



DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

University of Pennsylvania, 323 University Museum
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6398
phone: 215-898-7461 fax: 215-898-7462
email: anthro-grad@sas.upenn.edu
Internet: <http://www.sas.upenn.edu/anthro/index.html>

Application Deadline: December 15, 2003 - \$70

Admissions

The Department of Anthropology admits students for study once a year, beginning in the fall semester. The following materials must be submitted to the Graduate Admissions office via the Internet or mail by December 15:

- completed graduate application (on-line or paper) and fee
- three letters of recommendation
- two official sets of transcripts from each undergraduate and graduate school attended
- GRE (Graduate Record Examination) official score report (Penn's code - 2926; Anthro code - 1701)
Note: GRE and other Examinations should be taken early in the fall term to insure receipt of scores by December 15.
- TOEFL score report for non-US citizens whose first language is not English. The minimum TOEFL score for admission consideration is 615.
- Applicants to the joint MD/PhD degree may submit MCAT scores.

NOTE: Paper applications for the 2004-05 Academic Year are still being printed. Included in this packet are copies that are available for download in our website. Please feel free to make further copies if you need them. We also encourage you to submit your application on-line. You can link to the on-line application ("ExpressApp") from our web site.

If you decide to use the ExpressApp, the following items must be downloaded from the ExpressApp and mailed, along with your application fee and college transcripts:

- Statement of Purpose form
- Letter of Recommendation form (print 3)

- Signature Certification form

In the statement of purpose, it is important to at least broadly define one or two areas of potential research focus. The statement should reflect serious intent, focus, maturity, motivation, and ability to organize and articulate your thoughts on complex subjects. Research experience is useful but not required. Applicants are not penalized for not having had the opportunity to do research. However, experience does help to define interest and focus, and proven success with research is a positive indicator for success in the program.

The entire Graduate Group (GG) faculty of Anthropology participates in the admissions process. Recommendations for admission are made by the Anthropology Admissions Committee to the Graduate Division Dean in March and applicants are informed of the Department's action by April 1.

For your information, 195 students applied for 2003-04 admission. 16 applicants were admitted, and 11 (6 PhD, 5 MA) accepted admission.

For more information about Penn's Graduate School and applying check the following web sites:

- Graduate Catalog – www.upenn.edu/VPGE
- School of Arts & Sciences – www.sas.upenn.edu

About the Graduate Programs

The Graduate Program in Anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania follows two distinct tracks: a PhD track (including an optional MA) and an MA / MSc track. The PhD track includes a core program of four courses during the first year, and a comprehensive examination in May of the first year. The comprehensive examination, which covers the core program material, serves as the final examination for the MA and as the qualifying examination for the PhD. Within the first two years students must also take two additional Anthropology courses in fields outside their own specialty. Submission of an acceptable research paper or master's thesis and completion of ten course units fulfills the MA requirement. In their second and third years, students will be required to complete a pedagogical internship that involves both observation and classroom teaching experiences. PhD candidates must take a final oral examination in two major and two minor subjects in anthropology (see Approved Fields for Final Oral Exam). Finally, they must submit an acceptable dissertation.

Whereas the PhD track requires competence at the basic level in all major aspects of anthropology (archaeological, cultural, physical, and linguistic), the

MSc track facilitates specialization from the outset. In consultation with his/her advisors the student works out a program of courses best suited to developing the intended specialization. A final examination covering that program is administered upon its completion, and this, together with the completion of ten courses and submission of an acceptable research paper or master's thesis, fulfills the requirements. The MSc track is not compatible with the requirements for the PhD; rather it is intended for students who do not plan to continue to the PhD but who wish to go intensively into some aspect of anthropology without being held responsible for the basics in all of its aspects.

With permission of the Graduate Group Chair (GGC), non-degree students may enroll in graduate courses through the College of General Studies. Graduate Courses (up to 4) taken in this way may be credited towards a graduate degree if the student is subsequently admitted as a degree candidate to the graduate program.

