ANTHROPOLOGY, M.A.

The primary focus of the anthropology graduate program is the doctoral degree. A master’s degree is awarded in the process of pursuing the Ph.D., but students are not admitted for the sole purpose of obtaining a master’s degree.

At the master’s level, it is expected that candidates will begin to gain professional competence in a specialized field and will have the opportunity to explore a wide spectrum of interests within that field.

Programs for the master’s degree in anthropology are intended to build professional competence in the field of concentration. Thorough undergraduate preparation is assumed. Basic training in archaeology, biological anthropology, and sociocultural anthropology, taken as an undergraduate major in anthropology, is recommended. Specific requirements vary for each concentration. Students are encouraged to consult Graduate Studies in Anthropology (https://www.anthropology.wisc.edu/graduate-study/admissions) for details on requirements for each concentration.

Concentrations within the major are available in archaeology, social and cultural anthropology, biological anthropology, or an intersectional degree track (see description below).

All programs assume that candidates have had general undergraduate training in the discipline equivalent to that required of an undergraduate major at UW-Madison. See Anthropology (https://www.anthropology.wisc.edu).

INTERSECTIONAL DEGREE TRACK

Occasionally students have special interests that can be pursued only through a combined program involving two or more of the sub disciplines within the program. Examples might include paleoanthropology, ethnology, archaeology, or biocultural anthropology. The department thus offers an intersectional degree track as an option for these special cases. Interested students should write a carefully prepared statement of intent at the time of application to graduate school. This area of study may take longer to complete, and it is strongly suggested that students who are interested in an intersectional program begin in one of the three major sections prior to making this commitment. Admission to the intersectional program requires prior approval by faculty in each section, and students should contact appropriate faculty before writing their statement.

This master’s program is offered for work leading to the Ph.D. Students may not apply directly for the master’s, and should instead see the admissions information for the Ph.D (https://www.anthropology.wisc.edu/graduate-study/admissions).

ADMISSIONS

This master’s program is offered for work leading to the Ph.D. Students may not apply directly for the master’s, and should instead see the admissions information for the Ph.D (https://wisc-curr.coursecourseleaf.com/graduate/anthropology/anthropology-phd/#admissionstext).

FUNDING

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and processes related to funding.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Instruction</th>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
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</table>

Mode of Instruction Definitions

- **Evening/Weekend**: These programs are offered in an evening and/or weekend format to accommodate working schedules. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses and personal connections, while keeping your day job. For more information about the meeting schedule of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Online**: These programs are offered primarily online. Many available online programs can be completed almost entirely online with all online programs offering at least 50 percent of the program work online. Some online programs have an on-campus component that is often designed to accommodate working schedules. Take advantage of the convenience of online learning while participating in a rich, interactive learning environment. For more information about the online nature of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Hybrid**: These programs have innovative curricula that combine on-campus and online formats. Most hybrid programs are completed on-campus with a partial or completely online semester. For more information about the hybrid schedule of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Accelerated**: These on-campus programs are offered in an accelerated format that allows you to complete your program in a condensed time-frame. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses with minimal disruption to your career. For more information about the accelerated nature of a specific program, contact the program.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

<table>
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<th>Requirements Detail</th>
<th>Minimum Credit Requirement</th>
<th>Minimum Residence Credit Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30 credits</td>
<td>16 credits</td>
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Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement
Degree coursework must be completed in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university’s Course Guide (https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/).

Overall Requirements
A GPA of 3.5. No less than 3.0 during the first year; must have a 3.5 thereafter.

Graduate GPA Requirements
Candidates may not have a GPA lower than 3.0 during the first year and must maintain a 3.5 GPA every year thereafter. Candidates may not carry more than 4 credits of Incomplete at any one time; credits of Incomplete over this limit are counted as grades of F for purposes of the GPA until removed.

Assessments and Examinations
Successful completion of a comprehensive master’s exam or a Ph.D. qualifying examination is required.

