



**Department of Anthropology**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# **Graduate Program Handbook**

2022-2023

Version 1

# Graduate Study

Students interested in pursuing degrees in Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison will find themselves members of a vibrant intellectual community. The University is an important crossroads where a diversity of debate and intellectual exchange can be found. The Department is actively involved in this diverse community and regularly invites renowned scholars from all over the world to give talks and hold seminars. When a new student is admitted to the Department, that student also becomes a colleague to a diverse group of scholars. The Department recognizes that the methods, perspectives, and theoretical orientation originating in Anthropology have now invigorated many other disciplines. This blurring of the borders between disciplines has created a cross fertilization that is unprecedented in the history of Western Academics. The Department encourages students to take part in this process, as it relates both to intra disciplinary relationships between the sections and to interdisciplinary relationships between Departments. The primary focus of the Department of Anthropology is on 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. The Department of Anthropology offers prospective graduate students the opportunity to pursue study within one of three major subfields of contemporary Anthropology: Archaeology, Biological Anthropology, and Cultural Anthropology, plus an Intersectional Degree (see below for more information on these programs).

## Admissions

The Department of Anthropology offers three major fields of study in contemporary Anthropology: Archaeology, Biological Anthropology, and Cultural Anthropology, or within the Intersectional Degree Program. The primary focus of the Department of Anthropology is the doctoral degree. A master's degree is awarded in the process of pursuing the Ph.D.; students are not admitted for the sole purpose of obtaining a master's degree. Contact the Anthropology Director of Graduate Studies, **Professor Amy Stambach by email at [amy.stambach@wisc.edu](mailto:amy.stambach@wisc.edu)**, for information on connecting to your specific interests in Anthropology. Connect with current [Anthropology graduate students](#) to learn about their experience in our program.

[Application for Graduate Study in Anthropology](#)

[Apply here](#)

[Current UW Graduate Students Apply here](#)

**The application deadline is December 1 for the following fall semester.** All documents and test scores must be complete and submitted by December 1 for your application to be deemed complete for review and consideration. Please keep in mind that **December 1** is the deadline for all Anthropology admissions. Although the Graduate School will process your application, the Department has a **December 1** deadline, and may not process your application without

supporting documentation. Please contact the Graduate Program Manager prior to sending your application if after **December 1. WE DO NOT ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR SPRING OR SUMMER ADMISSIONS**

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## Things to Submit Online for Graduate Admissions

**Transcripts** Undergraduate grade point averages (GPA), one transcript (may be unofficial for purposes of departmental review for admissions) from each previously attended university with the application. Applicants accepted to a Department's program must also submit one official transcript to the Graduate School in order to finalize the admission decision. Official transcripts must arrive in the originating institution's original, sealed envelope bearing the registrar's signature/seal. Transcripts that do not meet these requirements will be considered UNOFFICIAL. <https://www.anthropology.wisc.edu/graduate-study/admissions/>

**Statement of Purpose** This statement should identify your specific areas of interest and reasons why they are of interest. Also, explain how and why you aspire to advance knowledge in the field of Anthropology. An explanation of why you feel our department is the best place for you to pursue these interests.

<https://www.anthropology.wisc.edu/graduate-study/>

<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/prepare/>

**Three (3) Letters of Recommendation** When applying online through the graduate school a recommendation request can be sent by email to each of your references. The email will include your name with a link to each department's electronic recommendation form. The request can be sent at any time providing you meet department deadlines. You can change references or send a reminder through your application. We recommend that you contact your references ahead of time, so that they can expect your request for recommendation. After you have submitted your application, you and your department can view receipt of your recommendations through the online status system. When you submit your application, you will be prompted to enter payment information.

- **Supplemental Application Materials** – Complete and **submit electronically as supplement during online application**. [Download the supplemental application checklist](#). Indicate the faculty that you are interested in working with and your major interests within anthropology. Use the [faculty specialty listing](#) to inform your selection. Be as specific as possible in your selection and list three or four options. Include a list of anthropology and cognate courses you have taken or will take before attending UW-Madison.
- **Official GRE scores** Applicants are not required to submit their GRE scores. Applicants can submit their GRE scores as supplemental materials. If you wish to submit your scores, they are requested by the applicant and submitted electronically to UW-Madison institution code 1846 by Educational Testing Service. Copies, faxes and PDFs are considered unofficial.

- **International students: Official TOEFL Scores** are requested by the applicant and submitted electronically to UW-Madison institution code 1846 by Educational Testing Service. Copies are considered unofficial. The English proficiency test (TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB) is required by the UW-Madison Graduate School. Scores must be less than two years old, as of the start of the admission term. The required minimum scores are found [online](#).

**Test Scores:** GRE and TOEFL scores are sent electronically from Educational Testing Service. Use ETS institution code 1846. TOEFL/IELTS/MELAB scores are required of all applicants whose native language is not English, or whose undergraduate instruction was not in English.

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## Optional

- A list of any honors gained as an undergraduate, such as Phi Beta Kappa membership, scholarships, etc., include with your online application.
- Curriculum vitae, include with your online application.
- Writing Samples such as research-based papers or other documents relevant to your credentials; reprints of any professional publications; include with your online application.
- Applicants can submit their GRE scores as supplemental materials.

For questions about the Graduate School admissions process call: 608.262.2433. For program specific questions, contact: Graduate Program Manager, Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1180 Observatory Drive, 5243 Social Sciences Building, Madison, WI 53706

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For International Students

[International Student Services](#)

[Visa Information](#)

International Financial Information

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## Graduate Program Manager

5243 Wm. Sewell Social Sciences

(608) 262-2869

[anthrograd@mailplus.wisc.edu](mailto:anthrograd@mailplus.wisc.edu)

# General Course of Study

The goal of our graduate program is to produce scholars and educators of the highest professional caliber in the general field of anthropology. To achieve that goal students are required to complete a series of steps whose general progress is much the same for each of our three sections. Following are the broad outlines of these steps.

1. Incoming graduate students are expected to take courses within the department, and on occasion with their advisor's guidance, outside the department. The aim of these courses is threefold: to prepare students for their qualifying exams; dissertation research and writing; and for their future career.
2. Students must meet the qualifying exam requirements of their chosen area within Anthropology. Successful completion of these exams would advance a student to the next stage of graduate study, which is the preparation of a dissertation topic.
3. Students must prepare and be examined upon preliminary proposals for their dissertation research. Successful completion of the Preliminary Examination, minor requirements, graduate school requirements and section requirements, advances the students to candidacy as dissertators.
4. Students must conduct dissertation research and write their dissertations. The conduct of these endeavors, the time spent, data collected, and drafts critiqued, will vary greatly from section to section and from student to student. To be acceptable as a dissertation, the research must constitute an original contribution to that field of scholarship.
5. Students will defend their dissertation before a faculty committee. By university regulation, "A Ph.D. final examination committee must have at least five current graduate faculty members, and at least one of these must represent a graduate field outside your major". The Cultural and Archaeology sections have additional requirements (see individual areas for more information).

\* A student's program arranges a committee with appropriate expertise to afford the breadth and depth needed in degree examinations. The responsibilities of individual committee members are determined by the program. The executive committee (or its equivalent) of a program/department is responsible for approving the composition of all graduate committees. Non UW-Madison committee members must be reviewed and approved by the student's section and the Anthropology Executive Committee. To have this reviewed, submit a CV of the non UW-Madison committee member to your section.

## Anthropology Master's & PhD

### [Masters Degree in Anthropology](#)

The primary focus of the Department of Anthropology is on 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. Thorough undergraduate preparation is assumed. Basic training in prehistory, biological anthropology, and sociocultural anthropology, taken as an undergraduate major in anthropology, is required. Specific requirements vary for each concentration. Students are encouraged to continue reviewing this website for details on requirements for each concentration.

