

Department of Anthropology Graduate Program



Georgia State University
2016-2017

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General Description

The Master of Arts (M.A.) degree program in Anthropology is designed to provide rigorous training in anthropological theories, methods, and skills. The program is dedicated to the investigation of a broad range of social, cultural, political, economic, and biological issues, processes, and problems pertaining to the human experience in its present and past dimensions. The program utilizes resources in metropolitan Atlanta to promote student learning.

Students may elect to conduct basic or applied research in consultation with their primary advisor and in line with career aspirations. They can seek comprehensive training in anthropological methods and theory in anticipation of pursuing an academic career in anthropology; alternatively, they can pursue specialized training for a career in applied anthropology, emphasizing how anthropological knowledge can be used to address contemporary problems in medical, educational, and other social service settings. In order to provide graduate students with training specific to their career goals, the program offers a thesis option, an internship option, and a practicum option.

The M.A. program is designed to be completed in two years. During the first year, all students are required to demonstrate competence in the basic theories and methods of anthropology through completion of a four-course core curriculum. Additional coursework is completed in consultation with the faculty. During their second year, students are expected to develop their own areas of interest and expertise within the broader framework of the program. Students are encouraged to make use of resources in other departments and schools at Georgia State University, and of neighboring institutions such as Emory University, Georgia Institute of Technology, the Atlanta University Center, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Medical College of Georgia. Students can also choose to take advantage of our department's partnerships including those with the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, the GSU Heritage Preservation Program, the Atlanta Zoo, and a number of local museums and CRM firms.

Degree Requirements

Thesis Option (33 hours)

Practicum Option (36 hours)

Internship Option (36 hours)

The following courses are required:

1. Anth 8000 Anthropological Theory and Praxis (3)
Anth 8040 Seminar in Anthropology (3) or Anth 8050 Seminar in Applied Anthropology (3)
One course at the 6000 or 8000 level in Biological Anthropology
One course at the 6000 or 8000 level in Archaeology
2. One of the following methods courses (as relevant to the student's MA concentration):

Anth 6670 Methods in Sociocultural Anthropology (3) or Anth 8010 Qualitative Methods in Anthropology (3)

Anth 6360 Methods and Theories in Biological Anthropology (4) or Anth 6370 Forensic Anthropology (3)

Anth 6590 Archaeological Methods (4)

3. Additional 6000/8000-level anthropology courses in area of specialization to achieve a total of 33 semester hours for thesis option and 36 semester hours for practicum and internship options. Up to six hours of graduate courses may be taken outside the anthropology program.
4. Proficiency in a language other than English or an approved research skill (see below).
5. A general written and oral examination must be passed on or near the completion of coursework requirements.
6. Thesis option: Either six credit hours of Anth 8999* (Thesis Research), or three credit hours of Anth 8999* plus Anth 8060 (Writing Seminar in Anthropology).
7. Practicum option: Either three credit hours of Anth 8990* (Research Practicum) or Anth 8060 (Writing Seminar in Anthropology).
8. Internship option: Three credit hours of Anth 8910* (Internship).
9. Oral defense of thesis, research practicum paper, or internship paper.

** Indicates courses graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. Grades do not affect GPA.*

Language Other than English or Equivalent Research Skills

All students must show proficiency in a foreign language by passing the Graduate Foreign Language Test (a standardized exam) or by taking a reading exam through the Department of Modern and Classical Languages. An equivalent research skill from the following list may be substituted for this requirement.

Examples of courses that satisfy research skill requirement:

WST	8004	Feminist Research Methods
PSYC	8230	Program Evaluation in Community Psychology
SOCI	8020	Research Methodology
GEOG	6532	Geographic Information Systems
BIOL	6744	Biostatistics

Other methods courses may be substituted as appropriate to a student's research program and in consultation with the student's advisor (if determined) or the Director of Graduate Studies. Also,

students who are native speakers of a language other than English may consult the Director of Graduate Studies to receive a waiver of this requirement.

