

- Social anthropologists are sociologists as well, but they are at once something less, in the fact that their actual field of investigation has on the whole been more restricted and something more, because although they are concerned with social relationships, they are concerned with other aspects of culture as well.

THEME	ANTHROPOLOGY	SOCIOLOGY
Aim and scope	Universal and holistic. It is concerned with the whole of humankind in time and space.	Limited to contemporary rural and urban societies.
Subject matter	Initially, it focused on tribal and pre-industrial societies. Now it studies historical, biological and cultural aspects of pre literate, peasant and urban societies.	Initially, it studied only the industrial west. Now it conducts studies in both rural and urban societies throughout the world.
Approach	Interdisciplinary - linkage with biology, history.	Limited
Techniques for data collection	More focus on primary data collection by means of Participant Observation and prolonged stays. This is supplemented with scientific techniques of forensics, radio-carbon dating to get concise and qualitative data for cross-cultural analysis.	More use of secondary data collection techniques like questionnaires, schedules, sampling methods, appraisals, statistics, etc to get quantitative data. They rarely attempted to test their generalizations cross-culturally.

Political science:

- Political Science is a social study concerning the allocation and transfer of power in decision making, the roles and systems of governance including governments and international organizations, political behavior and public policies. It focuses on human nature and the moral purposes of political association. It also focuses on empirical research into the way political institutions function in practice.
- Social anthropology focuses on organization of human beings into a coherent group which is able to sustain its needs by well-defined roles, institutions and mutual co-operation amongst its members. The success of the group is based on the successful organization of its institutions. Political anthropology deals with that branch of social structure which is related to power, political organization, and maintenance of social cohesion. It is here that anthropology is closely linked to Political science.
- The theories of political science help social anthropologists in understanding concepts of power, law and justice, structure of the political setup are areas of importance for social anthropologists. It helps them in understanding the organization simple societies, evolution of political institutions over time and impact of various types of political organizations on the ways society evolves and functions.
- Edmund Leach, a prominent British social anthropologist, has argued that power is the most fundamental aspect of all social life, and therefore central to the anthropological endeavour.
- The theoretical contribution that anthropology is making to political science, related to functionalism, is the evolutionary point of view. Further, the presence of anthropological literature is not only a stimulus to theory testing but forms a basis for understanding local political situations as well. The empirical data that is collected and analysed by anthropologists enrich the field of political science and its applicability in contemporary situation for understanding human behavior.