*Joint Degree* consists of one degree with two majors. Joint Degrees are relatively rare. You must be admitted by the second major in order to complete a Joint Degree.

*Double Degree* is two degrees from two separate graduate majors. This usually occurs at the Master's level. To receive a Double Degree you must

- 1) satisfy all of the requirements from both majors,
- 2) meet the Graduate School credit requirements for both majors, and
- 3) have no more than 25% overlap.

*Dual Degree* is two degrees, one which is granted from a graduate major and the other granted from one of the professional schools (Medical School, Law School or the School of Veterinary Medicine). You must be admitted to both programs and must satisfy all requirements for each degree.

If you have any questions contact the Graduate Program Manager at 262-2869 or the Graduate School.

## [Ph.D. Program in Anthropology](#)

### General Requirements

Because the Ph.D. program is not based on completion of course work alone, the guidance of a prospective Ph.D. candidate and the development of their program beyond the point of admission is a matter for mutual arrangement between the student and the personnel of the major field in which they are specializing. Students will have completed the Graduate School Ph.D. requirements by the time they have reached the Preliminary Examination stage. In some cases, they may complete the Preliminary Examination without having completed the minor requirements, but until all requirements have been completed, they cannot be advanced to candidacy for the Ph.D. Guidance through the Ph.D. program is provided by the major professor in addition to the Ph.D. Advisory and Reading Committee.

**Ph.D. Advisory and Reading Committee** The permanent major professor in consultation with the student will select two additional appropriate faculty members, at least one from the same major field as the major professor, to act as the Ph.D. Advisory Committee for the student. This committee is responsible for the guidance of the student in completion of requirements in the major field, minor field, language competence, and dissertation. It functions as the Reading Committee for the candidate's dissertation.

**Ph.D. Final Oral Exam Committee** The Ph.D. final oral committee must consist of at least 5 current graduate faculty members from the University of Wisconsin-Madison who are of either assistant, associate, or full professorial rank; with at least one of the five from outside the major department.

**Joint Major for Ph.D. Degree** At the Ph.D. level, each of the departments concerned must stipulate the required content of its portion of the doctoral program. Passing Preliminary Examinations in both departments is expected. The departments will place on file with the Graduate School the nature of their requirements for those involved in joint programs. The intention to pursue a joint degree should be indicated to the Graduate School no later than the beginning of the second year of graduate study. [Minor Requirements for the Ph.D. Degree – Anthropology and Students in Other Fields](#)

### **Criteria for Student Progress**

- **Cumulative Grade Point Average.** A GPA of 3.5. No less than 3.0 during the 1st year; must have a 3.5 thereafter.
- **Course Load.** Full-time course load of 9-12 credits per semester. The full-time course load for Teaching Assistants who are not dissertators has been set at a minimum of 6 credits. Full-time for dissertators is 3 credits.

### **Incompletes**

- Students are not permitted to carry more than 3 incomplete credits at any one time.
- Incompletes in excess of 3 credits are counted as “F” for purposes of GPA until removed.
- Incompletes must be made up by the end of the following semester during which the student is registered. Incompletes not cleared by that time become “unsatisfactory grades.”

### **Examination Schedule** (Please see sectional requirements for further details.)

1. Graduate students are encouraged to take the Qualifying Examinations no later than the fourth (4th) semester in residence.
  2. They must pass the Qualifying Examinations no later than the sixth (6th) semester in residence.
  3. They will normally take the Preliminary Examinations no later than the third (3rd) semester in residence after passage of Qualifying Examinations.
  4. They must pass the Preliminary Examinations no later than the fifth (5th) semester following passage of the Qualifying Examinations.
- **Dissertation Topic Approval** Graduate Students must have an approved Ph.D. dissertation proposal no later than the semester following passage of the Preliminary Examination.
  - **Dissertation Completion** Students must complete and defend the doctoral dissertation within five years after passage of the Preliminary Examination.
  - **Progress Criteria** for students may be waived in special circumstances, such as illness late in the semester. This is to be stated in writing, and approved by the student’s advisor. For Archaeology and Biological Sections, it must also be approved by the section and signed by the Department chair. Students will be notified of progress criteria upon passage of Qualifying and Preliminary Examinations and upon achievement of Dissertator Status.

- Leaves of Absence** Per Department policy, students may request a leave of absence for up to one year for predissertators. Dissertators must be registered for exactly three gradual level credits (990) even while doing field work (some exceptions are possible — see the Graduate Coordinator). The written leave of absence guarantees reentry to the program if the student applies to the graduate school for readmission within the specified time period. Students are not guaranteed readmission into the program if requested after the specified time period but within the 5-year time frame offered by the Graduate School. Students will be considered with the new admission pool of students. Students should petition their section for leave approval by sending an email to the section head and their advisor. Check with the Anthropology Graduate Coordinator if you have questions about this process.

The criterion listed above applies equally to all students whether or not they are financially supported. Students are also responsible for meeting all Graduate School regulations. The Department will notify students of relevant progress criteria at appropriate times during graduate study (e.g., after passage of qualifying and preliminary examinations). If a student does not meet appropriate progress criteria, the student will be dropped from the graduate program.

### Table of Master’s Requirements

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 with 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. Table of basic requirements by section (click on subdiscipline name at top of column for more information):

STEPS/SECTION	<a href="#">ARCHAEOLOGY</a>	<a href="#">BIOLOGICAL</a>	<a href="#">CULTURAL</a>	<a href="#">INTERSECTIONAL</a>
<b>MINIMUM RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT</b>	16 credits	Same	Same	Same
<b>CREDITS:</b>	Minimum 30 credits of graduate course work, including three 900-level seminars in archaeology	Minimum 30 credits of graduate course work	Minimum 30 credits of graduate course work, including two required courses in cultural (860 and 900) and one additional 900-level seminar (not to include 909 if continuing in Ph.D. program)	Minimum 30 credits of graduate course work
<b>QUALIFYING EXAM: INCOMING B.A. STUDENTS AND MASTER’S STUDENTS:</b>	By end of 2nd year or 4th semester for both incoming B.A. or M.A. (but M.A. students are encouraged to take after 2 semesters)	After the end of the 2nd year for incoming B.A. students, after the end of the 2nd semester for incoming M.A. students	In January of the 2nd year	As defined by committee



**FORMAT OF QUALIFYING EXAM:**

Two parts, written, four hours each day. 1: World Prehistory 2: Archaeological Method and Theory. Both parts will include a question related to student's research

Two parts, written, two days. 1: General principles and theory 2: Testing in student's chosen field of specialization

A collection of two papers from previous courses. One of the papers should come from 860 or 900. The second paper should come from any course in Anthropology, cross-listed with Anthropology, or approved by the Cultural Section (other than 909 or and independent study) taken during the first three semesters of coursework that counts for graduate credit. The papers should be accompanied by a cover letter of no more than 300 words (modeled on those accompanying article resubmissions) detailing these revisions.

As defined by committee

**M.A./M.S. REQUIREMENTS:**

Successful Qualifying Exam pass at M.A. or Ph.D. level; one research paper from graduate seminars; a separate, comprehensive bibliography submitted one month prior to Qualifying Exam. No M.A. thesis requirement

Successful Qualifying Exam pass at M.A. or Ph.D. level and two term papers from graduate seminars submitted at the time of Qualifying Exam. No M.A. thesis requirement.

