ANTHROPOLOGY

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M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D.

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Associate Professors  Oswaldo Chinchilla, Yukiko Koga, Louisa Lombard, Lisa Messeri, Christen Smith (Anthropology; African American Studies)

Assistant Professors  Jessica Thompson, Serena Tucci

Lecturers  Carol Carpenter, Jane Lynch

FIELDS OF STUDY
The department covers three subfields: archaeology; sociocultural and linguistic anthropology; and physical anthropology. Archaeology focuses on ritual complexes and writing, ceramic analysis, warfare, ancient civilizations, origins of agriculture, and museum studies. Sociocultural anthropology provides a range of courses: ethnography and social theory, science and technology, performance, racial formations, Black feminisms, religion, myth and ritual, kinship and descent, historical anthropology, culture and political economy, agrarian studies, ecology, environment and social change, medical anthropology, emotions, public health, sexual meanings and gender, postcolonial development, ethnicity, identity politics and diaspora, urban anthropology, global mass culture, and alternate modernity. Linguistic anthropology includes language, nationalism and ideology, structuralism and semiotics, and feminist discourse. Physical anthropology focuses on paleoanthropology, evolutionary theory, human functional anatomy, race and human biological diversity, and primate ecology. There is strong geographical coverage in Africa, the Caribbean, East Asia (China and Japan), Latin America and South America, Southeast Asia (Indonesia), South Asia and the Indian Ocean, the Near East, Europe, and the United States.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PH.D. DEGREE
To earn a Ph.D. in anthropology, students must: (1) be admitted to candidacy and (2) submit a dissertation which is deemed to be of sufficient academic integrity to be approved by the faculty. Currently matriculating students are expected to
complete these requirements in six years. There are no required courses or seminars for archaeology and biological anthropology graduate students. However, graduate students in these subfields are expected to confer closely with their primary adviser and faculty to develop the most enriching and cogent program of courses. In sociocultural anthropology, more than three-fourths of a student’s program consists of electives, including course work in other departments. Sociocultural students must take three required courses, plus enroll in four semesters of the 0.5 credit Ethnography and Social Theory seminar, with the remainder of courses being electives among anthropology courses and other departments’ courses. Admission to Ph.D. candidacy requires (1) completion of two years of coursework (twelve term courses), (2) independent study and research, (3) satisfactory performance on qualifying examinations, and (4) a dissertation research prospectus submitted and approved before the end of the third year. The form of the exams and prospectus is specific to each subfield and is described in detail in the anthropology graduate student handbook, which is updated annually before the start of each academic term and posted to the anthropology program’s website.

Because of the diversity of our students’ training program, the department does not have a general foreign language requirement, either for admission or for admission to Ph.D. candidacy. Rather, each student’s advisory committee must determine the necessary level and nature of foreign language proficiency (including scholarly languages and languages to be used in field research) to be met by the student, as well as any required competencies in statistics and other quantitative or qualitative methods. Advisory committees will stipulate such requirements in writing to the director of graduate studies (DGS) at the earliest possible stage of the student’s program of study for approval by the DGS and the department faculty. Such committee stipulations should specify exactly when and how it will be determined that the student has or has not met the requirements.

The faculty consider teaching to be an important part of the professional preparation of graduate students. Therefore, students are expected to complete four terms of teaching as part of their graduate training. Depending on course schedules and the timing of fieldwork, this teaching typically occurs during the third, fourth, or fifth years of study.

COMBINED PH.D. PROGRAMS

The Anthropology department also offers a combined Ph.D. in Anthropology and Environment in conjunction with the School of the Environment; a combined Ph.D. in Anthropology and African American Studies in conjunction with the Department of African American Studies; and a combined Ph.D. in Anthropology and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies with the Program in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. These combined programs are ideal for students who intend to concentrate in, and to write dissertations on, thematic and theoretical issues centrally concerned with anthropology and one of these other areas of study. Students in the combined-degree programs will be subject to the combined supervision of faculty members in the Anthropology department and in the respective department or school.

For more information on the combined-degree program in Anthropology and Environment, see Environment.
Admission into the combined-degree program in Anthropology and African American Studies is based on mutual agreement between these two departments. Individual students will develop courses of study in consultation with their academic advisers and with the directors of graduate study for both departments. Students in the program must take core courses in Anthropology and in African American Studies, plus related courses in both departments approved by their advisory committees. In addition, they must successfully complete the African American Studies third-year Dissertation Prospectus Workshop (AFAM 895 and AFAM 896). Oral and written qualifying examinations must include two topics in the field of African American Studies and two topics in Anthropology. The examination committee must include at least one faculty member from each department. The dissertation prospectus must be submitted to the directors of graduate study of both departments and approved by the faculty of both. The thesis readers committee must also include at least one faculty member from each department, and the faculties of both departments must approve its composition.

For more information on the combined-degree program in Anthropology and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, see Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

**MASTER’S DEGREES**

**M.Phil.** See Degree Requirements under Policies and Regulations.

**M.A.** Applications for a terminal master’s degree are not accepted. The M.A. degree is awarded only to students not continuing in the Ph.D. program. The student must complete eight graduate-level term courses approved for credit in the Anthropology department and maintain an average grade of High Pass. Students who are eligible for or who have already received the M.Phil. will not be awarded the M.A.

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