

***CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SACRAMENTO***

**GUIDE TO THE
APPLICATION PROCESS
FOR THE GRADUATE PROGRAM
IN ANTHROPOLOGY**



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Anthropology Department

INTRODUCTION

The Master of Arts Program in Anthropology is designed for students who plan to continue their graduate studies toward the Ph.D. in anthropology and for students who plan to pursue careers in the private sector, foreign service, education and government.

The program is built around a core of required courses designed to provide each student with a general graduate-level training in the discipline. These courses emphasize general methodology and the ways in which problems are conceptualized and approached in the four interrelated fields: social/cultural anthropology, archaeology, physical anthropology, and linguistics. Beyond this core, each student is encouraged to design a plan of elective coursework specific to his/her post-graduate goals.

FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The Department of Anthropology is housed in Mendocino Hall, one of the newer buildings on campus. The Department Office, faculty offices, Physical Anthropology Laboratory, and Computer Laboratory are located on the fourth floor. The Archaeology Laboratories and the **Museum of Anthropology** occupy the easternmost wing of the first floor.

Research opportunities are available to students through individual arrangements with faculty as well as through the **Institute of Archaeology and Cultural Studies**, which formally coordinates many of the Department's research, contract, and internship activities.

Students most interested in social and cultural anthropology are encouraged to take advantage of the unique opportunities for **ethnographic research** in the accessible and culturally diverse communities of the Sacramento region. The University's proximity to numerous state and federal agencies also provides opportunities for internship placements relevant to professional development.

For student interested in **material culture and methodology**, the Department possesses excellent collections and curates exhibits in the Museum of Anthropology. Exhibition and collection management internships are offered to anthropology students through the Museum, as well as through local museums and the California State Archives.

Students specializing in **archaeology** have access to large archaeological collections housed in the Department, and may take advantage of regular research opportunities through ongoing Departmental excavations in California and the Great Basin. Such students, as well as those interested in archaeological aspects of **cultural resource management**, may also participate in public and private contract work conducted through the **Archaeological Research Center (ARC)**. Also located at the University is the **North Central Information Center (NCIC)**, which houses archaeological and historical records regarding cultural resources in the Sacramento region.

Students interested in **physical anthropology** have the opportunity to work with the Department's paleontological and osteological collections as well as with living primates at the Sacramento Zoo.

Other valuable resources are available, including a good library of professional journals, the updated Human Relations Area File (HRAF), and over a million pages of Harrington's Notes on California Ethnography. The Department maintains two separate computer labs for students engaged in supervised research, and students also have access to general computer labs located in Mendocino Hall and elsewhere on campus. The **University Computer Center** is available for computer-assisted research, and the **University Media Services** are available for training in the use of video technology.

Limited student assistantships are sometimes available in the Department to qualified anthropology students. Other work and internships are available through the ARC and NCIC.

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

Students interested in applying to the graduate program in anthropology are advised to contact *both* the CSUS Graduate Center and the Anthropology Department to obtain CSUS application materials. In order to matriculate in a graduate degree program, applicants must *separately* apply for graduate admission to the University and for classification in a specific degree program.

An applicant may be admitted to the University as an *unclassified* graduate student prior to becoming a *classified* graduate student in a particular program; however, admission to the University as an unclassified graduate student is no guarantee of getting classified in the Anthropology Graduate Program. It is customary and advantageous to seek admission and classification simultaneously. The University does not admit unclassified international students.

Application Deadlines

Graduate applicants are formally considered for admission twice a year. For Fall admission, all application materials must be received by April 1; for Spring admission, all materials must be received by October 1.

For Admission to the University

An *Application for Admission* to the University and a *Supplemental Application for Graduate Admission* (Forms A and B in the CSUS application materials) and **two** complete sets of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, other than CSUS, must be sent directly to the Graduate Center. Do not send transcripts to the Department of Anthropology.

For Admission to the Graduate Program in Anthropology

At the same time that the student applies for admission to the University, application must be made **separately** to the Department of Anthropology by sending the following directly to the Graduate Secretary, Department of Anthropology:

1. Letter of interest describing the applicant's academic background, commitment to anthropology, current research interests, and intended goals of graduate study; and

2. Two signed letters of recommendation on official letterhead from individuals who can assess the applicant's potential for graduate study; and
3. Results of the General GRE and GRE Writing Assessment.