Successful Qualifying Exam pass at M.A. or Ph.D. level. No M.A. thesis requirement

Successful Qualifying Exam pass at M.A. or Ph.D. Level and other requirements as defined by committee. No M.A. Thesis requirement

# Archaeology: Master's Requirement

## Prerequisites for Admission

Admission to the Archaeology area in the Anthropology Graduate Program is determined by the rules and regulations of the Graduate School and by the Archaeology faculty. Prospective students must send their application to the Graduate School Admissions Office and the Anthropology Department. See Admission for more details regarding application and admission. The deadline to apply is December 1. Archaeology Faculty: [Bunn](#), [Clayton](#), [Kenoyer](#), [Kim](#), [Schroeder](#)

## Requirements for the Master's Degree Program

Students must complete a total of 30 credits of graduate course work, including three seminars (Anthro. 942) in archaeology. Substitutions for the required seminars in archaeology are not normally allowed. (Incoming MA students must take at least two seminars as a part of the Ph.D. requirements, and these classes may be taken before or after the Qualifying Examination; see below.)

### *Qualifying Examinations Requirement in Archaeology*

All graduate students are required to take the qualifying examinations.

The examinations include a written component, given in two parts (1: World Prehistory, and 2: Method and Theory, each four hours in length on two consecutive days); a prepared bibliography; and research paper component.

The format of the written examination is as follows:

Questions are provided to students one week in advance of the examinations. In preparation for the written examination, students will draw from course work, archaeological literature, and departmental lectures and colloquia. Students should consult their advisor and faculty members in the archaeology section for suggested readings. Incoming students should take courses in areas of weakness or lack of knowledge along with graduate seminars to improve their basic comprehension of archaeology.

Examinations are given anonymously and are evaluated by the departmental archaeologists in residence.

Each part of the exam is ranked as 1) fail; 2) MA pass with no retake; 3) MA pass with retake; 4) Ph.D. pass.

**Part 1, World Prehistory:** In addition to three sets of questions asked of all students in a given cohort, **one** question in this section will focus on a geographic region of interest selected in advance by **each** student in consultation with their advisor. This question will require that the student be familiar with past and current archaeological research and literature related to their intended doctoral dissertation research.

**Part 2, Method and Theory:** In addition to three sets of questions asked of all students in a given cohort, **one** question in this section will focus on a topic selected in advance by **each** student in consultation with their advisor. This question will require that the student be familiar with the theoretical concepts and methodological approaches specific to their intended doctoral dissertation research.

The Master's thesis is not required. In lieu of a thesis, each student will consult with his/her advisor to develop one research paper and a separate, comprehensive bibliography as described below. The paper should result from a graduate seminar in archaeology, taken in the context of coursework in the Program, and must be revised based on feedback from the professor whose course it was written for. In addition, each student is required to submit a thorough and well-organized bibliography of literature related to their intended doctoral research. This bibliography is to include references to key literature relevant to their region(s) of specialization as well as the methodological and theoretical approaches important for their research. The paper and bibliography will be submitted **one month** prior to the qualifying exam and will be read, reviewed, and approved by the Archaeology Section faculty. The paper and bibliography will be archived with the student's records. Students will be awarded the Master's degree only when the

paper and bibliography have been approved, the qualifying exams have been passed successfully, and all other criteria (credit requirement, degree deadlines, GPA etc.) have been met.

### **Student Responsibilities in Archaeology**

- 1. Attend department colloquia and brown-bag lectures.
  2. Maintain desk and laboratory space.
  3. Know requirements for curriculum and degree from department and Graduate School.
  4. Provide a minimum of two weeks notice to faculty for requesting letters of recommendation, proposals, Preliminary Examination, etc. When requesting letters of recommendations include self-addressed and stamped envelopes.
  5. The doctoral dissertation should be delivered at least two months prior to the desired defense date.
  6. First-year students are responsible for arranging a room, audio-visual equipment, and speakers for the Brown Bag Lecture every Friday noon during both semesters.
  7. Dissertators taking Thesis Credits or Reading and Research Credits will provide a written statement of progress to their advisor by the last day of classes each Fall and Spring semester.

## **Biological Anthropology: Master's Requirements**

### Admission Requirements

Students are normally expected to have undergraduate training in the basic biological sciences and anthropology. Applications for admittance to the Biological Anthropology Program are evaluated by the section's faculty. Applicants must possess a B.A. or B.S. degree from an accredited institution. No restriction exists as to the undergraduate major field, although it usually will have been in one of the natural or physical sciences or in anthropology. Applicants are expected to have accumulated at least a 3.0 grade point average (4.0 system), in addition to scores above the 75th percentile on both the verbal and quantitative parts of the Graduate Record Examination. At least three letters of recommendation are required. Biological Anthropology Faculty: [Bunn](#), [Hawks](#), [Pickering](#), [Strier](#)

### Requirements for the Master's Program

1. **A minimum of 30 credits of graduate course work** is required for the Masters degree.
2. **Qualifying Exam.** Students who enter the program with a bachelors degree will normally be required to take the Qualifying Examination after the end of the fourth full semester of graduate study. This deadline may be extended only by approval of a written petition to the section chair, but in no instance will a postponement be allowed to exceed one year.

Students who are admitted into the Biological Anthropology Program with masters degrees from other institutions may take the Qualifying Examination within the first two semesters of graduate study. Upon successful completion of this examination, the masters degree from the other institution may be accepted in lieu of additional requirements at this level and the student may proceed directly toward the doctoral prospectus and the Preliminary Examination. The Qualifying Examination is compiled by all faculty members in the Biological Anthropology Section and is administered over a two day period (up to 8 hours per day) at the beginning of each Fall semester. The examination may be written by hand or using a computer. On the first day, students are expected to provide in depth knowledge of general principles and theory in modern biological anthropology, including past and present developments in:

- Primate biology, behavior and human evolution (diverse aspects of human and non human paleontology; bio behavioral ecology).
- Genetics and population systems (population structure of human and non human primate species; distribution and patterning of variation; Mendelian, population and evolutionary genetics).
- Morphology, physiology and human ecology (human and non human primate anatomy; skeletal anatomy; adaptive physiology).

This phase of the Qualifying Examination is based primarily on required and recommended course work and the Graduate Reading List, and is designed to ensure that all students have a comparable and firm background in the sub-discipline. The following courses are strongly recommended in preparation for the general section of the Qualifying Examination: Evolutionary Theory, Primate Anatomy, Functional and Evolutionary Human Variation, Biology of Primates, Evolution of Human Diet, Hominid Evolution, Primate Behavioral Ecology, Hominoid Evolution, Proseminar in Biological Genetics 466, Human Skeletal Anatomy, Pro-seminar in Biological Anthropology or Equivalent Consultation with your advisor will determine whether or not Statistics should be taken in preparation for the Qualifying Examination. In the event that these courses are not taught in a particular two-year cycle, graduate students will be provided with reading lists, course syllabi, and faculty guidance in preparation for Qualifying Exams. The second part of the Qualifying Examination is tailored toward the particular research interests of each student, who is expected to display detailed knowledge of these more restricted areas. The anonymous exams are evaluated by the departmental biological faculty in residence. Each exam is ranked as 1) fail; 2) masters pass with no retake; 3) masters pass with retake; or 4) Ph.D. pass. **There is no Masters thesis requirement.** In lieu of a thesis, two term papers from graduate seminars in biological anthropology are to be submitted at the time of the Qualifying Examination. These papers are for the approval of the biological faculty as evidence of research ability and will be archived with the students records. The recommendation to the student will be based on past performance in (a) course work, (b) the results of the Qualifying Examination, and (c) seminar reports and independent research, and will be made no later than one month after completion of the Qualifying Examination. A report, in the form of a letter signed by the Chair of the Biological Anthropology Section, will be sent to the student with a copy to their departmental file.