Responsible Conduct of Research

All graduate students are required to take Responsible Conduct of Research training as part of a methods course during their first year. Courses that qualify for fulfilling this requirement are:

Anth 6670 Methods in Sociocultural Anthropology or Anth 8010 Qualitative Methods in Anthropology (for sociocultural and medical anthropology students)

Anth 6360 Methods and Theories in Biological Anthropology or Anth 6370 Forensic Anthropology (for biological anthropology students)

Anth 6590 Archaeological Methods (for archaeology students)

Additionally, all students are required to take the CITI test (available online at <https://www.citiprogram.org>), regardless of their subfield. Students will have to complete the test within their first semester.

Guidelines for Graduate Advisement

Students in their first semester will register for classes in consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies. Students must choose a major advisor no later than the end of the first year (procedures are described below). This information will be placed in the student's file. Students may change their major advisor at any time, and this must be noted in their file.

Students should meet with their advisor at least twice each semester, and should meet with the Director of Graduate Studies at least once at the beginning of each semester. Students should also meet with the Department Chair once per semester.

Guidelines for the Comprehensive Examination

1. Committee

The student must form a comprehensive exam committee of at least 3 members: the major advisor and two additional faculty. The major advisor and at least one of the other two members must be regular (i.e., not visiting or part-time) faculty in the Department of Anthropology. The third member can be any faculty member of the Department or from another Georgia State department. With the advisor's guidance, one member can be invited from outside the university should s/he hold special expertise appropriate to the project.

To form the committee, students should identify faculty with the most applicable research/teaching expertise and discuss their thesis/practicum/internship plans. By the end of the second semester (or the semester before comprehensive exams will be taken), each student must submit to the Director of Graduate Studies a committee form that proposes three members, ranked in order of preference (your preferred advisor should be listed as #1). The faculty will make every attempt to accommodate student committee preferences, but in some cases matters of faculty workload or research fit may lead to adjustments. Any changes will be made only in consultation with the student and with relevant faculty members.

2. Content

The content of the examination will reflect the general foci of the department, and the particular concentration of the student. A common format for the Comprehensive Exam entails an examination on three topics: (1) theory; (2) methods and research ethics; and (3) context of research or practice, i.e., description and preliminary assessment of student's current research findings. However, the format and content of the Comprehensive Exam is at the discretion of the student's major advisor, who is responsible for designing the three questions to be included in the examination.

3. Timing

Students should plan to take their comprehensive exam after completing their required courses, and prior to beginning work on a thesis, internship, or practicum. For a full-time student, this should occur by the third semester.

4. Format

The comprehensive exam will be a take-home. The student will submit a comprehensive, annotated bibliography to his or her advisor in the beginning of the semester in which the exam will be taken, as well as a list of potential topics. The bibliography and topics list will guide the student's preparation, and will assist the faculty in the formation of their questions. The student will have two weeks (14 days) in which to complete the exam.

5. Evaluation

The student will submit the completed examination to his or her major advisor as well as the other two members of the committee. The members of the committee will give their evaluations and feedback to the student's advisor within two weeks. The major advisor will arrange for a meeting with the student to discuss the content of the examination and explore its issues further. The student will be evaluated on each question, and will receive an overall grade of Pass, - Rewrite (one section of the exam needs to be rewritten, on a schedule decided by the student's advisor), or Fail (two or more sections need to be rewritten). If a student fails, the process can be repeated once, and this will take place during the next semester. After completion of the Comprehensive Examination, the advisor will fill in a Completion Form and will submit it to the Director of Graduate Studies. Failing the comprehensive exam twice will result in a student's termination from the program.

Thesis Option

1. Committee

The purpose of the committee is to lend guidance and expertise in all phases of thesis preparation, including organization, data collection, data analysis and interpretation, and writing. The student must form a committee of at least 3 people. The comprehensive exam committee automatically becomes the student's thesis committee unless changes are initiated by the student or by a faculty member who wishes to step down. In such a case, the student must submit a revised committee form to the Director of Graduate Studies.

2. IRB

Projects involving the study of human subjects will require IRB approval from the Office of Research-IRB. IRB requirements may change over time and according to circumstances. Please see the Office of Research website for instructions and additional information. The submission and approval process is time-consuming, and planning (by a student together with the student's advisor) should be initiated months in advance of the anticipated start of research.

