DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN PALEOBIOLOGY

REQUIREMENTS

Specific admission requirements are shown on the Graduate Program Finder. (http://www.gwu.edu/all-graduate-programs)

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

The general requirements stated under Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Programs (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#degreeregulationtext).

The requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy program (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#doctoraltext).

72 credits.

**Recommended Preparatory Courses**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BISC 2207</td>
<td>Genetics</td>
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<tr>
<td>BISC 2208</td>
<td>Genetics Laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td>BISC 2214</td>
<td>Developmental Biology</td>
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<td>BISC 2322</td>
<td>Human Physiology</td>
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<td>BISC 2332</td>
<td>Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy</td>
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<td>BISC 2450</td>
<td>Organic Evolution</td>
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<td>BISC 2451</td>
<td>History of Life</td>
<td></td>
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<td>BISC 2452</td>
<td>Animal Behavior</td>
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<tr>
<td>BISC 2454</td>
<td>General Ecology</td>
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Advanced undergraduate courses in biology, including courses in evolution and any two of the following: genetics, developmental biology/embryology, anatomy, physiology, ethology, ecology, and paleontology. GW courses that correspond to these subjects are:

- BISC 2207 Genetics
- BISC 2208 Genetics Laboratory
- BISC 2214 Developmental Biology
- BISC 2322 Human Physiology
- BISC 2332 Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy
- BISC 2450 Organic Evolution
- BISC 2451 History of Life
- BISC 2452 Animal Behavior
- BISC 2454 General Ecology

Advanced undergraduate courses in anthropology, including courses in any two of the following: osteology, human biology, paleoanthropology, primatology, and Paleolithic archaeology corresponding to:

- ANTH 3832 Paleoanthropological Field Program
- ANTH 3401 Human Functional Anatomy
- ANTH 3402 Human Evolutionary Anatomy
- ANTH 3403 Forensic Anthropology Laboratory
- ANTH 3404 Human Variation

ANTH 3412 Hominin Evolution
ANTH 3411 Primatology
ANTH 3491 Topics in Biological Anthropology
ANTH 3801 African Roots from Australopithecus to Zimbabwe
ANTH 3802 Human Cultural Beginnings

One course in statistics corresponding to:

- STAT 1127 Statistics for the Biological Sciences

One course in mathematics, including precalculus, corresponding to:

- MATH 1220 Calculus with Precalculus I
- MATH 1221 Calculus with Precalculus II

Advanced undergraduate courses in one or more of the following subjects: chemistry, biochemistry, physics, geoscience, and calculus

**Doctoral Program**

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td>The following requirements must be fulfilled: 72 credits, including 6 to 24 credits in dissertation research.</td>
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Students complete a program of study including a minimum of 48 credits of coursework developed in consultation with the advisor prior to advancing to PhD candidacy.

**Required**

Foundations core (5 to 7 credits)

- HOMP 6202 Lab Techniques: Paleoanthropology
- HOMP 6203 Ethics and Professional Practice I
- HOMP 8301 Problem-Based Learning Seminar

Modern and paleobiology core (12 credits)

One exemption may be allowed depending upon prior education. Program approval is required.

- ANTH 6407 Anthropological Genetics
- ANTH 6801 Paleolithic Archaeology
- HOMP 6201 Hominid Paleobiology
and one 3-credit course in animal/primate biology, behavior, or ecology such as ANTH 6404, BISC 6206, or another approved course chosen in consultation with the advisor.

Statistical methods core (3 credits)
ANTH 6413  Analytical Methods in Human Evolutionary Studies

or an alternative course selected in consultation with the advisor.

Engagement and application core (9 credits)

HOMP 8302  Public Undrstand Of Scie Intrn

HOMP 8303  Paleobiology Lab Rotation (taken twice for 3 credits for a total of 6 credits)

Electives

The remainder of credits in coursework selected in consultation with the advisor from among various interdisciplinary courses, including but not limited to, the following:

ANAT 6212  Neurobiology

ANTH 3401  Human Functional Anatomy

ANTH 3408  The Evolution of Human Families

ANTH 3411  Primatology

ANTH 3413  Evolution of the Human Brain

ANTH 3801  African Roots from Australopithecus to Zimbabwe

ANTH 3802  Human Cultural Beginnings

ANTH 6406  Human Genetic Variation

ANTH 6491  Topics in Biological Anthropology

BISC 6210  Methods of Study of Evolution

BISC 6215  Vertebrate Phylogeny

BISC 6228  Population Genetics

BISC 6230  Human Genetics

BISC 6249  Seminar: Developmental Biology

BMSC 8210  Genes to Cells

GEOL 3126  Sedimentology and Stratigraphy

GEOL 3140  Geochemistry

HOMP 6995  Independent Research

or any 6000-level course in ANAT, ANTH, BISC, BIOCHEM, BIOSTAT, CHEM, GEOL, HOMP, PHYS, or PSYC.

Dissertation research (6 to 24 credits)

HOMP 8999  Dissertation Research (6 to 24 credits)

Doctor of Philosophy in the Field of Human Paleobiology

Advanced Requirements

Students must successfully complete general comprehensive examinations, a dissertation proposal defense and examination, and a final dissertation defense and examination.

General examinations prior to PhD candidacy

General examinations must be successfully completed in the third year of the program, prior to advancing to Candidacy. These comprise two written comprehensive examinations, and a dissertation proposal defense and examination.

The first comprehensive examination includes written questions that integrate comprehension across all core thematic areas (hominid paleobiology; paleolithic archaeology; anthropological genetics; and primate biology, behavior, and ecology) and tests foundational knowledge, concepts, theory, and/or methods learned in the core curriculum.

The second comprehensive examination is written in the form of an authoritative review of a chosen topic, including a history of previous relevant research, discussion of theoretical issues, and identification of outstanding questions or directions for future research.

For the dissertation proposal defense, students must prepare a research proposal that meets funding agency guidelines and successfully complete an oral defense and examination of this proposal.

After PhD candidacy

After candidacy, students proceed to completing their doctoral research plan and writing the dissertation. Successful completion of a final dissertation defense and oral examination is required to earn the PhD degree.