Lambda Alpha is the National Honor Society of Anthropology. As an Honor Society, Lambda Alpha serves to recognize superiority, providing incentive for exceptional performance by granting certificates of accomplishment. 

Since individual chapters are free to organize their own programs, this provides an opportunity for faculty and students to work together on mutually advantageous projects. 

The winning of an annually awarded national scholarship provides $5000 to a deserving graduating senior major in anthropology and a $1000 annual Dean’s List award to a deserving junior. A Graduate Research Grant is designed to encourage overseas thesis research. The award is variable ranging from $2000 to $6000. Only applicants from chartered departments qualify to compete for these awards. 

Since the editorial policy of the Lambda Alpha Journal provides for 50% of its space to be reserved for student publication, this offers a unique occasion for students to see their own work in print on a national level. 

The National Office is also interested in the possibility of organizing an international federation of anthropology honoraries and invites inquiries from national anthropology honorary groups in other countries.

This information can be found at www.lambdaalpha.com. We will be having an information session for all interested students in applying for membership into University of Pittsburgh’s Chapter of Lambda Alpha on Tuesday, September 11 at 7 pm in the Anthropology Lounge.

---

**Club Activities Calendar**

**September**
- Tuesday, Sept 4 – First Meeting at 5 PM
- Friday, Sept 7 – Welcome Back Luncheon, Anthro Lounge
- Tuesday, Sept 11 – Lambda Alpha Info Session at 7 PM in the Anthro Lounge
- Friday Sept 14 – Lecture by Dr. Joseph Alter, Anthro Lounge, 3:430p
- Wed/Thurs Sept 19-20 – The Student Conservation Association visits Pitt

**October**
- Tuesday, Oct 23 – Halloween Philanthropy benefiting Children’s Hospital at 5 pm in the Anthro Lounge
- Friday/Saturday, Sept 28-29 – Trip to the Smithsonian Institute
- Thursday, Oct 11 – What classes to take at 5 pm in the Anthro Lounge.

**November**
- Tuesday, Nov 6 – Meeting Topic to be determined

**December**
- Tuesday, Nov 27 – Elections for new club officers
- Friday, Dec 7 – Last day of Class!
What about a Green Funeral?

By Marco R. della Cava, USA TODAY

For most mortals, talk of death is about as pleasant as a paper cut. But Jerri Lyons stands poised with a psychic Band-Aid.

“We’re fine with birth, but we’ve become so separated from the passage of life to death,” says the dulcet-toned grandmother. “We need to accept death with all our senses.”

All five of them.

Lyons, 56, runs Final Passages, a non-profit concerned with how to keep it cool (dry ice is best, but frozen peas are fine, too). “We’re fine with birth, but we’ve become so separated from the passage of life to death,” says the dulcet-toned grandmother. “We need to accept death with all our senses.”

Though they aren’t pushing their unorthodox views on aging parents, some boomers may well challenge their peers to think differently about the dead.

---

Argentina

By Angela Marcotte, Junior

In the summer of 2007, I studied abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina. I traveled through an exchange program called International Studies Abroad (ISA), and the Pitt Study Abroad department was more than happy to answer any questions and help with the application.

South America is a wonderful place to study abroad because of the rich and diverse cultures in each country. Argentina is in the southern half of South America, and when I arrived in May, I was a bit thrown off by the fact that it was the beginning of winter, whereas in the United States May is the beginning of summer! Also, Buenos Aires is known for being the most European-like city out of all the cities in South America. The European influence is tremendous, especially in the architecture of the city. Buenos Aires is one of the largest cities in South America, and it was impossible to find myself bored and with out anything to do. The museums, restaurants, parks, shopping, the opportunities were endless in the city, and even after two months of living there it was not enough time to experience everything.

Although Buenos Aires is a large city, it is made up of distinct neighborhoods, each with its own characteristics and distinct qualities. One of my favorite experiences was getting to know all the neighborhoods, and experiencing the life of a “Porteño” (someone from Buenos Aires.) The nightlife was also an amazing part of my trip. A typical night out consists of eating dinner around 9:00 to 11:00 P.M., going to a bar after that, and then around 2 or 3 A.M it’s clubbing until 6 or 7 in the morning. And that’s a TYPICAL night out in the city. Sleeping became optional during my time there, but that was OK because there were so many Café’s everywhere (MUCH better than Starbucks) that I could always drink coffee whenever I wanted.

