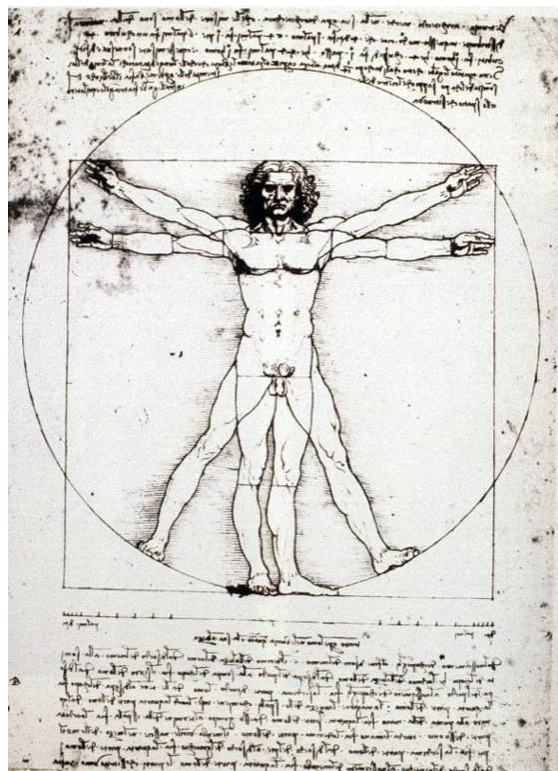


Department of Anthropology

# Graduate Program



Georgia State University

2009-2010

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## **General Description**

The Master of Arts (M.A.) degree program in anthropology is designed to provide rigorous training in anthropological theories, methods, and skills. The program is dedicated to the investigation of a broad range of social, cultural, political-economic, and biological issues, processes, and problems pertaining to the human experience in its present and past dimensions. The anthropology program utilizes resources in metropolitan Atlanta to promote student learning.

Students may select to conduct basic or applied research in consultation with their primary advisor and in line with career aspirations. They can seek comprehensive training in anthropological methods and theory in anticipation of pursuing an academic career in anthropology; alternatively, they can pursue specialized training for a career in applied anthropology, emphasizing how anthropological knowledge can be used to address contemporary problems in medical, educational, and other social service settings. In order to provide graduate students with training specific to their career goals, the program offers a thesis option, an internship option, and a practicum option.

The M.A. program is designed to be completed in two years. During the first year, all students are required to demonstrate competence in the basic theories and methods of anthropology through completion of a four-course core curriculum. Additional coursework is completed in consultation with the faculty. During their second year, students are expected to develop their own areas of interest and expertise within the broader framework of the program. Students are encouraged to take advantage of resources in other departments and schools at Georgia State University, and of neighboring institutions such as Emory University, Georgia Institute of Technology, the Atlanta University Center, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Medical College of Georgia. Students can also choose to participate in our department's collaborative programs with the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, the GSU Heritage Preservation Program, the Atlanta Zoo, and a number of local museums and CRM firms.

## **Degree Requirements**

**Thesis Option (33 hours)**

**Practicum Option (36 hours)**

**Internship Option (36 hours)**

The following courses are required:

1. Anth 8000 Anthropological Theory and Praxis (3)  
Anth 8040 Seminar in Anthropology (3) or Anth 8050 Seminar in Applied Anthropology (3)  
One course at the 6000 or 8000 level in Biological Anthropology  
One course at the 6000 or 8000 level in Archaeology

2. One of the following methods courses (as relevant to the student's MA concentration):
  - Anth 6670 Methods in Sociocultural Anthropology (3) or Anth 8010 Qualitative Methods in Anthropology (3)
  - Anth 6360 Methods and Theories in Biological Anthropology (4)
  - Anth 6590 Archaeological Methods (4)
3. Additional 6000/8000-level anthropology courses in area of specialization to achieve a total of 33 semester hours for thesis option and 36 semester hours for practicum and internship options. Up to six hours of graduate courses may be taken outside the anthropology program.
4. Proficiency in a foreign language or approved research skill
5. A general written and oral examination must be passed on or near the completion of coursework requirements.
6. Six credit hours of Anth 8999, Thesis Research (thesis option only)
7. Three credit hours of Anth 8990, Research Practicum (practicum option only)
8. Three credit hours of Anth 8910, Internship (internship option only)
9. Oral defense of thesis, research practicum paper, or internship paper

### **Foreign Language or Equivalent Research Skills**

All students must show proficiency in a foreign language by passing the Graduate Foreign Language Test (a standardized exam) or by taking a reading exam through the Department of Modern and Classical Languages. An equivalent research skill from the following list may be substituted for this requirement.

