeology; survey, evaluation, and mitigation projects; professional employment in U.S. cultural resource management.

Letter grade only (A-F).

ANTH 490 - Selected Topics in Anthropology

(3 units)

Topics of current interest in anthropology selected for intensive development.

Both grading options. Course fee may be required. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units. Topics announced in the *Schedule of Classes*.

ANTH 496 - Internship

(3 units)

Prerequisites: Upper-division standing, approval of faculty mentor.

Supervised internship in an area of anthropology within or outside the University; field experience of 90 hours in which the student gains practical experience in an area of anthropology.

Credit /No Credit grading only.

ANTH 498 - Senior Thesis

(1-6 units)

Prerequisites: Open only to Anthropology major, senior standing, and consent of a faculty mentor. Research for and writing of a senior thesis under the direction and guidance of an Anthropology Department faculty mentor.

Letter grade only (A-F).

ANTH 499 - Guided Studies in Anthropology

(1-3 units)

Prerequisite: Consent of department.
Selected topics in anthropology and preparation of a research report.

Both grading options. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units.

ANTH 501 - Current Trends in Anthropological Theory

(3 units)

Prerequisites: [ANTH 401](#) or equivalent, and graduate standing.
Examination of current themes used by leading anthropologists in the areas of our graduate program, i.e., Applied Anthropology, Linguistic Anthropology, and Archaeology. Investigation of how theories shape problems and analytic techniques, and what makes theory 'cutting edge'.

Letter grade only (A-F).

•ANTH 503 - The Anthropological Perspective

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

Through reading and discussion of ethnographies; reports of applied anthropological work; reviews of the scientific understanding of the process of inquiry and action in the human sciences; leading to the identification of a common core perspective within anthropology.

Letter grade only (A-F).

•ANTH 505 - Practicing Anthropology

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

Review of practical contributions by anthropologists in nonacademic settings; attention to specific skills used by practicing anthropologists; business writing including resumes, contracts; oral presentations using audiovisual aides; internal and external contracting; time management; project management; working across disciplines; and ethics.

Letter grade only (A-F).

•ANTH 510 - Proseminar

(3 units)

Prerequisites: Six units of upper-division anthropology courses or consent of instructor.

Development of proposal planning, budgeting, and writing skills, particularly in applied anthropology, linguistics, and archaeology; both academic and contract/consulting types of proposals will be covered.

Letter grade only (A-F).

•ANTH 514 - Anthropology of Religion

(3 units)

Prerequisite: [ANTH 120](#)

and upper-division/graduate standing or consent of instructor.

Anthropological examination of religious behavior and beliefs, which will focus on these phenomena in their sociocultural and adaptive contexts using cross-cultural and cultural evolutionary approaches of hunter-gatherer religions through current ones.

Letter grade only (A-F). Double Numbered with: [ANTH 414](#)

• ANTH 517 - Applied Anthropology

(3 units)

Prerequisites: [ANTH 120](#)

and upper-division/graduate standing or consent of instructor.

Brief orientation to applied anthropology, its history and ethics; policy and applied anthropology domains (needs assessment, program evaluation, social impact assessment, environmental, advocacy); applied research methods; student proposals for internship research.

Letter grade only (A-F). Double Numbered with: [ANTH 417](#)

• ANTH 519 - Encounters and Identities

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Graduate and advanced undergraduate students.

Examination of how cultural anthropologists have dealt, theoretically, with the concept of identity; concentrates more on theories than geographic regions, emphasis on recent theoretical developments such as post-modern and post-colonial approaches to the study of contemporary subjectivities.

Letter grade only (A-F). Double Numbered with: [ANTH 419](#)

• ANTH 522 - The Anthropology of Gender

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor ([ANTH 351](#) recommended).

Examines anthropological perspectives on gender and how these perspectives have challenged and transformed anthropology and feminism; class will locate gender relations in the production of anthropological knowledge, in colonial and postcolonial social fields, and in the movement of global capitalism.