Applicants are accepted not only in terms of GPA, GRE, and interest, but are assessed with respect to whether their interests correspond to those of the program and the faculty members. *It is highly recommended that, prior to the application deadline, prospective students personally contact one or more faculty members in their proposed subdiscipline to discuss their interests and goals.*

When the University application file in the Graduate Center is complete, it is forwarded to the Department of Anthropology and merged with the Department file. At this point, the application file is forwarded to the Graduate Committee for review. *The application file is not forwarded to the Graduate Committee until all forms, transcripts, letters, and GRE scores required by the Department have been received. Incomplete files will not be evaluated.*

Decisions regarding admission will be made by the Anthropology Graduate Committee by mid-April for Fall applicants and mid-October for Spring applicants. Late and incomplete applications will be rejected or deferred.

Classification in Anthropology

Admission to classified graduate standing in anthropology requires:

1. A baccalaureate degree; and
2. A minimum 3.0 grade point average (out of a maximum of 4.0) for the last 60 semester units taken; and
3. *Satisfactory completion of the following ten units of prerequisites and 15 units of advanced undergraduate work in anthropology, or their equivalent:

Prerequisites

- Anth 1 Introduction to Physical Anthropology
- Anth 1A Laboratory in Physical Anthropology (1 unit)
- Anth 2 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- Anth 3 Introduction to Archaeology

Upper-Division Core

- Anth 104 History of Anthropology
- Anth 110 Archaeological Method and Theory
- Anth 140 Social Anthropology or Anth 141, Culture Theory
- Anth 151 Human Paleontology
- Anth 162 Language and Culture

*An applicant with a B.A. in Anthropology from another institution, but without advanced undergraduate work in *all* of the four fields (social/cultural, archaeology, physical, and linguistics) is eligible for classification in anthropology, but may be required to complete one or more of the above courses to assure a breadth of training comparable to the CSUS undergraduate degree. In this case, the student would be admitted under conditional classification (see below).

Conditional Classification

The occasional applicant may be granted *conditional classification*, only when no more than six units of the undergraduate core need to be completed to qualify for classification. These courses must be completed *immediately* after the student obtains conditional status, or the student will be returned to unclassified status.

When all deficiencies have been removed, the student must notify the Graduate Committee and apply for *classified* status. Courses taken to remove deficiencies in order to qualify for classification or to fulfill the above undergraduate requirements may not be counted toward the graduate degree.

No more than six units of either upper-division or graduate-level courses taken by a student prior to classification may be counted

toward the Master's Degree.

Deferment to Unclassified Status

Applicants who do not possess the B.A. Degree in Anthropology are required to complete all of the courses listed above, and generally will not be granted classified standing in Anthropology until the advanced undergraduate requirements have substantially been met.

In the case of a student whose application to the program is deferred, it is the student's responsibility to provide documents for removal of deficiencies to the Graduate Coordinator or the Department Secretary. Once all deficiencies have been removed, the student must apply for classified status in the Department.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Master of Arts Degree in Anthropology requires completion of 30 units of coursework with a minimum 3.0 grade point average. Graduate student progress is monitored by the Graduate Committee on a semesterly basis. Students who fail to maintain a 3.0 GPA or who receive grades below B- in the core seminars will be placed on academic probation by the Department or declassified for failure to make *satisfactory progress* toward completion of the degree requirements. Realize that the 30 unit requirement is a minimum; students wishing to maximize their breadth and exposure to all facets of anthropology may take additional courses.

Core Seminars (9 units)

Anth 202Physical Anthropology

Anth 203Archaeology

Anth 205Ethnology

Each core seminar must be completed with a minimum grade of B-. Core requirements may not be waived. Equivalent courses from other universities are considered (See Waivers, Substitutions and Special Problems).

Electives (18 units)

Electives are to include at least three graduate level courses (9 units), of which 6 units must be in the Anthropology Department. The student can choose 9 more units from any graduate-level or advanced upper-division courses. Specific electives must be approved in advance by the student's thesis committee. No more than 6 units of Anth 199 or 299 may be applied to the degree. Anth 199 and 299 courses that have passed the seven-year University limit may not be applied to the M.A.

Archaeology Preliminary Exam

Graduate students intending to specialize in archaeology will be required to pass a Preliminary Examination at the end of their second year of study (mid-year admissions will take the exam after three semesters), prior to their advancement to candidacy. This exam is designed to test students on general archaeological method and theory, emphasizing historical perspectives as well as contemporary concerns. Incoming students will be provided with a comprehensive reading list to help prepare for this examination, which will also draw upon information covered in graduate seminars during the appropriate period.

Culminating Requirement (3 units)

Anth 500 Master's Thesis.

GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

200 GENERAL METHODS IN ANTHROPOLOGY. This seminar explores uses of scientific methodology in anthropology through the examination of specific case studies in the various specialties. Focus is on the relationship among techniques, methods, and methodology; hypothesis and theory; units of analysis and comparison; deductive and inductive reasoning; inferential processes; various types of comparison (casual, controlled, hologicistic); limitations of, and objections to, "the comparative method." 3 units.

201 ANTHROPOLOGICAL THEORY. Intensive reading and seminar discussion in topics on anthropological theory and research. (May be taken more than once provided that the specific topics covered are different.) Prerequisite: graduate status in anthropology or permission of instructor. 3 units.

202 PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY. Intensive reading and seminar discussion in topics on physical anthropological theory and research. 3 units.

203 ARCHAEOLOGY. This seminar is designed to explore the intellectual development of archaeological method and theory. Readings and discussions examine the history of archaeological thought from its advent to the present day, looking in detail at pre-scientific, culture-historical, processual, and post-processual approaches to the discipline. Emphasis is placed on the role of changing cultural values, theoretical perspectives, and technical possibilities. 3 units.

204 CURRENT PROBLEMS IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHOD AND THEORY. This seminar explores recent methodological and theoretical developments within archaeology. The focus will be on contemporary debates within the discipline, tailored to research interests of the students and instructor. (May be repeated for credit, providing the topic and/or instructor are not the same each time.) 3 units.

205 ETHNOLOGY. This seminar is designed for students to develop a working knowledge of anthropological approaches to a number of major issues in ethnology. The focus is on the analysis of case studies. 3 units.

207 LANGUAGE AND CULTURE. Critical examination of contemporary studies in the relationship between language and culture; nonhuman primate communication and the origin of speech; non-verbal communications; historical linguistics; comparative semiology; ethnosemantics; applications of linguistic models of analysis in the study of culture. 3 units.

223 AREAL ARCHAEOLOGY. This seminar provides an intensive exploration of archaeological problems within a selected regional or topical area. Through general readings and case studies students will critically assess how current perspectives regarding specific issues have evolved and determine how contemporary viewpoints might be improved or expanded. (May be repeated for credit, providing the topic and/or instructor are not the same each time.) 3 units.

226 ADVANCED TECHNIQUES IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS. This seminar examines more refined approaches to archaeological analysis, focusing on how various classes of data are collected, classified, and interpreted to resolve particular research problems. Emphasis is on such topics as sampling procedures and statistical assessment of data rather than descriptive analysis and interpretation. Lecture two hours, laboratory five hours. (May be repeated once for credit.) Prerequisite: completion of ANTH 126 or permission of instructor. 3 units.

278 INTERNSHIP. Practical graduate level experience in an approved professional environment. Student intern will work directly with professionals in public and private agencies where opportunities exist for anthropological work. Supervision and evaluation are provided by a faculty internship director and the on-site supervisor. Placements require 10-20 hours per week. 2-4 units. Credit/No Credit only.

292 LABORATORY WORK IN ARCHAEOLOGY. Laboratory preservation, cataloging and initial analysis of materials recovered through archaeological field work. Three units of Anthropology 295A must be taken concurrently. (May be repeated once for credit.) 1 unit.

295A FIELD WORK IN ARCHAEOLOGY. Directed field work in archaeology. Archaeological site surveys and excavations. 3 units.

295B FIELD WORK IN ETHNOLOGY. Directed field work in ethnology, including various areas of cultural and social anthropology, on a group or individual basis, under the supervision of individual faculty members. 3 units.

295C FIELD WORK IN PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY. Individual or group field work in various areas of physical anthropology, under the supervision of individual faculty members; may involve related supervised laboratory work or field work that is preparatory for the Master's thesis. 3 units.

296 EXPERIMENTAL OFFERINGS IN ANTHROPOLOGY. Topics vary and will be determined by the special interests of the faculty member conducting the seminar and the needs and interest of graduate students. 3 units.

299 SPECIAL PROBLEMS. Individual projects or directed reading. Open only to students who appear competent to carry on individual work at the graduate level. Prerequisite: approval of the faculty member under whom the individual work is to be conducted, in addition to the approval of the Department chair. Graded Credit/No Credit only. 1-3 units.

500 MASTER'S THESIS. Only open to the graduate student who has been advanced to candidacy for the master's degree and who secures the permission of the chair of his/her thesis committee. Should be taken in the final semester prior to the completion of all requirements for the degree. Number of units of credit is determined by the candidate's thesis committee.