# Cultural Anthropology: Master's Requirements

## Prerequisites for Admission

Admission to the Cultural Anthropology area in the Anthropology Graduate Program is determined by the rules and regulations of the Graduate School and by the Cultural Anthropology faculty. Prospective students must send their application to the Graduate School Admissions Office and the Department of Anthropology. See Admission for more details regarding application and admission. The deadline to apply is December 1. Cultural Anthropology Faculty: [Bowie](#), [Camal](#), [Enriquez](#), [Lepowsky](#), [Ohnuki-Tierney](#), [Stambach](#), [Wendland](#)

## Requirements for the Master's Degree Program

All students need to develop a command of social theory and ethnography. They must become well – acquainted with the literature, concepts, problems, and issues of the discipline. To this end, we strongly urge students to take courses primarily in anthropology during their first year in the program (or longer if they enter the program without an anthropology major). The Anthro 860, Anthro 900 sequence is designed to give all first year students a grounding in the fundamentals of the discipline. In addition, students should work closely with their advisors to construct a course of study appropriate to their particular needs and interests. The requirements for the Master's Degree are as follows:

1. Minimum of 30 graduate credits, of which at least 15 should be in cultural anthropology.
2. Passage of the Qualifying Examination at the Master's or Ph.D. level.
3. Anthropology 860, History of Anthropological Theory.
4. Anthropology 900, Fundamentals of Anthropological Theory.
5. At least one graduate seminar (course number 700 or above) in the cultural section of the department in addition to Anthro 860 and 900 in the Department of Anthropology. (No substitutions of 600 level courses are allowed, nor can Anthropology 909 be counted if continuing in Ph.D. program.)
6. Note that up to six credits of foreign-language instruction can count toward the MA

**Qualifying Examination** Typically, students will take the exam after the completion of their third semester.

### *Cultural Anthropology Qualifying Exam Portfolio Model:*

#### *Description*

The portfolio consists of two papers—revised from previous anthropology courses—and accompanying cover letters.

- One of the papers should come from Anthro 860 or 900. Students should revise these papers to address feedback from the instructor and the advising committee, and to incorporate new materials learned since taking the course. The paper should demonstrate historical and theoretical breadth. A revised 860 paper needs to pull ideas into the present; a revised 900 paper needs to reach back historically.
- The second paper should come from any course in Anthropology, cross-listed with Anthropology, or approved by the Cultural Section (other than 909 or an independent study) taken during the first three semesters of coursework that counts for graduate credit.
- The papers should be between 4,000 to 5,000 words in length (about 15-20 pages), exclusive of the endnotes and bibliography. The papers should be double-spaced and written in 12-point font.
- Each paper should be accompanied by a cover letter of no more than 300 words (modeled on those accompanying article resubmissions) detailing these revisions.

### *Assessment*

Through the portfolio, students should demonstrate:

- their familiarity with key texts and debates in cultural anthropology.
- their capacity to articulate an argument supported by relevant secondary literature.

### *Process*

- The cultural faculty will assign a three-person advising committee to help students with the revision process. The committee will be assigned during the Fall Semester of the student's second year.
- Students are expected to seek peer review during the revision process, prior to sending their papers to the faculty committee.
- Each paper will undergo no more than two formal rounds of revisions based on faculty feedback.
- The first round of revised papers is due to the faculty committee during exam week of the Fall semester.
- The students should turn their portfolio to the Graduate Program Manager on the last Friday of February. The portfolios will not be anonymized.
- The cultural faculty will evaluate the portfolios on the first cultural section meeting in March.

Any evidence of plagiarism will result in a failing grade and a referral to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards in accordance with the university's core values of academic integrity.

### [Rubric for Cultural Quails](#)

### **Student Responsibilities in Cultural Section**

1. Attend department colloquia and lectures.
2. Provide a minimum of two weeks notice to faculty for requests of letters of recommendations (include address and stamped envelopes as appropriate).

3. Secure Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval as appropriate for research involving human subjects

**Awarding of the MA Degree** Upon receipt of at least an MA pass on the qualifying exam and the completion of a sufficient number of course credits, the student will be awarded an MA degree.

## Intersectional Degree Program

### Intersectional Master's Program Requirements

Occasionally students have special interests that can be pursued only through a combined program involving two or more of the sub-disciplines within the department. Examples might include paleoanthropology, ethnoarchaeology, or biocultural anthropology. The department thus offers an intersectional degree track as an option for these special cases. Admission to the Intersectional program requires prior approval by faculty in each section and students should contact appropriate faculty prior to writing their statement. The Director of Graduate Study and the major professor will convene a committee of three additional faculty members to direct the students Intersectional program. The committee and the student are responsible for progress and evaluation up to the awarding of the degree. The Qualifying Examination, Preliminary Examination, and seminar requirements will reflect the sections represented on the student's committee. Student should schedule a meeting each semester with their committee to discuss their progress. The committee will prepare and evaluate the Qualifying Examination, conduct the Preliminary Examination, and at least three members will serve on the Ph.D. committee. Membership in the committee may be changed by consensus of the major advisor and other committee members. Basic requirements for this degree program are described below.

**Qualifying Examination:** Students are required to take a Qualifying Examination. The faculty committee will determine date of the Qualifying Examination and the topics covered, as appropriate for the student's course of study. This is a set of two written examinations, intended to evaluate both general anthropological knowledge and the specifics of the student's interests. The exam is written and evaluated by the faculty committee. There are three grades: Ph.D. pass, which permits advancement toward the doctorate; Master's pass, which counts toward Master's requirements only; and Fail. Option to retake will be determined by the committee. The committee may require a paper or thesis as evidence of research and writing skills.

### Intersectional Ph.D. Program Requirements

Occasionally students have special interests that can be pursued only through a combined program involving two or more of the sub-disciplines within the department. Examples might include paleoanthropology, ethnoarchaeology, or biocultural anthropology. The department thus offers an intersectional degree track as an option for these special cases. Admission to the Intersectional program requires prior approval by faculty in each section and students should contact appropriate faculty prior to writing their statement. The Director of Graduate Study and the major professor will convene a committee of three additional faculty members to direct the

students Intersectional program. The committee and the student are responsible for progress and evaluation up to the awarding of the degree. The Qualifying Examination, Preliminary Examination, and seminar requirements will reflect the sections represented on the student's committee. Student should schedule a meeting each semester with their committee to discuss their progress. The committee will prepare and evaluate the Qualifying Examination, conduct the Preliminary Examination, and at least three members will serve on the Ph.D. committee. Membership in the committee may be changed by consensus of the major advisor and other committee members. Basic requirements for this degree program are described below.

**Preliminary Examination:** The intersectional committee will conduct an oral Preliminary Examination of the thesis proposal, normally by the end of the sixth semester. The Preliminary Examination is intended to evaluate the feasibility of the dissertation proposal and to allow the committee to make recommendations regarding the direction and conduct of the research. This proposal should follow the format for a Dissertation Research Proposal to the National Science Foundation. Performance will be rated as: (1) pass with distinction; (2) pass; (3) rewrite; or (4) fail.

**Human Subjects Protocol:** Many students begin preliminary research in preparation for their Preliminary examination and it is important that they obtain the required clearances of waivers prior to undertaking any form of research.

**Dissertation Defense:** Oral defense of the dissertation: Dissertation defense must take place within five years after passing the preliminary examination.