3. Thesis

Theses should be approximately 60 to 80 pages long and should be based on original research. According to guidelines of the Office of Graduate Studies of the College of Arts and Sciences, the purpose of the thesis is to "demonstrate the candidate's ability to carry out independent scholarly research, to draw logical conclusions from the data gathered, and to present the results in a clear, intelligible, and consistent form." A document from the Division of Graduate Studies of the College of Arts and Sciences contains guidelines for thesis preparation. Students should obtain a copy of current guidelines.

2. Submission of first draft

Graduating MA students will submit the first draft of their thesis to their advisor at the latest by the second Friday after semester midpoint. If the draft is complete in all its parts, students will be expected to graduate that semester, provided that they successfully defend at least two weeks prior to the College of Arts and Sciences graduation deadline. Extensions will be granted only in case of documented hardship. Otherwise, students who fail to submit a complete draft by this deadline will postpone graduation to the following semester.

Students are also responsible for observing College of Arts and Sciences deadlines for uploading the thesis draft for formatting approval. This deadline typically falls near the semester midpoint, and meeting it is a College requirement for graduation.

3. Evaluation

The student must orally defend the thesis before his or her committee and any other member of the anthropology faculty who wish to attend. The students may also invite others to attend. The date for the defense is arranged by the student and the thesis advisor, and the defense must be held at the latest two weeks prior to the College of Arts and Science graduation deadline.

Internship Option

1. Committee

The guidelines for internship committees are the same as those outlined above for the thesis option.

2. Initiation

The student should consult with the major advisor in order to identify an appropriate agency for an internship. Appropriate agencies may include federal, state, and local government offices, clinics, hospitals, schools, non-governmental organizations, private voluntary associations, and businesses. The student may be paid for the internship at the discretion of the agency. Upon approval of the major advisor, the student will register for 3 hours of ANTH 8910 (Internship) and begin working at the agency. Students may register for an additional 3 hours, but these do not count towards the degree.

3. Progress

It is the responsibility of the student to report to the advisor at least every three weeks about the progress of the internship. The major advisor is responsible for contacting the student's supervisor at the agency to assess the student's work. A minimum of 200 hours of work at the agency must be completed.

4. Report

The Internship report should contain a description of the agency and its activities, a literature review of work by anthropologists in similar agencies, a description of typical activities engaged in by the student, problems encountered, an analysis of the experience in the context of anthropological theories and methods, and any other relevant information such as data collected. Internship reports should be approximately 25 pages in length.

5. Evaluation

Graduating MA students will submit the first draft of their thesis to their advisor at the latest by the second Friday after semester midpoint. Students who fail to submit a complete draft by this deadline will postpone graduation to the following semester. Extensions will be granted only in case of documented hardship, and will have to be approved by the Department Chair and the Director of Graduate Studies.

Once the draft is ready for defense, the major advisor will arrange a meeting with the student's committee. The student will be asked to give a formal presentation about the internship and respond to any questions by the committee. The student will then revise the internship report if necessary. The internship will be given a grade of "pass" when the final internship report is accepted by the committee.

Research Practicum Option

1. Committee

Before the student is allowed to take the Research Practicum, s/he must form a practicum committee of at least 3 people. The guidelines for internship committees are the same as those outlined above for the thesis option.

2. Practicum paper

Upon approval of the major advisor, the student will register for the course Research Practicum (ANTH 8990). The nature of the project will be compatible with the student's experience, academic interests and career goals. Practicum papers should be approximately 25 pages in length.

3. Evaluation

Graduating MA students will submit the first draft of their thesis to their advisor at the latest by the second Friday after semester midpoint. If the draft is complete in all its parts, students will be expected to graduate that semester, provided that they successfully defend at least two weeks prior to the College of Arts and Sciences graduation deadline. Extensions will be granted only in case of documented hardship. Otherwise, students who fail to submit a complete draft by this deadline will postpone graduation to the following semester.