Courses may be taken for credit towards a graduate anthropology degree in any graduate program in the School of Arts and Sciences in the University as appropriate to the student's interests and intellectual development. In this connection the Anthropology Department has close working relations with departments of Anatomy in the Schools of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, the Programs in Demography, Folklore and Folklife, as well as the departments of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, South Asia Regional Studies, and Linguistics, among others.

Tuition and Financial Support

Full-time graduate tuition (8 courses, including general fee) for the 2003-04 year is \$29,790. Tuition/fee per course is \$3,550. Dissertation Tuition (for PhD students who have completed the required 20 courses) is \$2,367 per term, and Master's Tuition (for terminal MA or MS students who have completed the 10 required courses) is \$532 per term. Tuition is the same for residents and non-residents of Pennsylvania.

Effective Fall 2001, students admitted to the PhD program (as distinct from the MA and MSc program) will receive full funding (tuition, stipend, and health insurance) for the first four years of graduate training. Students who have satisfied all degree requirements, except the dissertation, are eligible to be nominated for the Dissertation Fellowship (1-yr). In the selection of applicants for University/Department resources, and in compiling dossiers to compete for resources outside the Department, the Anthropology Graduate Group pays attention to the following criteria: grade record, faculty recommendations and personal

statement. For continuing students, incomplete grades and previous support are also considered. Outside Support Applicants, and continuing students beyond their fourth year, are encouraged to seek support within and outside of the University as well. Several agencies, including the NSF, Mellon, and Javits, offer support for graduate training.

In general, PhD graduate students find the resources to support much of their research (and tuition) beyond their fourth year in the Program. However, since there is no centralized distribution of all the resources, and the needs, abilities and interests of individual students differ widely, it is the individual student's own responsibility to investigate all available sources of financial support. Note: Students must be funded, and within their first five years in the Program, in order to receive the health insurance benefit from the Graduate School.

Students with financial need, such as non-funded MSc students, may also apply for educational loans and work-study grants by submitting the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form. Students who demonstrate need are considered for Federal Stafford and Federal Perkins loans, and Federal Work Study Grants. Information and an application may be obtained from the Student Financial Information Center, 100 Franklin Building, University of Pennsylvania (phone: 215-898-1988) or any college/university financial aid office. Applications should be submitted before March 31.

For more information about financial support, check the following web sites:

- www.upenn.edu/VPGE/fellowships/index.html
- www.upenn.edu/careerservices/funding/funding.html
- www.ameranthassn.org/an/fs.html

The PhD Degree

The emphasis in the Graduate Program is on training candidates for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. This degree certifies that, in addition to having a sound knowledge of anthropology as a whole, the holder has been trained to do independent research at a professional level of competence in at least one of the major sub-disciplines of anthropology – archaeology, cultural / linguistic, or physical anthropology.

Limitation of Time Students must complete all course requirements, the foreign language requirement, written PhD Preliminary Examination ("Comprehensive Exam") and the Final PhD Examination ("Oral Exam") for the PhD within a period of seven consecutive years. The granting of a leave of absence or research leave does not extend

this limit.

Foreign Language Requirement – Candidates for the PhD (and MA) degree in Anthropology are required to demonstrate a reading knowledge of one foreign language used in written source material or scientific literature relevant to the student's professional career. Examinations may be taken in French, German, Spanish, or Russian (other languages with permission of the GG). All examinations, given in October and March, are arranged by the Department. Students are strongly urged to take the examination at the first opportunity but, in any case, must complete the requirement by October of their second year. In some cases students whose first language is not English are exempt from the requirement.

Course Requirements – The PhD degree requires a minimum of twenty course units (one unit per course); a normal full-time program consists of four units per term. Of these units, at least twelve must be taken at this University. Up to eight course units may be transferred from another institution. Requests for credit transfer are made by the student to the GGC any time after the first year of residence.