## Table of PhD requirements

Table of basic requirements by section (click on subdiscipline name at top of column for more information)

STEPS/SECTION	<a href="#">ARCHAEOLOGY</a>	<a href="#">BIOLOGICAL</a>	<a href="#">CULTURAL</a>	<a href="#">INTERSECTIONAL</a>
<b><a href="#">MINOR REQUIREMENTS:</a></b>	As defined by Minor Department	Same	Same	Same
<b>BREADTH REQUIREMENTS:</b>	300 level or above in one other section, taken before or after Quals	Same	Same	As defined by committee
<b>SEMINAR AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS IN ADDITION TO M.A. REQUIREMENTS:</b>	21 additional credits, including one course 300 level or above from another Anthro section, and two seminars in anthropology/archaeology.	21 additional credits, including course work relevant to field of specialization.	21 additional credits, including one additional 900 level seminar in Anthropology, one course in research methods.	As defined by committee
<b>LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS:</b>	Determined and tested by Major Advisor	Same	Same	Same



<b>PH.D. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT:</b>	32 credits, two full time semesters in the field in which you receive your degree	Same	Same	Same
<b>PRELIMINARY EXAMS:</b>	By end of 8th semester for incoming B.A. students; by end of 6th semester for incoming M.A. students	By end of the 3rd semester after passing Qualifying Exam	Normally taken at the end of the 6th semester in the program	As decided by committee.
<b>PH.D. DISSERTATION:</b>	Completed within five years of passing preliminary exams	Same	Same	Same
<b>PH.D. ORAL DEFENSE:</b>	Oral Defense (2 hrs) of previously submitted dissertation.	Same	Same	Same

## Archaeology: PhD Requirements

Admission to the Ph.D. program in Archaeology requires successful completion of the Master's requirements at the Ph.D. level. Students with a Master's degree from another university will be admitted to the Ph.D. program following successful completion of the Qualifying Examinations.

1. At least 21 additional graduate course credits beyond the 30 graduate credits for the Master's degree, including the following:
  - At least one course (300 level or higher) in another section of the Department of Anthropology
  - Two seminars in anthropology/archaeology. These courses may be taken before or after the Master's degree but must be completed prior to taking the Ph.D. Preliminary Examination. (Note: Prior to taking the Preliminary Exam, incoming students with a B.A. degree will have taken a total of five graduate seminars, and incoming MA students will have taken at least two seminars. Anthro 942 on the topic of Research Methods in Archaeology is to be taken after the Qualifying Exam.)
2. Minor Requirements: These requirements must be fulfilled before applying for the preliminary warrant that is necessary for the preliminary exam. See Ph.D. minor requirements.
3. Language Requirements: Language requirements are determined on an individual basis by the student's major professor. In Archaeology, a working knowledge of the language in the area of research focus will be required. The major professor will designate courses, standard examinations, or other means to satisfy the language requirement.
4. Preliminary Examination: This exam is an oral defense of a written proposal for dissertation research. Successful completion of this exam is required for advancement to candidacy. For all students who enter the program with a B.A., the preliminary proposal must be defended by the end of the eighth semester. For incoming students with a Master's degree, the preliminary proposal must be defended by the end of the sixth semester.
5. The proposal is to be written in the format of an NSF dissertation proposal not to exceed 20 double-spaced pages. The oral exam covers the written material itself as well as knowledge of the area, method, and topic involved in the proposal. The purpose of this

examination is to evaluate the student's preparation and ability to conduct Ph.D. level research and to assist in designing research for the dissertation.

6. The Preliminary Examination Committee will normally consist of departmental archaeologists in residence and additional persons from other fields as needed or desired, a minimum of four. The written proposal should be distributed to members of the committee and the Graduate Program Manager at least two weeks prior to the examination. Dates for the examination should be arranged through the Major Professor and the Graduate Program Manager in consultation with other committee members.
7. Ph.D. Dissertation Defense: The dissertation defense is an oral examination covering the written thesis. The purpose of this examination is to evaluate the thesis of the dissertator to ensure that it has been completed at the Ph.D. level in a suitable and accurate manner. The dissertation defense usually requires between one to three hours and takes place before a committee of five individuals, at least three from the Department of Anthropology and one from outside the department; the affiliation of the fifth member will be determined by the student in consultation with the Major Professor. All committee members must be University of Wisconsin-Madison Faculty who are of either assistant, associate or full professional rank. Successful completion of this exam is required for the award of the doctorate in anthropology. Following successful defense of the dissertation, the student must satisfy the requirements of the Graduate School for submission of the dissertation. A final copy of dissertation is to be submitted to the Graduate Program Manager to be added to the Department's library of completed dissertations.

## **Biological Anthropology: PhD Requirements**

1. The preliminary exam will be taken by the end of the third semester after passing the Qualifying Exam, unless an extension is granted by the section faculty.
2. Minor Requirements. These requirements must be fulfilled before applying for the preliminary warrant.
3. Course Requirements. A minimum of 51 graduate credits is required for the Ph.D. (This includes the 30 credits for the Masters degree). At least one course (300 level or higher) must be taken in another section of the Department of Anthropology.
4. Language Requirements. There is no formal foreign language requirement, but a working knowledge of a foreign language may be necessary for some students. In such cases, the major professor will determine the required level of competency.
5. Preliminary Examination. The Preliminary Examination is an oral examination of approximately two hours duration during which the student is expected to defend a previously submitted proposal for the doctoral dissertation. The primary purpose of the examination is to determine (1) how well the student has considered the research protocol, (2) whether the student has acquired the knowledge and methodological expertise to carry out the research, and (3) if the students expectations for successful completion of the project are realistic.

The Preliminary Examination Committee will normally consist of at least two (2) departmental faculty in residence and additional persons from other fields as needed or desired, a minimum of three. The written proposal should be distributed to the members of the committee and the

Graduate Program Manager at least two weeks prior to the examination. Dates for the examination should be arranged through the Major Professor and the Graduate Program Manager in consultation with other committee members. After successful completion of the Preliminary Examination, the minor requirements and the graduate school requirements, the student is advanced to candidacy for the Ph.D. degree. In order to complete the doctoral requirements, each student is required to complete the doctoral dissertation and defend it in an oral examination before the committee within five years after passing the Preliminary Examination.

## Cultural Anthropology: PhD Requirements

1. The PhD requires a minimum of 51 total graduate credits. 30 credits—at least 15 should be in cultural anthropology—are required for a Master's degree, with an additional 21 graduate credits taken after the Master's degree.
2. Passage of the Qualifying Examination at the Ph.D. level.
3. Satisfaction of all Master's requirements (Master's degree granted).
4. Demonstration of competence in speaking and reading at least one non-English language appropriate to the candidate's area of research.
5. Anthropology 909, Research Methods and Research Design in Cultural Anthropology. Anthropology 909 may be taken as a directed study when it is not offered as a course by the department, and it affects a student's progress.
6. Completion of one additional 900 level graduate seminar in cultural anthropology in addition to 909 and those required for the Master's degree. Substitutions for 900 level courses can only be made by petition to the Cultural Section.
7. Completion of at least one course (300 level or higher) in another section of the Department of Anthropology.
8. Approval of field statements and dissertation research proposal by the Preliminary Examination Committee.
9. Up to an additional six credits of foreign-language instruction beyond those counted toward the MA can count toward the Ph.D.
10. Dissertation defense successfully conducted within 5 years following passage of the Preliminary Examination.
11. Exceptions to any of these requirements requires the approval of the Cultural Section Faculty.

**Examinations and Core Curriculum** All students need to develop a command of social theory and ethnography. They must become well-acquainted with the literature, concepts, problems, and issues of the discipline. To this end, we strongly urge students to take courses primarily in anthropology during their first year in the program (or longer if they enter the program without an anthropology major). The Anthro 860, Anthro 900 sequence is designed to give all first year students a grounding in the fundamentals of the discipline. In addition, students should work closely with their advisors to construct a course of study appropriate to their particular needs and interests. The examination structure has been designed to ensure that students progress satisfactorily through the program. The Masters qualifying exam tests whether students in the program have attained a solid grounding in the theories and methods of the discipline. The field statements are designed to ensure that students master the literature appropriate to their chosen research, and the preliminary exam ensures that they can design and carry out a viable research project.