Examples of courses that satisfy research skill requirement:

WST	8004	Feminist Research Methods
PSYC	8230	Program Evaluation in Community Psychology
SOCI	8020	Research Methodology
GEOG	6532	Geographic Information Systems
BIOL	6744	Biostatistics

## **Guidelines for Graduate Advisement**

Students in their first semester will register for classes in consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies. Students must choose a major advisor no later than the end of the first year. This information will be placed in the student's file. Students may change their major advisor at any time, and this must be noted in their file.

The comprehensive exam committee should be formed during the student's second semester, or, at the latest, at the beginning of third semester.

Students should meet with their advisor at least twice each semester, and should meet with the Director of Graduate Studies at least once at the beginning of each semester. Students should also meet with the department Chair once per semester.

## **Guidelines for the Comprehensive Examination**

### **1. Committee**

The student must form a comprehensive exam committee of at least 3 members. The committee includes the major advisor, who will be a regular faculty member within the department. At least one of the other two members should be a regular faculty member within the department. The third member can be a faculty member from another department within the university, or a Lecturer within the department. Any member from outside the university must be approved by the Dean's Office.

### **2. Content**

The content of the examination will reflect the general foci of the department, and the particular concentration of the student. A common format for the Comprehensive Exam entails an examination on three topics: (1) theory; (2) methods; and (3) context of research or practice, i.e., description and preliminary assessment of student's current research findings. However, the format and content of the Comprehensive Exam is at the discretion of the student's major advisor, who is responsible for designing the three questions to be included in the examination.

### **3. Timing**

Students should plan to take their comprehensive exam after completing their required courses, and prior to beginning work on a thesis, internship, or practicum. For a full-time student, this should occur by the third semester.

### **4. Format**

The comprehensive exam will be a take-home. The student will submit a comprehensive, annotated bibliography to his or her advisor in the beginning of the semester in which the exam will be taken, as well as a list of potential topics. The bibliography and topics list will guide the student's preparation, and will assist the faculty in the formation of their questions. The student will have two weeks (14 days) in which to complete the exam.

## 5. Evaluation

The student will submit the completed examination to his or her major advisor as well as the other two members of the committee. The members of the committee will give their evaluations and feedback to the student's advisor within two weeks. The major advisor will arrange for a meeting with the student to discuss the content of the examination and explore its issues further. The student will be evaluated on each question, and will receive an overall grade of Pass, Rewrite (one section of the exam needs to be rewritten), or Fail (two or more sections need to be rewritten). If the student fails, the process can be repeated once.

## **Thesis Option**

### 1. Committee

The purpose of the committee is to lend guidance and expertise in all phases of thesis preparation, including organization, data collection, data analysis and interpretation, and writing. The student must form a committee of at least 3 people. The committee includes the major advisor, who must be a regular faculty member within in the department. At least one of the other two members should be a regular faculty member within the department. The third member can be a faculty member from another department within the university, or a Visiting faculty member within the department. Any member from outside the university must be approved by the Dean's office.

### 2. IRB

Projects involving the study of human subjects will require IRB approval from the Office of Research-IRB. IRB requirements may change over time and according to circumstances. Please see the Office of Research website for instructions and additional information.

### 3. Thesis

Theses should be approximately 60 to 80 pages long, and should be based on original research. According to guidelines of the Office of Graduate Studies of the College of Arts and Sciences, the purpose of the thesis is to "demonstrate the candidate's ability to carry out independent scholarly research, to draw logical conclusions from the data gathered, and to present the results in a clear, intelligible, and consistent form." A document from the Division of Graduate Studies of the College of Arts and Sciences contains guidelines for thesis preparation. Students should obtain a copy of current guidelines.