Once the draft of the practicum paper is ready for defense, the major advisor will arrange a meeting with the student's committee. The student will be asked to give a formal presentation about the practicum and respond to any questions by the committee. The student will then revise the paper if necessary. The student will receive a grade of "pass" when the final practicum paper is accepted by the committee. Upon failure of the first attempt, the student may repeat the course once in the following semester. In the interim, a grade of "IP" is issued.

MA Program Checklist

Full-time students should expect to complete their MA in four semesters (not including summers).

Once you have been admitted to the program:

- Meet with the Director of Graduate Studies to discuss your plans and select your classes. Read the MA program handbook very carefully.
- Always consult with the Director of Graduate Studies or your advisor before you register for a class, and make sure that you take a required course as soon as it is offered.
- *Activate a student e-mail account and check it frequently. Make sure you read all the e-mails you receive from the University as well as the Director of Graduate Studies. (Check your spam folder frequently, especially at the beginning of your first semester!)*

1st semester:

- Attend the graduate student orientation at the beginning of the semester.
- Meet with *all* faculty members to discuss your research interests and potential topics for your MA.
- Work closely with the Director of Graduate Studies at least until you select your advisor.
- *If you are proficient in a language other than English, take the Foreign Language Reading Test.* The sooner you fulfill this requirement, the better. For languages offered and scheduled tests, see: <http://wlc.gsu.edu/home/graduate/graduate-foreign-language-requirement/gflre/>. If you are a native speaker of a language other than English, consult the Director of Graduate Studies for a waiver.
- Take the CITI test at <https://www.citiprogram.org>, and submit a printout of your Test Completion Page to Isra Hassan.
- Take a methods course in your subfield. If no such course is offered during your first semester, make sure you take it in your second semester.

2nd semester:

- Take a methods course in your subfield, if you have not done so already.
- Speak with potential advisors and committee members and submit your committee form to the Director of Graduate Studies by the semester midpoint.
- Find out if you need an IRB. If so, submit your application once your advisor has been selected.
- Start your research, and begin preparation for your Comprehensive Exam.

3rd semester:

- ***Apply for graduation.*** Deadlines are available at http://www.gsu.edu/applying_for_graduation.html. You will not be allowed to apply for graduation in your final semester!
- ***Take your Comprehensive Exam.***
- Give a hard copy of your Comprehensive Exam to each committee member.
- Ask your advisor for feedback on your Comprehensive Exam, and make the revisions s/he requests.

4th semester:

- Check graduation requirements and calendar at http://www.cas.gsu.edu/grad_graduation.html.
- Schedule a meeting with your advisor as well as the Director of Graduate studies to make sure you have fulfilled all of the requirements.
- If you are writing a thesis, take the CAS formatting seminar and be prepared to upload your draft for format check by the mid-semester deadline.
- ***Give your advisor a complete draft of your thesis/practicum/internship paper at the latest by the Friday after the semester midpoint.*** If the draft is complete in all its parts, students will be expected to graduate that semester, provided that they successfully defend at least two weeks prior to the College of Arts and Sciences graduation deadline. ***Students who fail to submit a complete draft by this deadline will postpone graduation to the following semester.*** Extensions will be granted only in case of documented hardship, and will have to be approved by the Department Chair and the Director of Graduate Studies.
- ***Do not underestimate the amount of time you will need in order to turn your first draft into a viable thesis/practicum/internship paper.*** Use your summer or winter break in order to write a full first draft. Most students go through at least ***3 to 4 rounds of revisions (or more!)*** before their advisor allows them to schedule a defense.
- Schedule a defense with your committee members ***after*** your final draft has been approved by your advisor. ***All defenses should be held at the latest two weeks prior to the CAS graduation deadline.***
- Submit a hard copy of your ***final*** draft to your committee members ***at least one week before the defense date.***
- Reserve the seminar room for your defense. Prepare a 15 minutes presentation where you summarize your research question, methods, and findings.
- Make sure your defense is held ***at least two full weeks before the College of Arts and Sciences graduation deadline*** (the more time you give yourself, the better. You will need all of it for additional revisions!).
- Have your signature page ready on the day of the defense. The committee Chair will sign it once all the revisions have been made. ***Please note: Under no circumstances can signature pages be signed before the thesis/practicum/internship paper has been successfully defended.***
- Submit your signature page to the Office of Graduate Services by the CAS deadline, ***and give Isra Hassan a copy.***

Please remember: this checklist is not a substitute for the information contained throughout the MA program handbook or conveyed through individual advising. Work closely with your advisor, and check in with the Director of Graduate Studies at least once a semester.