All PhD students must complete successfully a core program of six courses: four in the first year and two within the first two years. The first-year courses cover the four subfields of anthropology and are mandated by the GG - they are: Anth 600, 602, 603, and 617. The additional two courses (2nd-tier) are selected by the student from a list of courses outside his/her subfield. Failure to complete the first year core courses with a final grade by the end of the second semester disqualifies a student from continuing in the program. The GG will determine the action to be taken.

Comprehensive Examination (PhD Preliminary) – This examination is taken during the last week of May of the student's first year, following completion of the four first-year core courses. The exam, eight hours on two consecutive mornings, will cover the field of anthropology as presented in the first year core program and will focus upon an integration of the material discussed.

In addition to formal course work, further opportunities for preparation for the Comprehensive Examination include: departmental colloquia and lectures, the basic anthropological references in the Van Pelt Library and the University Museum Library, ethnographic and archaeological collections of the University Museum.

The Comprehensive Examination and the student's first-year academic record are evaluated by the Department faculty within two weeks after the exam. Faculty approval is necessary for candidacy for the

PhD, and/or the MA Degree.

Advising – According to the student's interests, a Department faculty member is appointed to advise each student. In consultation with this advisor, the student selects two other members of the GG to form an advising committee. A committee normally consists of three members of the GG, who are jointly responsible for working out the details of the student's program from semester to semester. The advisor is responsible for convening regular meetings with the student for this purpose. There are no impediments to changing committee members at any time.

Students are encouraged to begin their specialized training as early as their first semester in the program. Of particular importance is the selection of basic courses in the first year, which will lead to the advanced seminars essential to a successful PhD program.

MA Degree

Although students may proceed directly to the PhD without taking the MA degree, they are encouraged to take the option of completing an MA along the way. The Master of Arts degree in Anthropology certifies that the recipient is qualified to teach General Anthropology at the college undergraduate level. A candidate for the MA degree is expected, therefore, to be familiar with the basic concepts, major developments, and current problems in each of the major sub disciplines of Anthropology. The MA degree requires a total of ten course units, six of which are Core Program courses. Up to two units may be transferred from another institution. According to the student's proposed area for MA research, a committee is appointed to advise each student. A committee normally consists of two members (one advisor and one reader) of the GG, who are jointly responsible for working out the details of the student's program from semester to semester. Each MA degree candidate is required to complete a research paper or master's thesis.

Terminal MA

Students whose combined performance in the Comprehensive examination and in the first-year's core program is below standard may be passed only at the level of a terminal MA. An advisor and reader are appointed by the GGC in this case. The student is advised to finish the ten-course unit requirement and write an acceptable research paper or thesis in order to receive the MA degree. The research paper or thesis must be completed within one year after completing the required course work.

Additional PhD Requirements – Each subfield may

determine additional requirements for its students. These requirements may involve proseminars or courses selected from a menu of offerings. In addition, there may be requirements associated with each student's specialized track (e.g., ethnohistory, medical anthropology).

In addition to all other requirements, students must complete four semesters of teaching – normally in their second and third years. One semester will involve a pedagogical internship in which students learn basic teaching skills; the other three semesters will be “hand on” in the classroom. Students will supervise recitations in the Department's larger undergraduate introductory courses for two semesters and work more closely as teaching assistants with individual faculty in their third semester of teaching

Oral Examination (PhD Final) – When the specialized program has been completed and the recommendations of the student's committee satisfied, the candidate is eligible to stand for the oral examination. At least one year must have lapsed since the Comprehensive Examination.

The oral examination will concentrate mainly on the candidate's specialized field of interest, theoretically and geographically, and on his/her program of proposed research. (See attached list of approved fields). At least one semester in advance, after consulting with her/his Committee, the candidate should reserve a slot and petition the GGC to take the examination. Two weeks prior to the exam, the candidate is required to submit a written dissertation proposal and three statements on areas of concentration, for distribution to the faculty. The oral exam is open to all members of the GG.

Within one month following successful completion of the Exam the candidate, in consultation with the dissertation committee must produce a final version of the proposal for approval by the Department faculty.