### 4. Evaluation

The student must orally defend the thesis before his or her committee and any other member of the anthropology faculty who wish to attend. The students may also invite others to attend. The date for the defense is arranged by the student and the thesis advisor.

## **Internship Option**

### **1. Committee**

The student must form an internship committee of a least 3 people. The committee includes the major advisor, who must be a regular faculty member within the department. At least one of the other two members should be a regular faculty member within the department. The third member can be a faculty member from another department within the university, or a Lecturer within the department. Any member from outside the university must be approved by the Dean's office.

### **2. Initiation**

The student should consult with the major advisor in order to identify an appropriate agency for an internship. Appropriate agencies may include federal, state, and local government offices, clinics, hospitals, schools, non-governmental organizations, private voluntary associations, and businesses. The student may be paid for the internship at the discretion of the agency. Upon approval of the major advisor, the student will register for 3 hours of ANTH 8910 (Internship) and begin working at the agency. Students may register for an additional 3 hours, but these do not count towards the degree.

### **3. Progress**

It is the responsibility of the student to report to the Committee at least every three weeks about the progress of the internship. The major advisor is responsible for contacting the student's supervisor at the agency to assess the student's work. A minimum of 200 hours of work at the agency must be completed.

### **4. Report**

The Internship report should contain a description of the agency and its activities, a literature review of work by anthropologists in similar agencies, a description of typical activities engaged in by the student, problems encountered, an analysis of the experience in the context of anthropological theories and methods, and any other relevant information such as data collected. Internship reports should be approximately 25 pages in length.

### **5. Evaluation**

Once the draft is ready for defense, the major advisor will arrange a meeting with the student's committee. The student will be asked to give a formal presentation about the internship and respond to any questions by the committee. The student will then revise the internship report if necessary. The internship will be given a grade of "pass" when the final internship report is accepted by the committee.

## Research Practicum Option

### 1. Committee

Before the student is allowed to take the Research Practicum, s/he must form a practicum committee of at least 3 people. The committee includes the major advisor, who will be a regular faculty member within the department. At least one of the other two members should be a regular faculty member within the department. The third member can be a faculty member from another department within the university, or a Lecturer within the department. Any member from outside the university must be approved by the Dean's office.

### 2. Practicum paper

Upon approval of the major advisor, the student will register for the course Research Practicum (ANTH 8990). The nature of the project will be compatible with the student's experience, academic interests and career goals. Practicum papers should be approximately 25 pages in length.

### 3. Evaluation

Once the draft of the practicum paper is ready for defense, the major advisor will arrange a meeting with the student's committee. The student will be asked to give a formal presentation about the practicum and respond to any questions by the committee. The student will then revise the paper if necessary. The student will receive a grade of "pass" when the final practicum paper is accepted by the committee. Upon failure of the first attempt, the student may repeat the course once in the following semester. In the interim, a grade of "IP" is issued.

## MA Program Checklist

Full-time students should expect to complete their MA in four semesters (not including summers).

### **Once you have been admitted to the program:**

- Meet with the Director of Graduate Studies to discuss your plans and select your classes. Read the MA program handbook very carefully.

- Always consult with the Director of Graduate Studies or your advisor before you register for a class, and make sure that you take a required course as soon as it is offered.

- *Activate a student e-mail account and check it frequently. Make sure you read all the e-mails you receive from the University as well as the Director of Graduate Studies. (Check your spam folder frequently, especially at the beginning of your first semester!)*

### **1<sup>st</sup> semester:**

- Attend the graduate student orientation at the beginning of the semester.

- Meet with *all* faculty members to discuss your research interests and potential topics for your MA.
- Work closely with the Director of Graduate Studies at least until you select your advisor.
- *If you are proficient in a language other than English, take the Foreign Language Reading Test.* The sooner you fulfill this requirement, the better.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> semester:**

- *Select an advisor* and finalize your research plans.
- Find out if you need an IRB. If so, submit your application.
- Start your research, and begin preparation for your Comprehensive Exam.
- Select your committee members *in consultation with your advisor.* Fill in a MA committee form, and give it to the Director of Graduate Studies.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> semester:**

- *Apply for graduation.* Deadlines are available at [http://www.gsu.edu/applying\\_for\\_graduation.html](http://www.gsu.edu/applying_for_graduation.html)
- ***Take your Comprehensive Exam.***
- Give a hard copy of your Comprehensive Exam to each committee member.
- Ask your advisor for feedback on your Comprehensive Exam, and make the revisions s/he requests.

