

ANTHROPOLOGY - MASTER OF ARTS

The Anthropology M.A. program is designed for students who are interested in the traditional sub-disciplines of anthropology, as well as such related fields as cultural resource management, food studies, medical anthropology, and museum studies. The program is directed to both students planning to complete a professional M.A. degree and students planning to enter a Ph.D. program. In addition to the M.A. in Anthropology, our program offers graduate minors in anthropology, archaeology, and food studies, as well as Graduate Certificates in cultural resource management and museum studies. The faculty encourage all graduate students to develop graduate minors and certificates, enhancing their specialized training in anthropology.

Program Outcomes:

1. Develop and execute a problem-oriented anthropological study using appropriate theoretical and methodological perspectives in at least one sub-field of anthropology. The study may focus on applied/practicing work or standard academic research, and will report the results in the form of a master's thesis, professional internship report, or professional research project report. The final thesis or report must show substantive data analysis by the student, directed toward an explicit anthropological research question.
2. Demonstrate effective written and verbal communication skills in professional settings.
3. Demonstrate professional engagement with peers, faculty, staff, researchers, and other professionals in anthropology.

An undergraduate anthropology degree is not required for entry into the M.A. program. Applicants who lack the equivalent of ANTH 301, ANTH 315, and ANTH 355 may be required to take these courses or corresponding sections of ANTH 502. ANTH 350 or the equivalent is recommended. Applicants without an undergraduate degree in anthropology are encouraged to contact the Graduate Advisor before applying to the M.A. program in anthropology.

The M.A. Program in Anthropology at NMSU is enrolled as an eligible graduate program under the Western Regional Graduate Program (<https://www.wiche.edu/tuition-savings/wrgp/>) (WRGP). WRGP allows master's, graduate certificate, and doctoral students who are residents of Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) member states to enroll in graduate programs outside of their home state and pay in-state resident tuition. Residents of the following states and territories are eligible to attend the M.A. Program in Anthropology at NMSU for in-state tuition rates: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, U.S. Pacific Territories and Freely Associate States, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. Interested graduate applicants should apply directly to the NMSU Graduate School and *identify themselves as WICHE WRGP applicants*. WRGP applicants must meet NMSU's WRGP admission requirements and deadlines. If you have further questions about the WRGP program and your eligibility, please contact Kathryn Olszowy at kolszowy@nmsu.edu.

Admission Requirements

To apply to the Anthropology Masters Degree program the following materials are required:

- Graduate School application form and fees
- Official undergraduate and graduate transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, with a 3.0 GPA minimum.
- A letter from the candidate addressing his or her interests and graduate school objectives
- Letters of recommendation from three persons familiar with the candidate's academic record

All the above items should be submitted through the Graduate School's central admission system at: <https://gradschool.nmsu.edu/>

NOTE: The GRE is not required.

NOTE: In addition to the above, **international applicants** also need to view the requirements of admission to the university and provide additional documentation online, at this page: <https://issn.nmsu.edu/index-2/> (<https://issn.nmsu.edu/>)

NOTE: students may matriculate in either August or January. If a student wishes to be considered for a Graduate Assistantship, the application must be completed by **February 15** for admission in the fall semester. Assistantships are not usually offered for students matriculating in January, but they may be considered in subsequent semesters for an award.

For more information about the Anthropology Graduate Program contact:

Dr. Kathryn Olszowy, Anthropology Graduate Advisor
at: kolszowy@nmsu.edu

Dr. Lois Stanford, Anthropology Department Head at: Istanfor@nmsu.edu

The Anthropology M.A. program is designed for students who are interested in archaeology, cultural anthropology, and biological anthropology, as well as such related fields as cultural resource management (CRM), food studies, medical anthropology, and museum studies. The program is directed to both students planning to complete a professional M.A. degree and students planning to enter a Ph.D. program.

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Program Requirements

Students selecting the thesis option must complete 30 hours of basic course work, plus 6 hours of thesis credit. Students selecting the non-thesis option must complete 36 hours of course work including an internship or special research project for 6 credits. The credits required for students selecting either the thesis or non-thesis options are distributed as follows:

Prefix	Title	Credits
Core Graduate Courses ¹		6
ANTH 503	Anthropological Theory	
ANTH 505	Issues in Anthropological Practice	
Additional Courses		24

Select additional topical, methodological, and area courses in anthropology in consultation with graduate faculty committee¹

Students may count six graduate credits from disciplines outside of anthropology toward the total 24 credits of additional courses	
Thesis or Non-Thesis Options	
Select either a Thesis or Non-Thesis Track:	6
<i>Thesis</i>	
ANTH 599	Master's Thesis
<i>Non-Thesis</i>	
ANTH 597 or ANTH 598	Internship Special Research Problems
Total Credits	36

¹ earning a grade of B or better

A Suggested Plan of Study

The following road map is a guide for full-time students (9 or more credits/semester) to earn the Master of Anthropology degree within two years. We expect that each student will create a unique, customized degree plan in consultation with their graduate faculty committee.

First Year	
Fall	Credits
ANTH 505	Issues in Anthropological Practice
Elective Classes (2)	6
Non-Curricular Recommendations	
Join the Anthropology Graduate Student Organization (GSO)	
Identify a committee chair	
Begin to develop your MA project	
Credits	9
Spring	
ANTH 503	Anthropological Theory
Elective Classes (2)	6
Non-Curricular Recommendations	
Work with your committee chair to develop your degree plan	
Finalize your graduate committee	
Complete your MA project proposal	
Hold your MA proposal hearing	
Credits	9
Summer	
OPTIONAL: 3-6 credits of field training, field research, directed readings, or internship	
ANTH 522	Archaeological Field School
ANTH 587	Field Work in Latin America
ANTH 596	Readings
ANTH 597	Internship
Non-Curricular Recommendations	
Run STAR degree audit to check degree progress	
Begin research or data collection for MA project	
Credits	0
Second Year	
Fall	
MA Thesis	3
ANTH 599 or ANTH 598	Master's Thesis or Special Research Problems
Elective Classes (2)	6
Non-Curricular Recommendations	
Complete research/data collection for MA project	
Develop MA thesis/report outline with committee chair	

Begin writing MA thesis/report	
Credits	9
Spring	
MA Thesis	3
ANTH 599 or ANTH 598	Master's Thesis or Special Research Problems
Remaining elective classes (3–6 cr, or more if needed them to complete graduate minor/graduate certificate requirements)	3-6
Non-Curricular Recommendations	
Apply to graduate from degree (and certificate programs, if applicable) before the deadline listed on the Graduate School calendar	
Submit a complete draft of your MA thesis/report to your chair for review, and make revisions as needed	
With the approval of your chair, submit a final draft of your MA thesis/report to your full committee	
Schedule your and hold your final exam	
Submit your MA thesis to Proquest (and to your committee chair) before the deadline. If you completed a MA report, submit that final report to your committee members and the Department Head.	
Credits	6-9
Total Credits	33-36