

Master of Arts in Anthropology

The anthropology department offers a course of study leading to the Master of Arts (MA) degree.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the MA program in anthropology requires the completion of a minimum of 15 semester hours in anthropology to include courses in history and theory of anthropology and in the 3 main subdivisions of the discipline, and a grade point average in the last 60 hours of credit of 3.250 (on a 4.000 scale).

The deadline for application is February 1 for fall and October 1 for spring. Prospective students are required to submit a written statement of purpose that addresses their intended area(s) of specialization. Applications will be reviewed by the entire faculty and accepted if there is a faculty member specializing in the applicant's area of interest and available to serve as graduate advisor.

Applicants will be notified of the faculty's decision by March 15 for fall admission or November 15 spring admission.

Students deficient in any of the course prerequisites may be admitted conditionally pending removal of the deficiencies.

Degree Requirements

Only graduate students may enroll in 700 and 800 level courses for credit. All graduate students who have been required to take ANTH 647 "Theories of Culture" must successfully complete this requirement prior to enrolling in ANTH 746 "Advanced Cultural Anthropology". Graduate enrollment in ANTH 770 "Advanced Readings" requires successful completion of the corresponding core course of the particular area of focus, that is, ANTH 736 or 746 or 756. To enroll in a graduate seminar (ANTH 801, 802, 820, 837, or 848) a student must have full graduate standing and 6 hours of graduate coursework in anthropology, including the core course (ANTH 736, 745, or 756) in the same

subfield as the seminar. To enroll in ANTH 871-2, ANTH 873-4, or ANTH 875-6, graduate students must have successfully completed ANTH 736, 746, and 756 and have their final project (thesis, project, or internship) approved by their committee.

A masters degree in anthropology requires 36 hours of graduate study, of which 60 percent (22 hours) must be numbered 700 or above. All students are required to take core courses in archaeological anthropology (ANTH 736), socio-cultural anthropology (ANTH 746), and biological anthropology (ANTH 756), two seminars (ANTH 801, 802, 820, 837, or 848), and two semesters of Colloquium in Anthropology (ANTH 847). Students in all tracks are required to complete the core course in a particular subfield (cultural, biological, or archaeological anthropology) prior to registering for any seminar in the same subfield, and students must complete seminars in two subfields. Student interested in multidisciplinary topics may, with the consent of their committee, count up to 12 hours of graduate level credit from other disciplines toward their degree.

There are three tracks for the masters degree in anthropology:

Track 1 Requires satisfying all the general requirements listed above and the completion of written comprehensive exams, 4 hours of thesis including 2 hours each of ANTH 875 and 876, and the successful presentation of a thesis. Students must also satisfy a statistics requirement. Comprehensive exams are graded by all full time teaching faculty in the department.

Track 2 Requires satisfying all of the general requirements listed above, the completion of a project approved by the student's project committee, and the presentation of a project report. Track 2 students must take 2 hours each of ANTH 873 and 874.

Track 3 Requires satisfying all of the general requirements listed above, the completion of an internship approved by the student's internship committee, and the presentation of an internship report. Track 3 students must take 2 hours each of ANTH 871 and 872.

Students in all tracks are required to form a thesis/project/internship committee of at least two full time graduate teaching faculty from within the anthropology department and at least one graduate faculty from another department. This committee must be formed prior to or upon the completion of 18 hours of graduate study. Students must present to their committee a proposal for their thesis, project, or internship. The committee approves these proposals and also the oral defense of all theses, project reports, and internship reports. Theses, project reports, and internship reports must be submitted to the committee at least 10 working days prior to the date of the actual defense.

All students who present a thesis, project, or internship must pass an oral defense of their effort. A foreign language examination is contingent upon the nature of the thesis topic.

Examinations

Students in Track 1 are required to take the written comprehensive examination. Students must have completed a minimum of 15 semester hours of graduate work in Anthropology including ANTH 736, ANTH 746, and ANTH 756, before taking the examination which is usually given during the fourth week of each semester. All graduate students taking the comprehensive examination must obtain the Packet for the Comprehensive Examination (PACE) from the department office for the detailed information on this requirement. Students are required to sign up for the comprehensive exam during the semester prior to taking the exam. Also, students must attend a comprehensive exam workshop during the semester prior to taking the exam.

Faculty

Dorothy Billings, professor. PhD, University of Sydney. Pacific and cultural anthropology

Donald Blakeslee, professor. PhD, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Great Plains archeology

David Hughes, associate professor, PhD, University of Oklahoma. Southern Plains archeology, cultural resource management

Jens Kreinath, assistant professor, DPhil, University of Heidelberg. Ritual, aesthetics, semiotics, media, Islam, Turkey, Middle East

Robert Lawless, professor, PhD, New School for Social Research. Haitian, Philippine and urban North American anthropology

Jerry Martin, museum director, MA, Wichita State University. Museum exhibits, curation

Peer Moore-Jansen, professor and chairperson, anthropology and professor, criminal justice. PhD, University of Tennessee-Knoxville. Skeletal biology, mortuary anthropology, forensic anthropology, morphometrics and biological distance, evolutionary thought, human variability

Angela Demovic, assistant professor, PhD, Tulane University. Sociocultural anthropology, ethnography, gender, Africa, South Asia

For more information

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