### **4<sup>th</sup> semester:**

- *Check graduation requirements and calendar at [http://www.cas.gsu.edu/grad\\_graduation.html](http://www.cas.gsu.edu/grad_graduation.html)*
- Schedule a meeting with your advisor as well as the Director of Graduate studies to make sure you have fulfilled all of the requirements.
- If you are writing a thesis, take the A&S formatting seminar and be prepared to upload your draft for format check by the mid-semester deadline.
- ***Give your advisor a complete draft of your thesis/practicum/internship paper at the latest by the semester midpoint.***
- Do not underestimate the amount of time you will need in order to turn your first draft into a viable thesis/practicum/internship paper. *Most students go through at least 3 to 4 rounds of revisions before their advisor allows them to schedule a defense.*

- Submit a hard copy of your *final* draft to your committee members *at least one week before the defense date*.
- Reserve the seminar room for your defense. Prepare a 15 minutes presentation where you summarize your research question, methods, and findings.
- Make sure your defense is held *at least one full week before the College of Arts and Sciences graduation deadline* (the more time you give yourself, the better. You will need all of it for additional revisions!).
- Have your signature page ready on the day of the defense. The committee Chair will sign it once all the revisions have been made.

***Please remember: this checklist is not a substitute for the information contained in the MA program handbook or individual advising. Work closely with your advisor, and check in with the Director of Graduate Studies at least once a semester.***

## **Criteria for GRA and GTA Funding**

GRA/GTA funding is limited, and is assigned on a competitive basis. Students are ranked *each semester* on the basis of the following criteria:

### 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Students:

- Undergraduate GPA
- GRE scores
- Programmatic needs

### Continuing Students:

- GPA and academic performance while in the program
- Performance as GRA/GTA (if applicable)
- Relevant experience and skills
- Programmatic needs

The following circumstances will cause continuing students to be excluded from GRA funding considerations:

- Failure to take comps during the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester
- Failure to graduate during the 4<sup>th</sup> semester

### Please Note:

At times, faculty members with an external grant or special teaching needs (e.g., a Critical Thinking through Writing or Writing Across the Curriculum course) may select a graduate student to work with them (and hence receive funding) for a semester. While the quality of a

student's overall performance may be a predictor of such appointments, this form of funding is entirely dependent on the faculty making the selection.

The department may also appoint one or more graduate students to teach introductory courses during the summer. Such appointments are contingent upon programmatic needs as well as students' overall performance and potential as teachers, and are entirely at the discretion of the faculty and the department Chair.

Please check with the departmental office to verify rates of pay for these appointments.

*Please note: The University Office of Student Financial Aid offers additional programs of support.*

## **Additional Information**

***Transfer of graduate credit.*** Students who enter Georgia State University with master's-level coursework in anthropology may, with approval, receive up to 6 semester hours of transfer credit toward their elective courses. As soon as possible before beginning their coursework at GSU, they should confer with the Director of the Graduate Program regarding an evaluation of previous coursework. Since course content can vary between institutions, students seeking transfer credit should bring some documentation of the content of each course to the transfer credit evaluation. Transfer credit must be approved by the faculty advisor, graduate director, the departmental chairperson, and the Office of Graduate Studies of the College of Arts and Sciences.

***Minimum academic standards:*** Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 throughout their graduate coursework at GSU. Students receiving more than two "C"s or one "F" will be subjected to scholastic termination.

***For further information on the M.A. program, contact***

*Emanuela Guano  
Director of Graduate Studies  
Department of Anthropology  
Georgia State University  
33 Gilmer Street  
Suite 335 Sparks Hall  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
E-mail: [eguano@gsu.edu](mailto:eguano@gsu.edu)  
Tel.: 404-413-5152; Fax: 404-413-5159*

## **Anthropology Faculty**

**Jeffrey Barron Glover, Ph.D.**, University of California, Riverside, 2006, Assistant Professor. Mesoamerican archaeology with a focus on the ancient Maya, social and political implications of settlement pattern studies, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) applications, development of social complexity, Mexico (Yucatan), and El Salvador.