Another one of my favorite parts of the trip was the excursions and trips I took outside of the city. From Buenos Aires, Uruguay is just an hour boat ride away, and Iguazu Falls, one of the seven natural wonders of the world, is just an hour plane ride away. Visiting Iguazu Falls was one of the more memorable experiences of my life. The waterfalls are not only gorgeous, but there’s so many that it literally takes your breath away. The sidewalks also get you literally within inches (and SOAKING WET) in front of the falls, and you can also take a boat ride that drives you right underneath them!

Even writing 10 pages about Buenos Aires, Argentina could not summarize what a wonderful experience it was. Living with a host family and experiencing another culture is something I recommend to anybody, and Buenos Aires is a beautiful city where the people are astoundingly friendly and the opportunities for fun are endless.
Jordan
By: Abby Buffington, Senior

The sun is shining at the tune 110° F causing sweat to run down your face, arms and legs. The wind is blowing at break neck speeds plummeting sand in your eyes every two minutes or so and carrying with it a smell not unlike a petting zoo. Lastly, the aridity of the climate has blessed you with a perpetual state of thirst, that not even four liters of water a day can quench. Where are you? The deserts of central Jordan of course, the most beautiful place in the world.

This summer I had the opportunity to go to Madaba, Jordan, a large town thirty minutes south of Amman, to work on an archaeological dig and field school for about two months: June 16-August 6. The dig is called the Wadi-ath-Thamad Project and is directed by Dr. Michele Daviau and is run out of Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. The site is a late Iron Age, circa 850 BCE to 600 BCE, site on the top of a tell surrounded by a wadi. The site was a 45 minute bus ride from the hotels, yes you heard right hotels, we were staying in in Madaba. Our days lasted at site from 5:45AM to 11:45PM, and processing of finds and camp jobs took place from 4:00 to 6:00 in the afternoon. There was also a whole week of traveling the country built into the project, as well as a weekend in Petra at the end. So of the sites visited included Irbid, the second largest city in Jordan, and a university town, the Baptist site on the Jordan River where the West Bank is literally 10m on the other side, Umm Qais, at the Syrian and Israeli border overlooking the Sea of Galilee, the Dead Sea, and Umm al-jimal a gigantic Nabatean and Byzantine fort city at the edge of the eastern desert built completely of basalt. It was hard to pick a favorite experience, but the most surreal experience was sitting in the front row of a private lecture on standing stones in the Negev in the basement of the Black Iris, one of the hotels, by none other than renowned Israeli archaeologist Uzi Avner. This was a great experience in archaeology, the Jordanian people are very friendly, and the food is excellent. If you haven’t yet been on a field school I would highly recommend this one. Applications are due March 1 each year. The project costs $1900.00 in participation fees, the air fare costs somewhere in the $1000.00-$1700.00 range, and it is good idea to bring about 1000.00 dollars in spend money. It may seem like a lot, but this experience is worth its weight in gold. I met tons of great people whom I will continue to keep in contact with, and this site is renowned for producing archaeologists who are considered to be exemplarily trained. Also every year you are accepted back you receive a discount to the participation fee, and you have a pretty good chance to be a square supervisor your second year if you proved yourself capable in the first and if your up to the challenge. Credit wise, our own Dr. Judd works on the project as well and I was able to get an independent study 6 credit course with her. The credits entailed keeping a daily journal, attendance at the site, and attendance at lectures on academic days, Saturdays. I already can’t wait to go back next summer!

Barcelona
By: Natalie Visnick, Senior

Before I came to college I knew that I wanted to study abroad for a semester. After finally deciding to study abroad in Barcelona, Spain (without even studying Spanish) for the Spring 2007 Semester, I applied to my program the semester before I went abroad (not recommended). It is important to apply for your program a year in advance, because of the necessary paperwork required for student visas, passports, etc.

Barcelona was a wonderful city to study in. The weather was warm- which was a nice break from a Pittsburgh winter- and the people were very friendly. In Barcelona, the people speak Catalan primarily (although they speak Spanish as well), so the signs are in Catalan which probably made it harder for me to learn Spanish quickly. The classes were great because even though they didn’t have to stay trapped in your room studying all night, you took field trips around the city, and just learned as you were there. Traveling around Europe was so easy and relatively cheap. Practically every weekend I went away to another city in Spain or even a different country. Some of the cities I managed to visit were: London, Madrid, Dublin, Munich, Paris, and Palma de Mallorca.