Approved Subfields for the Final Oral Examination:

Geographical Areas

Africa - Sub-Saharan
Americas
Asia - East and Central
Asia - South and Central
Asia - Southeast (Mainland and Insular)
Caribbean (including either US or European South American & relevant European & African history/ethnology)
Europe and Circum-Mediterranean
Middle East (Muslim Central Asia to Northern Africa and

Circum-Mediterranean)
Pacific Islands and Australia
United States (including Canada) and Western Europe

Culture Areas

Africa - East, Central, Southern, West
Central America (Native)
Melanesia
Middle East - Central
Micronesia
North America (Native) - West, including the Plains
North America (Native) - Far North
North America (Native) - Northeast and Southeast
Polynesia
South America (Native) - Andean and Circum-Caribbean [archaeology only]
South America (Native) - Tropical Forest, Southeast and South
South Asia (India)
Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking societies
(In some cases an ethnic/linguistic or national group can be considered as a Culture Area)

Ethnographic Types

Complex Societies
Hunters and Gatherers
Pastoralists
Peasants

Topics

Acquisition of Language and Culture
Aesthetic Anthropology
Agriculture (all types of food production)
Analysis of Speech and Narrative Styles
Archaeometallurgy
Archaeometry
Bioarchaeology
Biomedical Anthropology
Cognitive Anthropology
Cognitive Anthropology and Ethnoscience
Complex Societies (including the 'rise of the state')
Culture and Symbols
Demography
Dental Anthropology
Descriptive Linguistics
Ecology
Economic Anthropology
Education
Ethnoarchaeology
Ethnography of Communication
Ethnohistory
Ethnomusicology
Evolution
Evolution of Intelligence
Food & Nutrition, Anthro of
Gender Studies

Genetics
 Growth and Development
 Historical Archaeology
 Historical Linguistics
 History of Anthropology (with focus on one sub discipline)
 Material Culture (including 'technology and culture')
 Metal Ages
 Neolithic
 Neurological Basis of Behavior
 Old World Pleistocene
 Paleolithic
 Paleontology
 Political Anthropology
 Primate Behavior
 Psychological Anthropology
 Public Interest Anthropology
 Religion and Symbols
 Semiotic Anthropology
 Skeletal Biology
 Skeletal Population Analysis
 Social and Cultural Change
 Social Organization
 Sociolinguistics
 Spatial Organization (including locational analysis)
 Taxonomy

Note: Students who feel that their special area or topical interests are not covered by the above list may petition the GG for alternative categories. Such petitions should be cleared by the advising Committee first.

Dissertation – The PhD dissertation should demonstrate the candidate's ability to plan and execute independent research in accordance with professional standards and to present its results in a manner that is coherent and readily intelligible to fellow professionals. The dissertation is based on the candidate's own field investigation and is written under the direction of a Dissertation Committee appointed by the GGC. The Dissertation Committee will consist of an advisor, and two readers normally appointed at the time the candidate passes his/her oral examination. A draft of the dissertation must be submitted to the Dissertation Committee for review before the final copy is prepared. The final copy (consisting of two copies for the University and one copy for the Department) is to be submitted to the GG for final acceptance, according to Graduate Division guidelines.

Program Planning – Each student's program of study and research is an individual one and the timing will vary from person to person. The total years to degree has traditionally ranged from 5 (for students transferring in) to 9 (with allowance for MA degree and/or additional time in the field). The following may be used as a general schedule in planning.

First Year
 Core courses (2 per semester)
 Basic courses in area of specialization and 2nd-tier courses
 Satisfaction of Language requirement (fall or spring)
 Comprehensive examination (spring)

First Summer
 Field work/research

Second Year
 Specialized courses, 2nd-tier course, seminars, tutorials, teaching

Second Summer
 Field work/research

Third Year
 Completion of course work,
 Preparation for Oral Examination, teaching,
 Investigate and apply for dissertation research grants

Third Summer
 Field work/research/Preparation for Oral Exam

Fourth Year
 Oral Exam and submission of dissertation proposal
 Begin dissertation research

Fifth Year
 Dissertation research

Sixth Year
 Writing up and submission of Dissertation

The MSc Degree

The MSc program is separate from the PhD program and transfers between the two (though not impossible) are anomalous. The MSc is a specialized degree in a particular subfield or subfields of anthropology, and is designed for students whose primary career lies outside anthropology, but who wish to acquire an anthropological perspective in their work. Typical MSc candidates are medical doctors, psychiatrists, nurses, and PhD candidates in Education, Communications, Planning or Management.

