

MA IN ANTHROPOLOGY

Total units required for MA: 30

Program Description

The Master of Arts program in Anthropology is designed for students who plan to continue their graduate studies in Anthropology at the Ph.D. level as well as for students who plan to pursue any of the numerous opportunities for graduate anthropologists, such as in private research, cultural resource management, private foundations, Foreign Service, education, and government.

The program provides general graduate-level training in four interrelated fields: sociocultural anthropology, archaeology, biological anthropology, and linguistic anthropology. Beyond this foundation, each student designs a plan of coursework specific to their post-graduate goals in one of the four subfields. Students are then expected to demonstrate mastery of their subfield by preparing a thesis of original scholarly research.

Following admission to classified standing, each student is assigned a temporary advisor to determine the scope of his/her interests and academic background and to establish the plan for elective coursework. After the graduate interview, the student forms a Thesis Committee composed of a graduate advisor and at least one additional member of the Anthropology faculty. The responsibility of the Thesis Committee is to provide general academic advice and to guide the student in conducting research, preparation for the preliminary exam, developing the thesis proposal, and writing the thesis.

Students may develop their special interests through individual arrangements with their faculty advisors, or they may take advantage of opportunities for special training in such areas of Applied Anthropology as cultural resource management, museology, Anthropology in education, and medical Anthropology through participation in ongoing informal programs which may include special field work or intern placement with local agencies. Prospective students should visit the department website or contact the Graduate Coordinator for updated information on special opportunities.

Admission Requirements

Admission to classified graduate standing in Anthropology requires:

- a baccalaureate degree;
- a minimum 3.0 GPA for the last 60 units attempted.

Applicants lacking an undergraduate degree in anthropology may be conditionally accepted upon satisfactorily completing a set of prerequisite upper-division coursework based on the applicant's interests and goals in anthropology.

Admission Procedures

Graduate students are considered twice a year for admission for the fall and spring semester. To apply, applicants must complete a university application and a separate departmental application by the posted application deadline dates. Please submit the following to the Sacramento State Office of Graduate Studies:

- an online application for admission via CalState Apply;
- two sets of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, *other than Sacramento State*, should be sent to:

California State University, Sacramento
Office of Graduate Studies
River Front Center 215
6000 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95819-6112

- official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) official scores

For more admissions information and application deadlines, please visit <http://www.csus.edu/gradstudies/>.

At the same time, each applicant must file online with the Anthropology Department:

- a completed Supplemental Application Form
- a statement of intent describing academic background and present interests
- two signed letters of recommendation on official letterhead from individuals who can assess the applicant's potential for graduate study

For more information regarding the department supplemental application, please visit <https://www.csus.edu/anth/>

Minimum Units and Grade Requirement for the Degree

Units required for the MA: 30

Minimum Cumulative GPA: 3.0

Advancement to Candidacy

Each student must file an application for Advancement to Candidacy indicating a proposed program of graduate study. This procedure may begin as soon as the classified graduate student has:

- removed any deficiencies in admission requirements;
- completed at least 12 units of 200-level Anthropology courses with a minimum 3.0 GPA;
- completed an approved draft of the thesis research proposal; and
- successfully passed a preliminary exam in their area of study
- taken the Writing Placement for Graduate Students (WPG) or taken a Graduate Writing Intensive (GWI) course in their discipline within the first two semesters of coursework at California State University, Sacramento or secured approval for a WPG waiver.

Students should contact the Graduate Coordinator for current deadlines.

Note: Students may not enroll in ANTH 500 until Advanced to Candidacy, successful completion of thesis research proposal, and chair permission of his/her thesis committee. Advancement to Candidacy forms are available on the Office of Graduate Studies website. The student fills out the form after planning a program of study in consultation with his/her Anthropology faculty advisors. The completed form is then returned to the Office of Graduate Studies for approval.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Units
Core Seminars (6 Units) ¹		
Select the seminar below in your area of study plus one additional core seminar:		6
ANTH 202	Biological Anthropology Seminar	
ANTH 203	Archaeology	

ANTH 205	Ethnology	
ANTH 207	Language and Culture	
Elective Graduate Seminars (9 Units)		
Select three of the following graduate seminars or additional core seminars listed above (with thesis advisor approval): ²		9
ANTH 200	General Methods in Anthropology	
ANTH 201	Anthropological Theory	
ANTH 204	Current Problems in Archaeological Method and Theory	
ANTH 222	Bioarchaeology Seminar	
ANTH 223	Areal Archaeology	
ANTH 258	Human Skeletal Analysis	
ANTH 274	Environmental Anthropology	
ANTH 276	Museum Anthropology	
Elective Graduate Course (3 Units)		
Select any additional 200-level course or seminar with the exception of ANTH 278, ANTH 292, ANTH 295, and ANTH 299.		3
General Electives (9 Units)		
Select any three elective graduate courses listed above or any upper division courses from the Anthropology major or a related discipline with approval from thesis advisor. ³		9
Culminating Requirement (3 Units)		
ANTH 500	Master's Thesis ⁴	3
Total Units		30

¹ Grade "B-" or better required in each course listed.

² ANTH 200, 201, 204, and 223 may be repeated under different instructor or topic.

³ Specific electives must be approved in advance by the student's Thesis Committee. For paired undergraduate-graduate lecture courses, graduate students must enroll at the 200-level. Graduate students who completed the 100-level paired course as an undergraduate may not retake the same course at the 200-level. No more than six semester units of paired coursework may count towards the degree. No more than six semester units of approved course credit from another department may be accepted towards general electives. No more than 3 units of ANTH 278 or ANTH 299 may be applied to the MA. ANTH 278 and ANTH 299 courses that have passed the seven-year University limit may not be applied to the MA.

⁴ Students may not enroll in ANTH 500 until Advancement to Candidacy, successful completion of the thesis research proposal, and chair permission of his/her thesis committee. Students who do not finish their thesis within the semester of enrollment in ANTH 500 must enroll in ANTH 599 for up to three consecutive semesters to sustain their graduate standing. Students must re-enroll in ANTH 500 if they do not complete the thesis within four semesters.