Learning Spanish while living there was definitely an interesting experience; there were times I would speak “Spanglish” or have to use gestures or act out what I was trying to say. I’m sure it was quite amusing for whoever I was communicating with. Living and studying in Europe for four months was more like a vacation than anything else. I recommend studying abroad to anyone who wants a change, is up for a challenge, is open-minded to experiencing new cultures and integrating into one, and likes to travel! As cliché as this might sound, it truly was a life-changing experience that made me more independent and willing to try new things.
**Peru**

By: Natalie Swabb, Junior

I recently spent six weeks this summer in Arequipa, Peru through Pitt’s Center for Latin American Studies program. Each year the center chooses about 12-18 students who are working on their Latin American Studies Certificate and then the group travels to a different city in Latin America during the summer. This year the 11 of us went to Arequipa, Peru which is located in the Andes Mountains in the south of Peru. We each stayed with a different host family and did independent research projects for a total of six credits. I had taken a medical anthropology class last year which really interested me, so I decided to research traditional medicine while in Peru. I interviewed market women selling herbs, doctors of natural medicine, *curanderos* (traditional healers), and workers in more commercial natural product stores to compile information on the medical plants and practices used there. Not only did my Spanish skills improve, but my interviewing skills as well. I went about my interviews like an ethnographer would, just basically talking and allowing the conversation to go where the person took it. The trip of course wasn’t all work. We went to Cusco, the once-capital of the Inca Empire and saw spectacular sites such as Sacsayhuaman, the Coricancha, and Machu Picchu. The six weeks that I spent in Peru were six of the best weeks of my life. I would definitely suggest studying abroad to anyone who wants to experience another culture and practice a foreign language.

---

**Amelia Peabody**

A new year, 1917, is dawning, and the Great War that ravages the world shows no sign of abating. Answering the siren call of Egypt once more, Amelia Peabody and her family arrive at their home in Luxor to learn of a new royal tomb ransacked by thieves. Soon an even more disturbing outrage concerns the intrepid clan of archaeologists: the freshly and savagely slain corpse of a thief defiling the ancient burial site.

Yet this is nothing compared with the lethal fate that threatens Ramses. Besieged by the British and defended by formidable Turkish and German forces, the fortified seaport of Gaza guards the gateway to the Holy Land. Answering a call he cannot refuse from British military intelligence, Ramses must journey to this ancient, fabled city to undertake a mission as personal as it is perilous. Death will surey be his lot if he is caught or exposed. Meanwhile, Ramses’s wife, Nefret, guards a secret of her own . . .

Once again, the incomparable and bestselling author carries us to a breathtaking realm of ancient wonders and crumbling splendor — from the hectic bustle of the Cairo markets to remote, sand-swept corners of the Egyptian desert where the gods of antiquity sleep. Returning visitors to the world of Amelia Peabody will be enthralled by the latest mesmerizing adventure from the award-winning grandmaster, and newcomers will succumb to her wiles as they are caught up in the tantalizing spell of the remarkable Elizabeth Peters and *The Golden One*.
Betterworld: A Humble Dream

The Egyptian youth is facing a crisis as the number of people between 15 and 24 has grown exponentially, reaching almost three million in 2000. Additionally, 75% of recent graduates from Egypt’s government universities are unemployed or employed in professions outside of their area of expertise. In response to this crisis, last spring, a group of students at the American University undertook an effort to found an organization whose directive is to help provide these students with the valuable skills and connections to employers that they lack. The International Center for Technology (ICT-Egypt) began by offering computer courses, at all levels, and has since expanded their curriculum to offer language courses and supplementary seminars as well, all free of charge for students. The ICT is dedicated to offering the Egyptian youth courses without charge as a first step to providing this next generation of Egyptians with an affordable, quality, and relevant education.

The ICT has its current office located in Heliospolis, purposely chosen to be easily accessible from all campuses of the government universities and close to the metro. Currently, the ICT is applying for NGO status from the Egyptian government, and given the success of this petition, the ICT will be the first NGO in Egypt to be founded entirely by students.

All courses are taught by students, but with a rigorous and professional curriculum. The eventual goal is to train current students to be teachers themselves, thus to implement a system that sustains itself with students mastering the material and then sharing it with the next class.