Criteria for GRA and GTA Funding

In order to be eligible for GRA/GTA funding, students must register for three regular courses (or three courses plus the professionalization seminar) for a total of at least 10 credit hours. Students will also register for enough ANTH 8065 non-thesis hours as to achieve a total of 18 credit hours. GRA/GTA funding may be withheld from students who fall below the required course load. Students' performance as Graduate Assistants is evaluated every semester, and will be reflected by their ANTH 8065 grade. All students who receive GRA/GTA/GLA/GA funding from the department or other GSU units are required to register for 18 credit hours per semester.

GRA/GTA funding is limited and is assigned on a competitive basis. Criteria that are considered include:

1st Semester Students:

- Application materials
- Programmatic needs

Continuing Students:

- GPA and academic performance while in the program
- Performance as GRA/GTA (if applicable)
- Relevant experience and skills
- Programmatic needs

The following circumstances will cause continuing students to be excluded from GRA funding considerations:

- Failure to take comps during the 3rd semester
- Failure to graduate during the 4th semester
- Part-time status

Please Note:

At times, faculty members with an external grant or special teaching needs (e.g., a Critical Thinking through Writing or Writing Across the Curriculum course) may select a graduate student to work with them (and hence receive funding) for a semester. While the quality of a student's overall performance may be a predictor of such appointments, this form of funding is entirely dependent on the faculty making the selection.

The department may also appoint one or more graduate students to teach introductory courses during the summer. Such appointments are contingent upon programmatic needs as well as students' overall performance and potential as teachers, and they are entirely at the discretion of the faculty and the department Chair.

Please check with the departmental office to verify rates of pay for these appointments.

Please note: GA funding opportunities become periodically available with other GSU units such as Housing, the Panther Den, the Office of Graduate Services, the Student Center, the Public Health Institute, etc. We encourage you to explore these and other venues for GA funding.

The University Office of Student Financial Aid offers additional programs of support. Also, students who find employment with the university may be entitled to a partial tuition waiver covering 2 courses a semester.

Additional Information

Transfer of graduate credit. Students who enter Georgia State University with master's-level coursework in anthropology may, with approval, receive up to 6 semester hours of transfer credit toward their elective courses. As soon as possible before beginning their coursework at GSU, they should confer with the Director of the Graduate Program regarding an evaluation of previous coursework. Since course content can vary between institutions, students seeking transfer credit should bring some documentation of the content of each course to the transfer credit evaluation. Transfer credit must be approved by the faculty advisor, graduate director, the departmental chairperson, and the Office of Graduate Studies of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Minimum academic standards: Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 throughout their graduate coursework at GSU. Students receiving more than two "C"s or one "F" will be subject to scholastic probation or termination.

For further information on the M.A. program, contact

Jennifer Patico

Director of Graduate Studies

Department of Anthropology

Georgia State University

33 Gilmer Street

Suite 335 Sparks Hall

Atlanta, Georgia 30303

E-mail: jpatico@gsu.edu

Tel.: 404-413-5167; Fax: 404-413-5159

Anthropology Faculty

Steven P. Black, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, 2010, Assistant Professor. Medical anthropology, linguistic anthropology, and ethnomusicology; HIV/AIDS, southern Africa, neoliberalism/globalization and international aid, creativity and verbal art, stigma, jazz and gospel music.

Jeffrey Barron Glover, Ph.D., University of California, Riverside, 2006, Associate Professor. Mesoamerican archaeology with a focus on the ancient Maya, social and political implications of settlement pattern studies, Coastal Archaeology, Trade and Exchange, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) applications, development of social complexity, Mexico (Yucatan).