Letter grade only (A-F). Double Numbered with: [ANTH 422](#)

• ANTH 530 - Ethnography of Communication

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

Study of talk and other forms of communication from an ethnographic perspective. Emphasizes relevant methods and theories. Among the major topics presented from this perspective are language socialization, genres of speaking, intercultural communication, speech styles, strategic uses of language, and literacy.

Letter grade only (A-F). Same course as [LING 533](#)
. Not open for credit to student with credit in [LING 533](#)

ANTH 531 - New Media Ethnography

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

Theory and techniques in the planning, production and presentation of multimedia and hypermedia ethnography. Students will work in production teams to produce an ethnography that takes advantage of different modes of ethnographic research and presentation (i.e., interactive video, photography, print, sound).

Letter grade only (A-F). Course fee may be required. (Lecture 2 hours; Lab 2 hours) Double Numbered with: [ANTH 431](#)

ANTH 540 - Ethnographic Field School

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Consent of Instructor.

Experiential course gives opportunity to apply standard ethnographic methods to study, observe, and learn about a non-U.S. culture. Analysis of methodology and data collection will occur throughout the course. Location, topics and activities will vary.

Letter grade only (A-F) May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units, with the same topic in the same semester. Double Numbered with: [ANTH 440](#)

ANTH 541 - Ethnographic Film Production I

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Intermediate-level theory and methodology for ethnographic/documentary film production. Students will work in teams and learn the fundamentals of how to produce an ethnographic film from conception through completion using professional-quality production and post-production equipment.

Letter grade only (A-F). Course fee may be required. (Lecture 2 hours; Lab 2 hours). Double Numbered with: [ANTH 441](#)

•ANTH 544 - Transnational Migrants

(3 units)

Prerequisites: Graduate standing or consent of instructor Anthropological examination of the lives of immigrants and refugees.

Explores the way studies of migration challenge our understanding of the local context of globalization and transnationalism. Focus on theories of culture, ethnicity, and identity as well as theories of incorporation, adaptation and nativism and the relevance of applied anthropology through research and advocacy.

Letter grade only (A-F). Double Numbered with: [ANTH 444](#)

•ANTH 560 - Ethnographic Research Methods

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

A practice-oriented seminar in ethnographic research methodology, emphasizing techniques, methods, and concepts of ethnographic research. The course examines several qualitative, in-depth methods used by anthropologists as well as research design and research ethics.

Both grading options.

•ANTH 561 - Basic Computer Research Applications in Anthropology

(3 units)

Prerequisite: [ANTH 560](#)
or consent of instructor.

Basic qualitative and quantitative computer methods employing currently appropriate software and statistical techniques. Methods covered will be specifically related to research in archaeology and applied anthropology; and the presentation of results, as well as various research problems, will be addressed.

Letter grade only (A-F).

•ANTH 570 - Linguistic Field Methods

(3 units)

Prerequisite: [LING 420](#)
and [LING 421](#)
, or consent of instructor.

Introduction to linguistic field work with a native speaker of an unfamiliar non-European language. Phonetic transcription and investigation of phonological, morphological, and syntactic structures of the selected language within the context of linguistic universals.

Letter grade only (A-F). Same course as [LING 580](#).
. Not open for credit to students with credit in [LING 580](#).
. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 units with different topics in different semesters. May be taken more than once if the language under investigation differs.

•ANTH 597 - Directed Readings in Anthropology

(1-3 units)

Prerequisites: Senior or graduate standing and consent of instructor.
Selected topics in anthropology will be studied in depth. A written report will be prepared.

Letter grade only (A-F).

•ANTH 600 - Seminar in Ethnology and Social Anthropology

(3 units)

Topics of substantive and theoretical importance and their application to research problems.

Letter grade only (A-F). Course fee may be required. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units.
Topics announced in the *Schedule of Classes*.

•ANTH 697 - Directed Research

(1-3 units)

Prerequisite: Consent of department.
Research in anthropology on an individual basis.

Letter grade only (A-F).

•ANTH 698 - Thesis or Applied Project

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Consent of department.
Planning, preparation, and completion of a thesis or an applied project in anthropology.

Letter grade only (A-F). May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units with the same topic in the same semester.