Prospective candidates for the MSc program should show evidence of a high level of academic ability and commitment to their career objectives, and suggest whom they wish to work with as Advisor.

Admission – The admissions procedure is the same as for those applying for admission to the PhD program (see above), except that applicants who already hold a graduate degree are not required to submit GRE scores.

Limitation of Time – Students must complete all course requirements and the MSc Comprehensive examination within a period of six consecutive years, with an additional year allowed for the completion of a research paper or master's thesis. The granting of a leave of absence by the University does not extend this limit.

Foreign Language Requirement – None.

Course Requirements – The MSc degree requires a total of ten course units, with a normal full-time program of four units per term. A specific course of study is arranged for each student according to her/his interests. Of these units, at least eight must be taken at this University. Up to two units may be transferred from another institution. Requests for credit transfer are made by the student to the GGC anytime after the first year of residence.

Advising – According to the student's proposed area of research, a committee is appointed to advise each student. A committee normally consists of two members (1 advisor and 1 reader) of the GG, who are jointly responsible for working out the details of the students program from semester to semester.

MSc Comprehensive Examination – A candidate for the MSc degree is required to pass a Comprehensive Examination that is appropriate to his/her individual program. This final exam may be given any time after the completion of the course requirement.

Research Paper or Master's Thesis – Each MSc candidate is required to complete a research paper or master's thesis within one year after the course requirement is met.

Special Programs and Centers

There are several special programs that involve the Anthropology Department to greater or lesser degrees: African Studies Center, Ethnohistory Program, Program in Language, Culture and Society, Latin American Cultures Program, MD/PhD Program, Medical Anthropology Program, and the Urban Studies Program. For more informal interdisciplinary work, or other interdisciplinary programs such as Medieval Studies, Anthropology and Education, and Islamic Studies, students should contact their Advisor or the GGC.

African Studies Center – African Studies faculty members share a commitment to the comparative, cross-disciplinary study of African peoples and institutions. This orientation finds expression in theoretical and applied research, publications, and teaching. The African Studies Center coordinates courses and sponsors a regular lecture series and seminar, a communications network, exchange

programs with African institutions, and the teaching of African languages. Africa-focused courses are offered primarily through the SAS departments of Anthropology, Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, English, Folklore, History, History and Sociology of Science, Linguistics, Political Science, Psychology, Romance Languages, and Sociology; the graduate group of Demography; the GSFA department of City and Regional Planning; Schools of Social Work, Nursing and Education. Among the many resources available are a collection of African art and material culture in the University Museum; an African Demography Training and Research Program under the Population Studies Center; the Center for the Study of Black Literature and Culture; and several specialized training and education programs in development and policy issues such as health, energy, environment, and housing. African Studies faculty on the Anthropology GG include Profs. Barnes, Huss-Ashmore, and Kopytoff.

Ethnohistory Program – The Committee on Ethnohistory oversees an interdisciplinary program of courses offered primarily through the departments of Anthropology and History, along with selected courses from other departments throughout the University. Qualified students are admitted to the graduate program representing the student's major field of concentration, which sets all requirements. The Ethnohistory Program aims to provide students with the concepts and tools necessary to study both literate and non-literate communities from a combined anthropological/historical perspective. Emphasis is placed on the evaluation and utilization of written, oral, and ethnographic data for the purpose of historical anthropology. The Committee on Ethnohistory also sponsors an interdepartmental workshop where faculty and students meet to discuss recent publications, current research, and relevant issues in ethnohistory and related fields. Ethnohistory Program faculty on the Anthropology GG include Profs. Barnes, Farriss (History), and Urban. For related courses in Anthropology and other SAS Departments, check with individual Ethnohistory Program faculty.