Help us move towards a better world by making dreams a reality. Act now.

Mission Statement
 Initiated in 2003 and formally established in 2007, Better World aims to prepare the young people of Egypt for success in the modern professional world through development of technological literacy, life and occupational skills, and by providing ongoing employment support. The International Center for Technology (ICT) offers 27 free courses to underprivileged Egyptian college students and recent graduates in a variety of subjects from English language to web design. ICT courses are taught by students from Egypt and prestigious universities around the world, furthering inter-cultural understanding and cooperation.

Main Objectives
Computer literacy
In an effort to put the Egyptian youth on the global track in technology, we created a modular training program, consisting of courses in word-processing, web design, multi-media software and animation.

Life-skills education
The development of life-skills is an integral part of our mission at Better World and we organize seminars and lectures on a variety of topics, including, but not limited to, personal and employee rights, nutrition, behavior management, drug awareness and reproductive health.

Employment support
Through our curriculum, we also ensure access to special services such as counseling, mentoring, tutoring and involvement of the family.

Better World ensures the progress of its graduates upon completion of the training, through the contact centers offering self-employment services, in which recent graduates can make use of the computer skills developed through ICT.

Personal Experience
By: Cathie Marcks

I had the privilege of volunteering with Betterworld this past summer and strongly encourage anyone with interest to get involved. It was a valuable and enriching experience that I will never forget. If you would like any information regarding volunteering, please feel free to contact me at cjm36@pitt.edu.

Useful Websites

Archaeological Institute of America
www.archaeological.org

Job Postings
www.shovelbums.org

Fieldwork Directory
http://archaeologic.com/fieldwork_directory.htm

Opportunities and Program Ratings
http://vlib.anthrotech.com/Archaeology/Fieldwork_Opportunities/

Undergraduate Advising
Blaine Connor, Undergraduate Advisor
anthroug@pitt.edu
Office Hours
Wednesday 9:45-1, 2-3
Friday 9:45-1, 2-3
And by appointment

Contact Us
http://betterworld.ahumbledream.com
Email - betterworldngo@gmail.com
Mail - Better World, 5 Ellan Street, Manshiet El-Bakry, Cairo, Egypt
Or check out the Facebook Group
Name: Better World – NGO
Type: Organizations – Non-Profit Organizations

Important Dates
August 27, Classes Begin
September 3, Labor Day
September 7, Add/Drop Ends
October 19-21, Homecoming
October 25, Spring Term Registration Begins
November 21-25 Thanksgiving Break
December 16– January 6 Winter Break
The Undergraduate Anthropology Club is a student run organization that is open to students with interests in any aspect of the discipline. It is a place to meet other students with similar interests and network within the department. The club serves as an outlet to meet the faculty and graduate students within the department.

We hold meetings that cover a wide range of topics including preparing for graduate school, improving your resume and finding a job in Anthropology. We are a developing club and are always open for suggestions and ideas for events, please feel free to contact us at pittanthroclub@gmail.com. We welcome your feedback.

Anthropology Club makes Valentine’s Day cards for Children’s Hospital!

Career Services

www.careers.pitt.edu
Career Services
224 William Pitt Union
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
Phone: 412-648-7130

Hours Monday- Friday
Career Services Office 830a- 5p
Walk-In Hours 1p-430p

If you go to the website and click the printable documents tab on the toolbar at the bottom right of the page; this where you can locate good resources for writing resumes or information about graduate school.

Once students have a rough draft of a resume, they can come to Career Services between 1 and 4:30 pm (Monday through Friday) for a walk-in appointment. A counselor will look over the resume, cover letter, etc. and offer tips to make it perfect.

**PantherTRACS:** the online job database for Pitt students & alumni. This is a service through the Career Services department in the Union.

If students are undecided in their major or just not sure what to do with their major/life, they can meet with a counselor to discuss anything they’d like.

The website has further information and resources about:

- Career Planning and where to start
- Finding a job (networking and interviewing)
- Planning graduate studies
- On-Campus Interviewing
- Programs and Events (Job Fairs)

**PantherTracs**
Pitt Career Network (connecting with Alumni)

**Additional Resources** (Labor Statistics etc.)

**Internships**

They are posted through PantherTRACS and included paid and unpaid opportunities along with internships for academic credit. It is a really useful resource and important to find an internship and this can help you find the one that is right for you and your future plans.