MASTER OF ARTS IN THE FIELD OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Anthropology is the study of human difference and diversity in the present and the past. In its broad focus on humanity, anthropology brings together the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences.

GW's anthropology program is committed to integrating humanistic and scientific perspectives while pursuing advanced research of the highest quality. The master of arts (MA) in anthropology signals that the holder can synthesize diverse data about human beings, a skill increasingly valued in a variety of professions and academic settings.

The graduate programs in anthropology take advantage of the resources available in the nation's capital, including the University's 120-year relationship with the Smithsonian Institution. This location puts students in a prime position for studying and collaborating with refugee and immigrant communities, policymakers, non-governmental organizations, the news media, and numerous scientific and educational organizations.

The MA in anthropology is offered with three optional concentrations:

- The international development concentration provides an understanding of world problems such as hunger, health, and economic change, thus preparing students for work in development projects. This non-thesis program normally is completed in two years.
- The museum training concentration prepares students for research and careers in the scholarly and curatorial aspects of museum work. In this concentration, 12 to 15 credits derive from museum-related courses, including internships.
- The health, science, and society concentration includes two separate focus areas: medical anthropology and science and technology studies. Each concentration focus area requires 15 credit hours of coursework approved by the respective concentration focus advisor.

Students interested in biological anthropology are encouraged to consider the master of science program in human paleobiology.

Visit the program website (https://anthropology.columbian.gwu.edu/ma-anthropology/) for additional information.

ADMISSIONS

Admission deadlines:
- Fall - February 1
- Spring - October 1

Standardized test scores: The GRE general exam is not required.

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the PTE Academic is required of all applicants except those who hold a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree from a college or university in the United States or from an institution located in a country in which English is the official language, provided English was the language of instruction.

Minimum scores for the program are:

- Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 6.0 with no individual score below 5.0; or
- TOEFL: 550 on paper-based or 80 on Internet-based; or
- PTE Academic: 53

Applicants who do not meet minimum English language requirements may be eligible for our full-time Applied English Language program.

Prior academic records: Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended must be uploaded to your online application. Official transcripts are required only of applicants who are offered admission.

If transcripts are in a language other than English, English language translations must be provided. The English translation alone should be uploaded into your application.

Statement of purpose: In an essay of 250 – 500 words, state your purpose in undertaking graduate study in your chosen field. Include your academic objectives, research interests, and career plans. Also discuss your related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, and any other substantial accomplishments not already mentioned on the application. If you are applying for an assistantship or fellowship, you should also describe any teaching experience you have had.

International applicants only: Please follow this link - https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants/ - to review the International Applicant Information carefully for details on required documents, earlier deadlines for applicants requiring an I-20 or DS-2019 from GW, and English language requirements.

For additional information on the admissions process visit the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Frequently Asked Questions.
Questions (https://columbian.gwu.edu/graduate-admissions-faq/) page.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences – Graduate Admissions Office
The George Washington University
801 22nd Street NW, Phillips Hall 215
Washington DC 20052

Contact:
askccas@gwu.edu
202-994-6210 (phone)
202-994-6213 (fax)

Hours: 8:30 am to 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 36 credits, including 9 credits in proseminars, 3 credits in an approved methods course, 18 to 24 credits in elective courses, and 3 to 6 credits in thesis. Students are encouraged to plan their programs with an advisor.

Foreign language requirement

Students with fewer than four semesters of a major foreign language taken at the undergraduate level must demonstrate a reading knowledge of an approved language before beginning the third semester of graduate work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core requirements</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Proseminars</td>
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<tr>
<td>At least three proseminars selected from the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 6101</td>
<td>Proseminar in Biological Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 6102</td>
<td>Proseminar in Sociocultural Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 6103</td>
<td>Proseminar in Archaeology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 6104</td>
<td>Proseminar in Linguistic Anthropology</td>
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Students with significant background in a field, as determined by evaluation of a petition to the proseminar instructor, may waive one proseminar. Those who are permitted to waive a proseminar must take one course from group A and one from Group B.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group A</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 6101</td>
<td>Proseminar in Biological Anthropology</td>
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Methods

One approved 3-credit methods course.

Thesis or other culminating project

3 to 6 credits in courses leading to a thesis or other culminating project, depending on which concentration the student pursues.