## Field Statements and Preliminary Examination for the Ph.D.

**The Preliminary Exam Committee** At the end of their second year, students will put together a Preliminary Exam Committee. The committee consists minimally of three persons: the student's advisor; one additional member of the Cultural section; and a third member who, at the student's discretion, can be chosen from the Cultural section, another section of the Department of Anthropology, or from another department of the University. The job of the Exam Committee will be to aid with and approve the students' field statements and bibliographies, to work with the student on the preparation of his or her research proposal, and to administer the Preliminary Exam.

**The Field Statements** In consultation with the members of his or her exam committee, each student will prepare three field statements. Typically, one field statement will focus on the student's region(s) of geographical specialization; the other two statements will cover theoretical or topical fields of the student's own construction in collaboration with a faculty member (each of the student's Prelim Committee members will be responsible for working with the student on one of the field statements). The field statements will be 15-20 page essays that define and justify the fields chosen and review the literature appropriate to the field. The student's Exam committee must approve the field statements and accompanying bibliographies.

**The Research Proposal** Students must also prepare a research proposal of approximately 20 pages, laying out their plans for dissertation fieldwork. Students are expected to work closely with their major professors and committee members in preparing the proposal.

**The Preliminary Exam** The Preliminary Examination is the gateway to candidacy for the Ph.D. The student must submit copies of his/her research proposal and field statements to committee members and the Graduate Program Manager at least 14 days before the exam. The Preliminary Exam consists of an oral defense of the research proposal and field statements. The exam evaluates whether the candidate has sufficient breadth and depth of preparation, evaluates the overall merit, methodology, and feasibility of the proposed dissertation project, and offers an occasion for feedback between the candidate and the committee. The Committee will grade the Preliminary Examination on a Pass/Fail basis. At the examiners' discretion and recommendation, a failing student may be reexamined on the whole exam or on one or more specific sections.

**Timing** It is anticipated that students will begin preparing their field statements near the end of their second year of graduate studies (though they should begin framing the fields and compiling references in consultation with their advisors from the time they enter the program). The bulk of the work preparing the field statements and bibliographies will be undertaken during the third year. The Preliminary Examination is normally taken by the end of the sixth semester. The date of the examination will be arranged at the mutual convenience of the student and the committee, with appropriate advance notice. Students intending to schedule the examination during the summer should ensure the availability of all committee members.

**Course Credit for Field Statement and Exam Preparation** While preparing their field statements, students may enroll in Anthro 999 Independent Reading and Research for a total of 6

credits (typically 3 credits each semester of the third year). Exams should be held at the end of the third year or as the committee deems appropriate.

### **Student Responsibilities in Cultural Section**

1. Attend department colloquia and lectures.
2. Provide a minimum of two weeks notice to faculty for requests of letters of recommendations (include address and stamped envelopes as appropriate).
3. Secure Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval as appropriate for research involving human subjects.
4. Submit advanced draft or finished dissertation to committee members at least one month prior to the date of the defense.

**Human Subjects Protocol** All research conducted by graduate students – including preliminary research carried out in preparation for Preliminary examinations – requires human subjects review by the UW Institutional Review Board. *It is absolutely essential that students obtain all necessary IRB clearances prior to undertaking any research.* Students should work closely with their advisors to ensure that their research undergoes proper review.

**Dissertation Defense Committee** The finished dissertation, or an advanced draft, will be defended orally before the Dissertation Defense Committee comprised of a minimum of five UW-Madison graduate faculty members. Of the members on the defense committee, at least one will be from another department, at least two will be on the Cultural Anthropology faculty, and at least three will be from the Anthropology Department. The advanced draft or finished dissertation should be distributed to committee members at least one month prior to the date of the defense. The dissertation examination itself is closed. At the mutual agreement of the student and advisor, a half-hour public presentation of the dissertation research may be scheduled prior to the examination.

## **Intersectional Degree Program**

### [Intersectional Master's Program Requirements](#)

Occasionally students have special interests that can be pursued only through a combined program involving two or more of the sub-disciplines within the department. Examples might include paleoanthropology, ethnoarchaeology, or biocultural anthropology. The department thus offers an intersectional degree track as an option for these special cases. Admission to the Intersectional program requires prior approval by faculty in each section and students should contact appropriate faculty prior to writing their statement. The Director of Graduate Study and the major professor will convene a committee of three additional faculty members to direct the students Intersectional program. The committee and the student are responsible for progress and evaluation up to the awarding of the degree. The Qualifying Examination, Preliminary Examination, and seminar requirements will reflect the sections represented on the student's committee. Student should schedule a meeting each semester with their committee to discuss their progress. The committee will prepare and evaluate the Qualifying Examination, conduct the

Preliminary Examination, and at least three members will serve on the Ph.D. committee. Membership in the committee may be changed by consensus of the major advisor and other committee members. Basic requirements for this degree program are described below.

**Qualifying Examination:** Students are required to take a Qualifying Examination. The faculty committee will determine date of the Qualifying Examination and the topics covered, as appropriate for the student's course of study. This is a set of two written examinations, intended to evaluate both general anthropological knowledge and the specifics of the student's interests. The exam is written and evaluated by the faculty committee. There are three grades: Ph.D. pass, which permits advancement toward the doctorate; Master's pass, which counts toward Master's requirements only; and Fail. Option to retake will be determined by the committee. The committee may require a paper or thesis as evidence of research and writing skills.

### Intersectional Ph.D. Program Requirements

Occasionally students have special interests that can be pursued only through a combined program involving two or more of the sub-disciplines within the department. Examples might include paleoanthropology, ethnoarchaeology, or biocultural anthropology. The department thus offers an intersectional degree track as an option for these special cases. Admission to the Intersectional program requires prior approval by faculty in each section and students should contact appropriate faculty prior to writing their statement. The Director of Graduate Study and the major professor will convene a committee of three additional faculty members to direct the students Intersectional program. The committee and the student are responsible for progress and evaluation up to the awarding of the degree. The Qualifying Examination, Preliminary Examination, and seminar requirements will reflect the sections represented on the student's committee. Student should schedule a meeting each semester with their committee to discuss their progress. The committee will prepare and evaluate the Qualifying Examination, conduct the Preliminary Examination, and at least three members will serve on the Ph.D. committee. Membership in the committee may be changed by consensus of the major advisor and other committee members. Basic requirements for this degree program are described below.

**Preliminary Examination:** The intersectional committee will conduct an oral Preliminary Examination of the thesis proposal, normally by the end of the sixth semester. The Preliminary Examination is intended to evaluate the feasibility of the dissertation proposal and to allow the committee to make recommendations regarding the direction and conduct of the research. This proposal should follow the format for a Dissertation Research Proposal to the National Science Foundation. Performance will be rated as: (1) pass with distinction; (2) pass; (3) rewrite; or (4) fail.

**Human Subjects Protocol:** Many students begin preliminary research in preparation for their Preliminary examination and it is important that they obtain the required clearances of waivers prior to undertaking any form of research.

**Dissertation Defense:** Oral defense of the dissertation: Dissertation defense must take place within five years after passing the preliminary examination.

