ANTHROPOLOGY + SOCIOLOGY

Anthropology and sociology (ANSOC) majors study how we live our lives and how our lives are shaped by the world around us. At RWU, students conduct their own research that includes field observations, interviews, and case studies both locally and abroad. Anthropologists and sociologists evaluate social dynamics, question implicit assumptions, and develop culturally sensitive strategies that help prepare them for a range of careers or graduate school.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Learn and Do More at RWU

With a focus on experiential learning at RWU, ANSOC majors can:

• Conduct original research and immerse themselves in fieldwork to learn about new cultures. They examine how society shapes and influences the individual and the wider world.
• Explore the challenges of being a second-generation immigrant in America, how individuals are re-defining meaningful work, or any other topic of their choice.
• Partner with community organizations to solve problems that matter, like examining whether public transportation effectively connects people to community resources.

CAREER OUTLOOK

RWU anthropology + sociology alumni are working in a variety of fields:

• Social services
• Community outreach
• International development
• Human resources management
• Marketing and product development
• Nonprofit communications
• Advocacy

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Betti Bucco ’17
Museum administrator
Linden Place Museum in Bristol, R.I.

Darwin Almonte ’12
Senior admissions counselor
Coordinator of multicultural recruitment
Salve Regina University

Are you curious about what makes people tick?
Do you wonder why people behave one way at home, but a different way at work?
Are you interested in how individuals have an impact on their community and the systems with which they interact?
Immerse Yourself in Study Abroad Programs
Studying abroad offers the opportunity to explore other cultures and the issues they face. A faculty anthropologist leads an environmental justice-focused course in Brazil examining how social factors affect how communities gain access to resources such as water, farmland, and culturally significant landscapes. A faculty sociologist leads the Social Life in Global Cities course comparing the urban social life of London and Paris, their changing social geography, urban restructuring, and contemporary cultural manifestations.

Get a Great Internship
Anthropology + sociology majors have completed internships at a wide range of organizations, including:

- Dorcas International Institute of RI
- Child & Family RI
- Northern Rhode Island Conservation District
- RI Office of the Attorney General

CURRICULUM
During your first two years, you will learn a variety of subfields in anthropology and sociology. You will also study the fundamental anthropological and sociological theories that will lay the foundation for creating the scientific toolkit you’ll use to dive deep into research. The program links the connection between theory and methods.

In your third year, you’ll learn how to gather data, interpret what you’ve found and analyze your ideas. ANSOC 300: Qualitative Methods, teaches you how to conduct research, how to think critically about what it means, and how it informs a larger conversation.

In the capstone course, ANSOC 400: Senior Seminar, you’ll apply your qualitative research skills through an anthropological and sociological lens with an original research project. You’ll develop your own research question and protocol, conduct the research, analyze and then present your findings at a professional academic conference as well as to the campus community.

Special Courses
You can choose from many electives, including:

- Culture and the Environment
- The Anthropology of Sport
- The Social Worlds of Fashion & Art
- Constructing Gender

OVER 80% OF RWU STUDENTS GRADUATE WITH MORE THAN JUST A SINGLE MAJOR
RWU students have paired anthropology + sociology (ANSOC) with:

- Psychology
- Legal Studies
- International Business
- Sustainability Studies
- Public Health
- Environmental Science
- International Relations