Electives

18 to 24 credits in elective courses, depending on the number of credits taken in core course requirements. Students may choose to pursue a concentration (below), in which case any credits remaining after core and concentration requirements have been met are taken in elective courses.

Optional concentrations

In addition to completing all core requirements for the degree, students may choose to pursue a concentration as part of their program of study. All requirements for the concentration must be fulfilled.

Museum training concentration (12 to 15 credits) ¹

12 to 15 credits in courses selected from the following. 6 of these credits may be in an internship.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 6200</td>
<td>Museum Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 6201</td>
<td>Methods in Museum Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 6203</td>
<td>Preventive Conservation Concepts</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 6204</td>
<td>Preventive Conservation Techniques</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 6205</td>
<td>Problems in Conservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 6230</td>
<td>Internship in Museum Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 6291</td>
<td>Special Topics in Museum Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 6508</td>
<td>Ethics and Cultural Property</td>
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International development (15 credits)

Required

<table>
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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 6301</td>
<td>The Anthropology of Development</td>
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¹ Museum training concentration includes International Development (15 credits) and Museum Anthropology (12 credits).
Two courses from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 6302</td>
<td>Issues in Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 6330</td>
<td>Internship in Development Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 6391</td>
<td>Anthropology and Contemporary Problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 6501</td>
<td>Gender and Sexuality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 6507</td>
<td>Nationalism and Ethnicity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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One approved graduate-level course in quantitative analysis.

Health, science, and society (15 credits)

Students who choose to pursue the health, science, and society (HSS) concentration do so in one of two focus areas: Science and technology studies or medical anthropology.

### HSS concentration–Science and technology studies focus:

**Required**

- ANTH 6504 Social Study of Science and Technology

Two courses selected from the following (see courses at bottom of concentration as well):

- ANTH 3602 Ethnographic Analysis of Speech
- ANTH 3603 Psycholinguistics
- ANTH 3604 Culture and Media
- ANTH 3625 Ethnographic and Historical Perspectives on Data Ethics
- AMST 2610 Science, Technology, and Politics in Modern America
- AMST 2620 Human Mind and Artificial Intelligence
- AMST 2630 Discovering the Mind (for graduate credit)
- AMST 6190 Topics in American Studies

### HSS concentration–medical anthropology focus:

**Required**

- ANTH 6505 Medical Anthropology

6 credits in research methods courses, which must include one course in qualitative methods and one required course in quantitative methods, selected from the following:

Qualitative methods course options:

- ANTH 6331 Research Methods in Development Anthropology
- ANTH 6531 Methods in Sociocultural Anthropology
- SOC 6232 Qualitative Methods

Quantitative methods course options:

- PUBH 6003 Principles and Practices of Epidemiology

6 credits in sociocultural anthropology coursework selected from the following. Other ANTH courses may be approved by the concentration advisor, including courses at GW and those offered through the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area. For courses not directly focused on health, students should direct their learning, as far as possible, toward health issues, for example, by selecting a health-related topic in a course that requires or allows a paper.

**Required**

- ANTH 6301 The Anthropology of Development
- ANTH 6302 Issues in Development
- ANTH 6391 Anthropology and Contemporary Problems
- ANTH 6501 Gender and Sexuality
- ANTH 6504 Social Study of Science and Technology
- ANTH 6505 Medical Anthropology
- ANTH 6506 Topics in Medical Anthropology (Culture and Psychiatry)
- ANTH 6591 Topics in Sociocultural Anthropology
- ANTH 6707 Issues in Middle East Anthropology
- IAFF 6138 Special Topics in International Development Studies (Gender and Development or Indigenous People)

The following courses may be taken for credit toward the HSS concentration–medical anthropology focus with the permission of the concentration advisor:

- ANTH 3503 Psychological Anthropology
- ANTH 6330 Internship in Development Anthropology

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1 Students whose primary interest is in museum techniques, rather than anthropology, are advised to apply to the MA in museum studies program (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/museum-studies/ma/). (Note that an MA in teaching in the field of museum education (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/educational-leadership/).
ma-teaching-museum-studies/) is also available through the Graduate School of Education and Human Development.)

2The Elliott School of International Affairs offers a number of courses relevant to the study of anthropology through its international development studies program (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/international-affairs/graduate-programs/ma-international-development-studies/#requirementstext).

3Taken for graduate credit.

4Visit the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area (https://consortium.org/) website for additional information.