# Graduate Minor Option

**Minor Requirements for the Ph.D. Degree** Ph.D. candidates in Anthropology must elect a minor subject in a single related field or in various departments selected in consultation with the candidate's advisor. A GPA of 3.0 must be maintained in the minor. All courses must be 300 level or above, taken after the bachelor's degree (or equivalent). Ordinarily, only one course (maximum 3 credits) of independent study is allowed (for instance 699, 799, 999). You may not use 990 or 890 (research and thesis) courses for your minor. The number of credits you are allowed to use from courses taken prior to admission to the Ph.D. major is decided by the minor department. Courses with grades of S (satisfactory) or CR (credit) are acceptable.

There are two options for completion of the minor. Whether the student selects Option A, or Option B, the minor is designed to represent a coherent body of work, and should not simply be an after-the-fact ratification of a number of courses taken outside the major department. To ensure coherence, a minor program must be approved by the appropriate department no later than half-way through the minor course sequence and a copy of the minor agreement placed on file in the Department.

Credits earned toward a Master's degree at another university may be used to satisfy some of the requirements for the minor, provided these credits are not in Anthropology.

*To see the specific policy requirements for the minor please visit <https://grad.wisc.edu/documents/minors/> for details.*

## Explanation of Options

**(1) Minor Option A.** To satisfy Minor Option A, a student must complete at least nine credits from a degree program outside his/her major department. Some minor departments may require more credits. One course cross-listed with the major may be used for the minor so long as it is staffed by the minor department and is not applicable to any requirements of the major. Be sure to check with the minor department on their minor requirements.

**(2) Minor Option B.** To satisfy Minor Option B, a student must complete at least nine credits from two or more degree programs outside or from within another field in his/her major department. One course cross-listed with the major may be used for this minor so long as it is staffed by one of the outside programs, and is not applicable to any requirements of the major; or nine credits of course work from one field (or area of specialization) other than the major area of study. Intersectional students must meet the minor course requirements outside the departmental sections represented on their faculty committee. The Option B distributed minor is approved by the chair of the major department.

**Ph.D. Minor for Students in Other Fields** To obtain a Minor in Anthropology, you must complete nine credits in the Department of Anthropology which provide either (a) a general coverage of the field or (b) concentration in biological anthropology, cultural anthropology, or archaeology. To ensure coherence, your minor program must be approved by your Minor

Advisor in the Department of Anthropology no later than half-way through the minor course sequence.

Your Minor Advisor may be any faculty member in the Department of Anthropology who is willing to serve as your advisor. If you need assistance in choosing an appropriate Minor Advisor, you can contact the Department of Anthropology's Faculty Graduate Advisor to determine which faculty member might best fit your area of interest. You must be working with an Anthropology Minor Advisor in order to complete an Anthropology Minor.

Once a minor advisor is selected and agreed upon, you and your minor advisor will complete the Anthropology Graduate Minor Advisor form. Successful completion of the course program will satisfy the minor requirement. We encourage you to get your minor completion plan in writing to assist you in course selection and to have documentation of the agreed upon plan for your records.

You should consult with your Major Department advisor to determine your major department's requirements regarding your selected minor. Generally, the major department will provide a form to the student to present to the minor department to certify completion of the minor requirements. This form is signed by the Minor Advisor and/or the Chair of the Department of Anthropology.

## Graduate Student Forms

[Defense Exam Fillable Form](#)

[Prelim Exam Fillable Form](#)

[Masters Degree Fillable Form](#)

[PHD Minor Fillable Form](#)

[Non-Major PHD Minor Form](#)

[Non-Major PHD Minor Advisor Form](#)

[Semester Check-In Fillable Form](#)

## Graduate Catalog

<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/anthropology/#degreesmajorsdoctoralminorsgraduateprofessionalcertificates>



# Teaching Assistantships

## Criteria for Teaching Assistantships

The department has had as many as twenty TA positions each semester. There is usually 1 position in Anthropology 100 (General Anthropology); 1-2 positions in Anthropology 102 (Archaeology and the Prehistoric World); 8-10 positions in Anthropology 104 (Cultural Anthropology and Human Diversity); 4-6 positions in Anthropology 105 (Principles of Biological Anthropology); and 1 position in Anthropology 212 (Principles of Archaeology).

Each semester (fall and spring), all students in each section (archaeology, biological, and cultural) are considered for a Teaching Assistantship unless they choose to opt out. Students will receive an email from the Graduate Program Manager (in September and March) asking if they wish to be considered for an assistantship the following semester. Students are asked to respond within one week, and if interested, return the completed Prospective Teaching Assistant Information. Failure to complete and return the form by the given deadline will be considered an “opt out.” *Students who know they will be in the field or away from email during this period should confirm their interest and fill out all relevant forms with the Graduate Program Manager in advance.* Students who respond late will be considered for assistantships only if there are any additional positions after all on-time responders have had offers.

Each section of the department ranks its applicants using a predetermined combination of factors, which may include graduate GPA, past performance as a teaching assistant (if any), previous academic and professional experience, and current CV. Intersectional applicants are ranked with other applicants using the same criteria by the sections involved. Students with departmental support guarantees are ranked first.

The department policy is to offer TA positions on a semester basis; we prioritize Anthropology students who have taught for fewer than three semesters so that more of our students will have the opportunity to gain teaching experience. The appointments are not necessarily awarded for consecutive semesters. Occasionally, appointments are available for non-Anthropology graduate students. Students outside the department are welcome to apply to these positions each semester should they become available. To apply, please submit a letter of interest and your CV to the Anthropology Graduate Program Manager at [anthrograd@mailplus.wisc.edu](mailto:anthrograd@mailplus.wisc.edu).

*Once offers are made, students must accept or decline within one week. Failure to respond will indicate that the student is declining the offer.*

## MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Students must be making satisfactory progress in the graduate program (as determined by annual review within their section) to be eligible for TA positions.

TAs who are not native speakers of English are required to demonstrate language proficiency. A SPEAK test is used to evaluate the spoken English of international TAs. International students

who wish to pursue a Teaching Assistantship should take the test as early as possible in their graduate careers, in order not to miss a TA opportunity; they will need to demonstrate passing results before a TA position can be offered.

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures Enrollment Requirements web page <https://grad.wisc.edu/documents/enrollment-requirements/> spells out enrollment requirements for students who are offered TA positions; please consult that website for details.

#### CONCURRENT APPOINTMENT POLICY

Although the Graduate School allows concurrent appointments (see [here](#) and [here](#)), such as a fellowship and a TA-ship, only in very rare circumstances does the Department of Anthropology allow a concurrent benefits eligible appointment if the student has accepted another. On the rare occasion that we make an exception, it typically involves curricular needs within the department. Our program has limited funding for our graduate students. We expect our graduate students to choose one of the benefits eligible offers, so we ask you to choose which funding is most appropriate for you at this stage of your graduate career.