**Emanuela Guano, Ph.D.**, University of Texas-Austin 1999, Associate Professor. Sociocultural theory, urban studies and space & place; public and visual culture; class, gender, and work; citizenship and the state; globalization; Italy and Mediterranean Europe; Argentina.

**Kathryn A. Kozaitis, Ph.D.**, University of Michigan, 1993, Associate Professor. Sociocultural theory, ethnography, ethnicity, comparative social organization and cultural change, community organization, educational reform, cultural and urban applied anthropology, Mediterranean, Europe, contemporary U.S.

**Despina Margomenou, Ph.D.**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 2005, Assistant Professor, Archaeology, household economy, state emergence, ceramics and material culture studies, nationalism-colonialism and archaeology, public archaeology, museum studies, archaeological ethics. Europe, Mediterranean, Greece and Aegean.

**Susan McCombie, Ph.D.**, University of Arizona, 1986, Associate Professor. Medical anthropology, epidemiology, infectious disease, evolution of disease, international health, preventive medicine, Africa.

**Jennifer Patco, Ph.D.**, New York University 2001, Assistant Professor. Sociocultural anthropology, consumption and material culture, globalization, gender, social change, postsocialism, Russia and Eastern Europe.

**Faidra Papavasiliou, Ph.D.** Emory University 2008, Lecturer. Economic anthropology; consumption; sustainability; money; social movements and collective action; globalization; development; social theory; virtual worlds; Mexico and U.S.

**Bethany Turner, Ph.D.**, Emory University 2007, Assistant Professor. Biological anthropology, paleodiet, the political economy of food in history, bioarchaeology, nutritional anthropology, Peru.

**Cassandra White, Ph.D.**, Tulane University, 2001, Assistant Professor. Medical anthropology, qualitative methods, folk models of disease, medical discourse, leprosy, Brazilian popular culture, Latin America

**Frank L'Engle Williams, Ph.D.**, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 2001, Associate Professor. Biological anthropology, human evolution, osteology, primates, ontogeny, growth models, craniosynostosis, race, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

## **Other Anthropologists at GSU**

**Sarah Brosnan, Ph.D.; Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Brains and Behavior Program & Language Research Center.** Emory University, 2004. Cooperation, inequity, barter, social cognition, and economic behavior, primarily in non-human primates.

**Doris Derby, Ph.D.; Director, Office of African American Student Services Programs  
Minority Advising Program Officer for the University System of Georgia.** University of Illinois/ Urbana. Social and cultural anthropology; African-American studies.

**Jonathan Gayles, Ph.D.; Associate Professor, Department of African-American Studies.** University of South Florida, 2002. Applied Anthropology; cultural context of educational outcomes.

**Melinda Hartwig, Ph.D.; Associate Professor. School of Art & Design, Art History Program**  
Institute of Fine Arts at New York University, 2000. Art & archaeology of ancient Egypt.

**Megan Sinnott, Ph.D.; Assistant Professor, Women's Studies Institute.** University of Wisconsin, Madison. Globalization and sexuality; queer theory; transnational media studies, anthropology of gender and sexuality.

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION AND WEBSITES

### DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Emanuela Guano, Director of Graduate Studies.....	(404) 413-5152 egvano@gsu.edu
Kathryn Kozaitis, Chair.....	(404) 413-5151 kozaitis@gsu.edu
Front Office.....	(404) 413-5156

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Admissions.....	(404) 413-5042
Financial Aid.....	(404) 413-2400

### UNIVERSITY

Registrar's Office/One Stop Shop.....	(404) 413-2600
Office of International Services.....	(404) 413-2070
Campus Housing.....	(404) 413-1800

### IMPORTANT WEBSITES

Anthropology Department	<a href="http://www.cas.gsu.edu/anthropology">http://www.cas.gsu.edu/anthropology</a>
College of Arts and Sciences/Grad Studies	<a href="http://www.cas.gsu.edu/graduate_studies.html">http://www.cas.gsu.edu/graduate_studies.html</a>
Office of Institutional Research/IRB	<a href="http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwire/approval/irb.htm">http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwire/approval/irb.htm</a>

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