Anthropology
In the College of Arts and Letters

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Faculty
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(Graduate Adviser)
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Elisa J. Sobo, Ph.D., Professor of Anthropology
Joseph W. Ball, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Anthropology

Associateships
The department offers two competitive, internal scholarship programs, the Norton Allen Scholarship and the Al Sonen Biological Anthropology Scholarship. The department also hires a small number of graduate students for a variety of technical assistant positions, teaching assistant positions, and readers (ISAs). Application and additional information can be found on the department Web site.

General Information
The department offers graduate study leading to the Master of Arts degree in anthropology. The Master of Arts degree in anthropology provides systematic training through two specializations; (1) general anthropology specialization, with a strong theoretical component, for students who anticipate additional work leading to the doctoral degree in anthropology, or direct placement in an academic setting; (2) an applied anthropology specialization primarily for those who plan to seek employment in the nonacademic sector. This specialization is concerned with the application of anthropological method and theory to practical problems in business, government, and other settings.

Research and special instructional facilities provided by the Department of Anthropology include laboratories for archaeology, ethnology, linguistics, physical anthropology, world prehistory, and environmental anthropology. Additional facilities available in the community include the Museum of Man, the San Diego Zoo, and various internship sites for applied research.

Students who graduate with the Master of Arts degree in anthropology in either the general or applied anthropology specialization will be prepared for a variety of opportunities, including teaching careers.

Admission to Graduate Study
Students applying for admission should electronically submit the university application available at http://www.csumentor.edu along with the $55 application fee.

All applicants must submit admissions materials separately to SDSU Graduate Admissions and to the Department of Anthropology.

Graduate Admissions
The following materials should be submitted as a complete package directly to:

Graduate Admissions
Enrollment Services
San Diego State University
San Diego, CA 92182-7416

(1) Official transcripts (in sealed envelopes) from all postsecondary institutions attended;
Note:
• Students who attended SDSU need only submit transcripts for work completed since last attendance.
• Students with international coursework must submit both the official transcript and proof of degree. If documents are in a language other than English, they must be accompanied by a certified English translation.

(2) GRE scores (http://www.ets.org, SDSU institution code 4682);

(3) English language score, if medium of instruction was in a language other than English (http://www.ets.org, SDSU institution code 4682).

Department of Anthropology
The following materials should be submitted by October 1 for admission for the spring semester and March 1 for the fall semester to:

Department of Anthropology
(Attention: Graduate Adviser)
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego, CA 92182-4443

(1) A completed anthropology department application available at http://anthropology.sdsu.edu/docs/Anthro_application.pdf;

(2) A statement of purpose which should demonstrate a clear focus of research interests, to include both geographical and topical specialties. Must also include the names of at least two SDSU anthropology faculty who would be suitable thesis advisers (please use a separate sheet of paper for the statement of purpose);

(3) One copy of transcripts from all colleges and universities attended (these do not need to be sent directly from the colleges or universities; unofficial photocopies are acceptable);

(4) A copy of GRE scores. Photocopies or printouts from the ETS Web site are acceptable;

(5) Three letters of recommendation from persons in a position to judge your academic ability. Letters may be e-mailed to Kathy Peck, Administrative Coordinator (kpeck@mail.sdsu.edu) or mailed directly to department. If paper copies are sent, we prefer that letters be sent to the applicant and included with other application materials. If your recommenders prefer to send letters directly to department, this is acceptable (though not preferred). In either case, letters should be received in sealed envelopes with recommender’s signature on back flap.

(6) A example of written work representative of your research and writing skills.

Admission to the Degree Curriculum
Admission application deadline is March 1. All students must meet the following requirements for admission to the university with classified graduate standing, as described in Part Four of this bulletin. Except under special circumstances, prospective applicants must meet the following minimum admission requirements:

(1) Hold an acceptable baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution or equivalent as determined by the Division of Graduate Affairs;

(2) Have attained at least a 3.0 GPA on all work leading to the bachelor’s degree and subsequent post-baccalaureate coursework;

(3) Have been in good standing in the last institution attended; and
(4) Have a combined verbal and quantitative GRE (Graduate Record Exam) score of at least 950 and a minimum 4.0 on the analytic essay. Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission. All prospective applicants are reviewed by department faculty and ranked using a variety of criteria. Applicants who meet the minimum admission requirements but who do not have a strong background in anthropology may be admitted conditionally. Conditionally admitted students will be required to complete specified courses in addition to the minimum 33 units required for the Master of Arts degree.