## Faculty Listing by Specialty

You can also check out our research [here](#)

Aesthetic/Symbolism/Power — [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Africa — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [John Hawks](#); [Travis Pickering](#); [Amy Stambach](#); [Claire Wendland](#)

Ainu — [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#)

Anthropological Genomics — [John Hawks](#)

Archaeology — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [Sarah Clayton](#); [J. Mark Kenoyer](#); [Nam Kim](#); [Sissel Schroeder](#)

Behavioral Ecology — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [Travis Pickering](#); [Karen Strier](#)

Biological Anthropology — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [John Hawks](#); [Travis Pickering](#); [Karen Strier](#)

Brazil — [Falina Enriquez](#); [Karen Strier](#)

Buddhism — [Katherine Bowie](#)

California & American West — [Maria Lepowsky](#)

Caribbean — [Jerome Camal](#)

Ceramic Analysis — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#)

Comparative Anatomy — [John Hawks](#); [Travis Pickering](#)

Comparative Social Structure & Social Change — [Katherine Bowie](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Complex Societies — [Sarah Clayton](#); [Nam Kim](#); [Sissel Schroeder](#)

Conservation — [Katherine Bowie](#); [Karen Strier](#)

Craft Specialization — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#)

Cultural Anthropology — [Katherine Bowie](#); [Jerome Camal](#); [Falina Enriquez](#); [Maria Lepowsky](#); [Larry Nesper](#); [Amy Stambach](#); [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#); [Claire Wendland](#)

Demography — [John Hawks](#)

Development Anthropology — [Katherine Bowie](#); [Amy Stambach](#); [Claire Wendland](#)

East Asia — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#); [Nam Kim](#); [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#)

Eastern North America Archaeology — [Sissel Schroeder](#)

Ecology — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [Maria Lepowsky](#); [Travis Pickering](#); [Sissel Schroeder](#); [Karen Strier](#)

Economy — [Katherine Bowie](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Environment — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [Maria Lepowsky](#); [Larry Nesper](#); [Sissel Schroeder](#); [Amy Stambach](#); [Karen B. Strier](#)

Ethnoarchaeology — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [J. Mark Kenoyer](#); [Travis Pickering](#)

Ethnography — [Larry Nesper](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Ethnohistory — [Katherine Bowie](#); [Maria Lepowsky](#); [Larry Nesper](#)

Ethnomedicine — [Maria Lepowsky](#); [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#); [Claire Wendland](#)

Ethnomusicology — [Jerome Camal](#); [Falina Enriquez](#)

Evolution of Human Diet — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [Travis Pickering](#)

Evolutionary Theory — [John Hawks](#); [Karen Strier](#)

Exchange — [Maria Lepowsky](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Experimental Archaeology — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#)

Food — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#); [Travis Pickering](#); [Sissel Schroeder](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Gender — [Katherine Bowie](#); [Maria Lepowsky](#); [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#); [Amy Stambach](#); [Claire Wendland](#)

Genetics — [John Hawks](#)

Global/Local (The) — [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#)

Historical Anthropology — [Katherine Bowie](#); [Maria Lepowsky](#); [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#)

History of Anthropology — [Katherine Bowie](#); [John Hawks](#); [Maria Lepowsky](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

History of Archaeology — [Sissel Schroeder](#)

Human Anatomy — [John Hawks](#); [Travis Pickering](#)

Human Ecology — [Maria Lepowsky](#)

Human Evolution — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [John Hawks](#); [Travis Pickering](#)

Hunter-gatherers — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [J. Mark Kenoyer](#); [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#); [Travis Pickering](#)

Identity and Ethnicity — [Katherine Bowie](#); [Jerome Camal](#); [Falina Enriquez](#); [J. Mark Kenoyer](#); [Nam Kim](#); [Larry Nesper](#); [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#); [Sissel Schroeder](#); [Amy Stambach](#); [Claire Wendland](#)

India — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#)

Japan, Japanese — [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#)

Kenya — [Henry T. Bunn](#)

Landscapes — [Sissel Schroeder](#)

Law — [Larry Nesper](#)

Life History & Life Cycle — [John Hawks](#); [Karen Strier](#)

Mathematical & Statistical Approaches — [John Hawks](#)

Material Culture Assemblage Analysis — [Sissel Schroeder](#)

Medical/Nutritional — [Maria Lepowsky](#); [Claire Wendland](#)

Mesoamerica — [Sarah Clayton](#)

Mexico — [Sarah Clayton](#)

Middle East — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#)

Music — [Jerome Camal](#); [Falina Enriquez](#)

Nation-state Formation — [Katherine Bowie](#)

Native Americans — [Larry Nesper](#); [Sissel Schroeder](#); [Claire Wendland](#)

Nationalism — [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

New Guinea — [Maria Lepowsky](#)

Oceania — [Maria Lepowsky](#)

Old World Prehistory — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [John Hawks](#); [J. Mark Kenoyer](#); [Travis Pickering](#)

Origins of Agriculture — [Sissel Schroeder](#); [John Hawks](#)

Pakistan — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#)

Paleoanthropology — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [John Hawks](#); [Travis Pickering](#)

Paleolithic — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#)

Pastoralists & Pastoral Nomads — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#)

Patriotism — [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#)

Peasant Political Movements — [Katherine Bowie](#)

Peasant Social History — [Katherine Bowie](#)

Performance Studies — [Jerome Camal](#); [Falina Enriquez](#)

Pleistocene Old World — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [John Hawks](#); [Travis Pickering](#)

Plio-Pleistocene Hominid Evolution — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [John Hawks](#); [Travis Pickering](#)

Political Anthropology — [Katherine Bowie](#); [Larry Nesper](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Political Economy — [Katherine Bowie](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Politics of Language & Culture — [Katherine Bowie](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Population Genetics — [John Hawks](#)

Primate Social Behavior — [Karen Strier](#)

Primate Ecology — [Karen Strier](#)

Primatology — [Karen Strier](#)

Psychological Anthropology — [Maria Lepowsky](#)

Quantitative Methods — [John Hawks](#); [J. Mark Kenoyer](#)

Religion, Anthropology of — [Larry Nesper](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Reproduction, Anthropology of — [Claire Wendland](#)

Ritual & Religion — [Maria Lepowsky](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Sedentism — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#)

Settlement Patterns — [Sissel Schroeder](#)

Shells — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#)

Social Marginalization & Inequality — [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Social Violence and Warfare — [Nam Kim](#); [Sissel Schroeder](#)

South Asia (India & Pakistan) — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#)

South Africa — [John Hawks](#); [Travis Pickering](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Southeast Asia — [Katherine Bowie](#) (Thailand); [Nam Kim](#) (Vietnam)

Statistical Approaches to Fragmentary Samples — [John Hawks](#)

Subsistence Ecology — [Sissel Schroeder](#)

Symbolic Anthropology — [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Tanzania — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [Amy Stambach](#)

Taphonomy — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [Travis Pickering](#)

Technology — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#) (Ancient)

Totalitarianism — [Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney](#)

Urbanism — [J. Mark Kenoyer](#) (Ancient)

Western US — [Maria Lepowsky](#)

Women's Studies — [Maria Lepowsky](#)

Zooarchaeology — [Henry T. Bunn](#); [Travis Pickering](#)

## Grievance Procedure

The Department of Anthropology had developed a grievance procedure through which you may register comments or complaints about a course, an instructor, or a teaching assistant. The Department continues to provide a course evaluation each semester in every class. If you wish to make anonymous complaints to an instructor or teaching assistant, the appropriate vehicle is the course evaluation. If you have a disagreement with an instructor or teaching assistant, we strongly encourage you to try to resolve the dispute with them directly. The grievance procedure is designed for situations where neither of these channels is appropriate.

If you wish to file a grievance, use this [Course Comment Sheet](#) and then submit the completed form to the Department Chair or Department Administrator. When completing the comment sheet, you will need to provide a detailed statement that describes what aspects of the course you find unsatisfactory. You will need to sign the sheet and provide your student identification number, your address, and a phone number where you can be reached. The department will investigate comments fully and will respond in writing to complaints.

Your name, address, phone number, and student ID number will not be revealed to the instructor or teaching assistant involved and will be treated as confidential. The Department needs this information because it may become necessary for a commenting student to have a meeting with the department chair or a nominee to gather additional information. Name and addresses are also necessary for providing a written response.

In addition to the Department of Anthropology's procedure, the following UW-Madison Offices and Centers have procedures and resources available for addressing various concerns:

[McBurney Disability Resource Center](#)

[University Health Services](#)

[Graduate School Grievances and Appeals Process](#)

[Dean of Students Office](#)

## [Bias or Hate Reporting](#)