Program in Language, Culture and Society – The object of this interdisciplinary program is to help make the University's resources in faculty and course offerings, distributed over several departments and schools, more accessible to interested students. Graduate students pursue their degree in one of the participating disciplines (Anthropology, Education, Communications, Folklore and Folklife, Linguistics, Sociology) with the program providing resources for a major or minor concentration within that discipline. Several somewhat overlapping concentrations are possible: ethnolinguistics and the analysis of speech and literary styles; sociolinguistics; linguistic anthropology and ethnoscience; acquisition of

language and culture; practical field linguistics; ethnography of communication. Language, Culture and Society faculty on the Anthropology GG include Profs. Agha, Sankoff (Linguistics), and Urban.

Latin American Cultures Program – The Program is a focal point for the study of Latin American cultures in all their diversity of expression - not only "high culture" but also folk and other forms, from pre-Columbian times to the present. Perspectives are drawn from fields which include history, archaeology, cultural anthropology, literature, linguistics, folklore, art, and ethnohistory. The Program encourages a multidisciplinary approach, in which relevant methods and viewpoints from different fields are integrated to yield new kinds of insight into Latin America.

MD/PHD Program – This is a parallel program in that students must be admitted to both the Anthropology program and the Medical School. All degree requirements in both departments must be fulfilled. For more information on the program and related courses contact Prof. Huss-Ashmore (Anthropology); Maggie Hall (Assoc. Director, Combined Degree Program, Penn Med School); or the Anthropology GGC.

Medical Anthropology Program – The Program in Medical Anthropology integrates biological and cultural approaches to the study of health, illness, and disease. It emphasizes the contribution of human biology and physical anthropology to the study of problems of human health and well-being. Practical research training is available locally in conjunction with the Penn Center For Community Partnerships or other programs as appropriate. Students working toward the doctoral degree carry out their own specialized programs while developing the breadth in general anthropology which characterizes the general objectives of the Graduate Program. Students working toward the MSc follow a more concentrated course of study and research in their selected area.

Medical Anthropology faculty include Profs. Huss-Ashmore, Kricun (Radiology), and Zimmerman. Areas of specialization include:

- anthropology and clinical research
- paleopathology
- the cultural basis of health, illness and disease
- nutritional anthropology
- human development

Urban Studies Graduate Certificate Program – The Urban Studies Program offers students an interdisciplinary context in which to explore urban issues while pursuing a graduate degree in one of the disciplines or professional schools in the

university. It emphasizes melding urban theory with practice, and encourages independent research. While working toward a PhD in their department, participants in the Certificate program take a two-semester proseminar and four urban-related courses. During the school year, faculty and graduate students gather monthly at an interdisciplinary workshop on urban related themes. Students may apply to enter the certificate program when they enter the PhD program, or at the conclusion of their first year of study. Interests of Urban Studies faculty cover many regions of the world, and include economic development, poverty, education, community organization, ethnicity, urban design, and policy. Urban Studies faculty on the Anthropology GG include Profs. Barnes, F. Erickson (Grad Educ), Hall (Grad Educ), Johnston, Paley, Sanday, Sankoff (Linguistics), and Zettler. For related courses in Anthropology and other SAS Departments, check with Urban Studies faculty. For information on the application process, contact co-directors Michael Katz or Elaine Simon.

Updated 08.03

COMMITMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The University of Pennsylvania values diversity and seeks talented students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds. The University of Pennsylvania does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, or status as a Vietnam Era Veteran or disabled veteran in the administration of educational policies, programs or activities; admissions policies; scholarship and loan awards; athletic, or other University administered programs or employment. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to: Executive Director, Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Programs, 3600 Chestnut Street, Nichols House, Suite 228, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106 or (215) 898-6993 (voice) or (215-898-7803 (TDD).