Language Requirements
Language study will be required for many students; specifics are determined in consultation with the advisor and co-advisor.

REQUIRED COURSES
Students choose from one of four concentrations/tracks (also referred to as "sections") in the department. Students in the Cultural concentration will earn a master of arts. Students in the Archaeology, Biological, or Intersectional concentrations will work their advisor and a department committee to determine if the coursework they take meets the requirements for a master of arts or a master of science.

Archaeology Concentration Track
Student must complete a total of 30 credits of graduate course work, including three seminars (ANTHRO 942 Seminar-Archaeological Problems) in archaeology. Substitutions for the required seminars in archaeology are not normally allowed. (Incoming M.A. students must take at least two seminars as a part of the Ph.D. requirements, and these courses may be taken before or after the qualifying examination.)

Biological Concentration Track
Student must complete a total of 30 credits of graduate course work. The following courses are strongly recommended in preparation for the general section of the qualifying examination:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTHRO 303</td>
<td>Human Skeletal Anatomy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTHRO 601</td>
<td>Proseminar in Biological Anthropology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTHRO 603</td>
<td>Seminar in Evolutionary Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENETICS 466</td>
<td>Principles of Genetics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear on the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

Cultural Concentration Track
Minimum 30 credits of graduate course work, 15 credits in cultural anthropology, including ANTHRO 860 and ANTHRO 900, and one additional 900-level seminar (not to include ANTHRO 909 if continuing in Ph.D. program).

Graduate Work from Other Institutions
With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison Undergraduate
No credits from a UW–Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward the degree.

UW–Madison University Special
With program approval students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison Special student. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PROBATION
The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300 or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or in being suspended from the Graduate School.

1. Good standing (progressing according to standards; any funding guarantee remains in place).
2. Probation (not progressing according to standards but permitted to enroll; loss of funding guarantee; specific plan with dates and deadlines in place in regard to removal of probationary status).
3. Unsatisfactory progress (not progressing according to standards; not permitted to enroll, dismissal, leave of absence or change of advisor or program).

Progress criteria may be waived in special circumstances which must be stated in writing and approved by the appropriate section and signed by the department chair. Candidates not making satisfactory progress will be dropped from the program.

**ADVISOR / COMMITTEE**

Every graduate student will be assigned an advisor and a co-advisor. To ensure they are making satisfactory progress toward a degree, the Graduate School expects that students meet with their advisor on a regular basis.

An advisor generally serves as the thesis advisor. Students can be suspended from the Graduate School if they do not have an advisor. An advisor is a faculty member from the major department responsible for providing advice regarding graduate studies.

**CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED**

15 credits

**TIME CONSTRAINTS**

Ph.D. qualifying examinations must be taken no later than the fourth semester and must be passed no later than the sixth semester.

Master’s degree students who have been absent for five or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence.

**OTHER**

We have a limited amount of graduate student support through teaching assistantships and fellowships. These are awarded competitively, and are only awarded to those applicants who have all their materials in by the December 1 deadline.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Articulates, critiques, or elaborates the theories, research methods, and approaches to inquiry or schools of practice in either biological, archaeological, or cultural anthropology.
2. Identifies relevant data and assembles evidence pertaining to questions or challenges in one of the three subfields of anthropology taught in this department.
3. Demonstrates understanding of the primary field of study in historical, social, or global/transnational contexts as revealed in the qualifying exam.
4. Selects and/or utilizes the most appropriate methodologies and practices in the sub-discipline.
5. Evaluates or synthesizes information pertaining to questions or challenges in one of the three subfields of anthropology taught in this department.
6. Communicates clearly in ways appropriate to the field of study.
7. Follows ethical principles of the discipline including respect and sensitivity to host cultures and communities, inclusiveness and diversity, civility and collegiality, and zero tolerance for sexual harassment.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES**

Take advantage of the Graduate School’s professional development resources (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

**PEOPLE**

**Faculty:** See Anthropology (http://anthropology.wisc.edu/people/#faculty).