Emanuela Guano, Ph.D., University of Texas-Austin 1999, Associate Professor. Sociocultural theory, urban studies and space & place; public and visual culture; class, gender, and work; citizenship and the state; globalization; Italy and Mediterranean Europe; Argentina.

Kathryn A. Kozaitis, Ph.D., University of Michigan, 1993, Associate Professor. Sociocultural theory, ethnography, ethnicity, comparative social organization and cultural change, community organization, educational reform, cultural and urban applied anthropology, Mediterranean, Europe, contemporary U.S.

Nicola Sharratt, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Chicago, 2011, Assistant Professor. Archaeology, Andean South America, political collapse, identity, craft production, geochemical analysis, museum anthropology.

Jennifer Patico, Ph.D., New York University 2001, Associate Professor. Sociocultural anthropology; consumption and material culture; gender and feminist anthropology; cultures of capitalism and middle classness; self and personhood; postsocialist Russia and the United States.

Faidra Papavasiliou, Ph.D. Emory University 2008, Senior Lecturer. Economic anthropology; local food systems; consumption; sustainability; money; social movements and collective action; globalization; development; social theory; virtual worlds; U.S. and Greece.

Louis A. Ruprecht Jr., Ph.D. Emory University 1990, Professor. Comparative religion, classical inflections of ethics, politics, sexuality, art and aesthetics, museum studies, Mediterranean archaeology, reception history.

Bethany Turner, Ph.D., Emory University 2007, Associate Professor. Biological anthropology, paleodiet, the political economy of food in history, bioarchaeology, nutritional anthropology, Peru.

Cassandra White, Ph.D., Tulane University, 2001, Associate Professor. Medical anthropology, qualitative methods, folk models of disease, medical discourse, leprosy, Brazilian popular culture, Latin America

Frank L'Engle Williams, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 2001, Professor. Biological anthropology, human evolution, osteology, primates, ontogeny, growth models, craniostynosis, race, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

Other Anthropologists at GSU

Sarah Brosnan, Ph.D.; Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Brains and Behavior Program & Language Research Center. Emory University, 2004. Cooperation, inequity, barter, social cognition, and economic behavior, primarily in non-human primates.

Jennie Burnet, Ph.D.; Associate Professor, Global Studies Institute. University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, 2005. War, genocide, and peace. Development studies. Gender, sexuality, and women's human rights. Race, ethnicity, and identity. Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and East Africa.

Doris Derby, Ph.D.; Director, Office of African American Student Services Programs Minority Advising Program Officer for the University System of Georgia. University of Illinois/ Urbana. Social and cultural anthropology; African-American studies.

Jonathan Gayles, Ph.D.; Professor, Department of African-American Studies and Associate Dean for Institutional Effectiveness. University of South Florida, 2002. Applied Anthropology; cultural context of educational outcomes.

Melinda Hartwig, Ph.D.; Associate Professor. School of Art & Design, Art History Program
Institute of Fine Arts at New York University, 2000. Art & archaeology of ancient Egypt.

Nadia Latif, Ph.D.; Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies. Columbia University 2010. Political Anthropology, Anthropology of the Middle East, Human Rights and Humanitarianism.

Megan Sinnott, Ph.D.; Associate Professor, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Institute. University of Wisconsin, Madison. Globalization and sexuality; queer theory; transnational media studies, anthropology of gender and sexuality.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION AND WEBSITES

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Jennifer Patico, Director of Graduate Studies..... (404) 413-5167
jpatico@gsu.edu

Kathryn Kozaitis, Chair..... (404) 413-5154
kozaitis@gsu.edu

Front Office..... (404) 413-5156

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Admissions..... (404) 413-5042

Financial Aid..... (404) 413-2400

UNIVERSITY

Registrar's Office/One Stop Shop..... (404) 413-2600

Office of International Services..... (404) 413-2070

Campus Housing..... (404) 413-1800

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

Anthropology Department <http://www.cas.gsu.edu/anthropology>

College of Arts and Sciences/Grad Studies http://www.cas.gsu.edu/graduate_studies.html

Office of Institutional Research/IRB <http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwire/approval/irb.htm>

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