

## M.A. Degree

The Department of Anthropology offers the Master of Arts (M.A.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degrees in Anthropology. The M.A. is not offered as a terminal degree and is considered to be a step on the path to the Ph.D. Initial admission to the graduate program is thus offered only to applicants intending to pursue the Ph.D.

### The M.A. Degree Program

Students entering the graduate program with a Bachelor of Arts or Science degree in any field are expected to fulfill all requirements for the M.A. degree in 2 years (6 quarters). Students entering the graduate program with an M.A. degree must complete a student review by the department faculty for advancement into the Ph.D. program (see "Ph.D Degree Requirements").

The Master of Arts degree requires students to demonstrate a broad knowledge of anthropology and be capable of original work in one special field. In the sixth quarter of academic residence, the student's three-member committee will make a recommendation to the faculty regarding the award of the master's degree and continuation for the Ph.D degree.

## M.A. Degree Requirements

### Course Requirements

The M.A degree requires 10 courses (40 units) taken for a letter grade, with a minimum 3.0 grade-point average. The 10 required courses are distributed as follows:

- ❖ The graduate proseminar, Anthropology 200.
- ❖ The graduate core seminars in the student's field of specialization:
  - Archaeology: Anthropology M201A, M201B, M201C
  - Biological: Anthropology 202A, 202B, 202C
  - Linguistic: Anthropology 204A, 204B
  - Sociocultural: Anthropology 203A, 203B, 203C
- ❖ One course must be a graduate core seminar in a subfield other than the student's field of specialization. In addition to the courses above, the following courses will be accepted toward meeting this requirement:
  - Archaeology: Anthropology 111
  - Linguistic: Anthropology 253, 252A
  - Sociocultural: Anthropology 130, 150
- ❖ One course must be chosen from the designated list of approved "Methods" courses.
  - Archaeology: Anthropology 210, CM210Q, 211, M212S
  - Biological: Anthropology 223 (4 units), 284B, PSYCH 250A,B,C
  - Linguistic: Anthropology 252B
  - Sociocultural: Anthropology 239, 252B, 282, M284A, 284B, 288
- ❖ The remaining courses may be either subfield-specific requirements (see below), graduate seminars, upper division (100-series) designated elective courses, up to eight units of independent studies (Anthropology 596) or courses from outside the department with the approval of the student's committee.
  - Additional subfield-specific course requirements:

- Archaeology: One core course from both the Sociocultural and Biological core sequences (202B or C and 203A).
- Linguistic: One course from the Linguistics Department (selected in consultation with the faculty advisor)
- Sociocultural: Proposal writing (Anthropology 283)

*Interest Groups:* While it is not required, students are strongly recommended to enroll each quarter that they are in residence for the interest group that most closely aligns with their area of specialization. These are:

- ❖ Biological: Behavior Evolution and Culture (BEC)
- ❖ Linguistic: Discourse Lab
- ❖ Sociocultural: Culture, Power and Social Change (CPSC) or Medicine, Mind and Culture (MMAC)

Capstone – For students in the Archaeology subfield

Students in the Archaeology subfield are required to complete a capstone that consists of three examinations, given at the completion of each section of Anthropology M201A, M201B, and M201C, respectively, and a research paper. Each of the three examinations may be retaken once. The research paper, to be completed by the end of the sixth quarter of residence, is read by three faculty members and assists students and faculty in the determination of whether a student may continue for the Ph.D. degree.

Thesis – For students in the Biological, Linguistic, and Sociocultural subfields

Students in the Biological, Linguistic, and Sociocultural subfields are required to complete a thesis that demonstrate their ability to generate and assemble a body of data, to analyze it, and to indicate its relevance to established anthropological thought as well as to write lucid prose. Students must submit an original paper based on field, laboratory, or library research to all three committee members by the end of the fifth quarter of residence. The thesis committee assists students in formulating the research paper, monitoring its progress, and evaluating the paper when submitted. It is essential that students maintain close contact with all three members while preparing the M.A. thesis.

### Time to Degree

Normative time to the M.A degree is two years (six quarters).

- ❖ Completion of core course requirements: End of third quarter
- ❖ Formation of M.A thesis committee: Beginning of fourth quarter
- ❖ Completion of M.A thesis: End of fifth quarter
- ❖ Completion of 40 units of course work: End of sixth quarter

*The total time to Ph.D completion including M.A completion in the department is 24 quarters (8 years).*

### Advancement to the Ph.D Program

In the sixth quarter of academic residence, the student's three-member committee will make a recommendation to the faculty regarding the award of the master's degree and continuation for the Ph.D degree. Please see Ph.D Degree Requirements.