ANTHROPOLOGY FACULTY

- ARMSTRONG**, Troy, Professor (Ph.D., Boston U., 1987)
Applied anthropology, urban anthropology, deviance, juvenile delinquency, Native North America.
- BASGALL**, Mark E., Associate Professor (Ph.D., UC Davis, 1993)
Hunter-gatherer socioecology, foraging theory, prehistoric exchange, zooarchaeology and subsistence studies, applications of obsidian (hydration and sourcing) analysis, arid lands ecology, California, Mojave Desert/Great Basin, Australian prehistory.
- CRAIN**, Jay B., Professor (Ph.D., Cornell, 1970)
Social anthropology, medical anthropology, Southeast Asia.
- DELACORTE**, Michael G., Assistant Professor (Ph.D., UC Davis, 1990)
Hunter-gatherers, population migrations, settlement and subsistence studies, acculturation, preindustrial technologies.
- HEIDECKER**, Lorraine, Professor (Ph.D., CUNY, 1974)
Physical anthropology, physiological anthropology, human genetics, evolution of human behavior, women's studies.
- JOHNSON**, Jerald J., Professor (Ph.D., UC Davis, 1984)
Archaeology, method and theory, ecological studies, Cultural Resource Management, North American Great Basin, California, Cyprus.
- LEE**, Anru, Assistant Professor (Ph.D., CUNY, 1999)
East Asia, gender, economic development, globalization and local processes, capitalism and industrialization, postcolonialism, Asian American studies.
- RICH**, George W., Professor (Ph.D., UC Davis, 1976)
Psychological anthropology, folklore, language and culture, socialization, Northern Europe, Scandinavia, South Asia.
- RIOS**, Sam Jr., Professor, jointly with Ethnic Studies (M.S., CSU, Sacramento, 1972)
Ethnic Studies, cultural anthropology, culture and personality, community studies, Chicano art and education, Mexican-Americans.

STRASSER, Elizabeth, Professor (Ph.D., CUNY, 1989)
Primate and human evolution, comparative and functional morphology, evolutionary biology, systematics, primate behavior and ecology.

VALADEZ, Senon M., Professor (Ph.D., Oregon, 1974)
Culture and personality, art, anthropology and education, Mexican-Americans.

WEISS, Melford S., Professor (Ph.D., Michigan State, 1971)
Social structure, ritual process, China culture area, Chinese communities in the U.S., contemporary American social institutions.

WHEELER, Valerie, Professor (Ph.D., Oregon, 1974)
Cross-cultural research, economic anthropology, warfare, women's studies, North America.

ZEANAH, David W., Assistant Professor (Ph.D., University of Utah, 1996)
Great Basin, evolutionary ecology, SW and SE prehistory, hunter-gatherers, foraging models, GIS applications in archaeology.

FACULTY EARLY RETIREMENT PROGRAM

GOLDFRIED, Howard P., Professor (Ph.D., Oregon, 1969)
Biblical archaeology, ancient civilizations, Mexican and Peruvian archaeology, ancient technology, Egypt.

EMERITUS FACULTY

CONNOR, John W., Professor Emeritus (Ph.D., UC Davis, 1971)
Culture and personality, anthropology and education, Japan, Japanese-Americans.

THEODORATUS, Dorothea J, Professor Emeritus (Ph.D., Syracuse, 1971)
Ethnological art, research methods, culture change, Cultural Resources Management, peasant societies, Europe, Native North America, California, Pacific Northwest.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

ABOUT THE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN ANTHROPOLOGY

Write to: Jerald J. Johnson, Chair
Department of Anthropology
Email: jjj@csus.edu
Phone: (916) 278-6452 (message number)
Fax: (916) 278-6339
Website: <http://www.csus.edu/anth>

OR

Write to: Mark E. Basgall, Graduate Coordinator
Department of Anthropology
Email: mbasgall@csus.edu
Phone: (916) 278-6452 (message number)
Fax: 9916) 278-6339

ABOUT STATUS OF APPLICATION TO ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Write to: Sandra Pope, Department Secretary
Department of Anthropology
Email: sandra.pope@csus.edu
Phone: (916) 278-6452
Fax: (916) 278-6339

ABOUT GRADUATE ADMISSIONS, STATUS OF CSUS APPLICATION

Write to: Graduate Center
Phone: (916) 278-6470
Website: <http://www.csus.edu/rgs/gradstud/gradctr.html>

ABOUT FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES

Write to: Financial Aid Office
Phone: (916) 278-6554
Website: <http://www.csus.edu/rgs/gradstud/gradctr.html>

ABOUT FOREIGN ADMISSIONS

Write to: Admissions Office
Phone: (916) 278-6496

ABOUT PURCHASING A CSUS CATALOG OR A CLASS SCHEDULE

Write to: Hornet Bookstore
Phone: (916) 278-6446
Website: <http://www.bookstore.csus.edu>

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