Advancement to Candidacy

All students must satisfy the general requirements for advancement to candidacy as described in Part Four of this bulletin. In addition, the department requires for either the General Anthropology specialization or the Applied Anthropology specialization that the student must:

1. Complete all deficiency courses (needed only if admitted with conditional graduate standing);
2. Complete all required coursework (except ANTH 799);
3. Satisfy the foreign language requirement OR complete a sequence of at least one lower division, and one upper division course in statistics or GIS (with a grade point average of 2.5 or better);
4. Maintain at least a 3.0 GPA in all other courses applied to the Master of Arts degree including any transfer credit;
5. Form a thesis committee;
6. Complete a thesis proposal and had it approved by your committee;
7. Obtain human or animal subjects approval (if applicable);
8. Submit a signed Appointment to Thesis Committee form to the graduate program adviser.

Specific Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree

(Major Code: 22021) (SIMS Code: 110901)

In addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing and the basic requirements for the Master of Arts degree as described in Part Four of this bulletin, students must complete a graduate program of at least 33 units of graduate courses with a 3.0 GPA that include the required courses listed below for each specialization. No more than three units of Anthropology 798, Special Problems and techniques of field work in ethnographic and social anthropology research; field work projects conducted using various qualitative and quantitative research techniques. Students work with informants in various settings.

ANTH 501. Primate Behavioral Ecology (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 301.
Ecology and behavior of nonhuman primates to include history of primate ecological research, feeding ecology, predation, demography and dispersal, reproduction, conflict and cooperation, conservation as well as contemporary primatology.

ANTH 502. Observing Primate Behavior (3)
Two lectures and three hours of laboratory.
Prerequisites: Anthropology 301 and Anthropology 355 or 501.
Methods of observation and analysis used in study of primate behavior. Behavioral observations of primates at the San Diego Zoo and review of literature in primatology. (Formerly numbered Anthropology 500.)

ANTH 505. Human Osteology (3)
Two lectures and three hours of laboratory.
Prerequisite: Anthropology 301.
Identification of individual bones and teeth; sex, age, and racial variation; stature reconstruction; continuous and discontinuous morphological variations; paleopathology. Training in observations, measurements, and analyses.

ANTH 507. Forensic Anthropology (3)
Two lectures and three hours of laboratory.
Prerequisite: Anthropology 505.
Anthropology within medicolegal context. Methodology used in forensic anthropology.

ANTH 508. Medical Anthropology (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 303.
Socio-cultural ecology of disease, medical health beliefs and practices in cultural context, and complexities of health care delivery in pluralistic societies.

ANTH 510. Environmental and Ecological Anthropology (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 303.
Ecological thinking in anthropology with focus on relationships between human environmental and ecological systems in tribal, peasant, and industrial societies. Cultural aspects of how and why human societies have maintained or undermined their ecosystems.

ANTH 520. Ethnographic Field Methods (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 303.
Problems and techniques of field work in ethnographic and social anthropological research; field work projects conducted using various qualitative and quantitative research techniques. Students work with informants in various settings.

ANTH 523. Anthropology of Politics and Power (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 303.
How anthropology investigates power as an underlying and primary force in human relations through cross-cultural study of political institutions, effects, and relationships of power in various societies.
ANTH 524. Cultural Dynamics of Religious Discourse (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 303.
Interplay of local and global religious discourses. Creativity of indigenous religious practices. Dynamics of missionization, including hybridization with local religious practices. Fundamentalist discourses as oppositional mediations between local and global identity formations.

ANTH 529. Urban Anthropology (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 303.
Urban adaptations of past and present societies. Descriptive topics and applied concerns regarding urban origins, migrations, kinship, ethnicity, stratification, and change. Ethnographic examples drawn from Western and non-Western societies.

ANTH 531. Methods in Applied Anthropology (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 303.
Anthropological concepts and methodologies to solve human problems in both western and non-western societies through intervention, community development, impact assessment, and cultural communication.

ANTH 532. Anthropology of Development and Conservation (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 303.
Anthropological perspectives on design, implementation, and assessment of development projects and conservation initiatives in “Third World.” Interlinkages between resource exploitation, underdevelopment, and local autonomy; and political and ethical dilemmas faced by anthropologists involved in projects.

ANTH 533. Race, Ethnicity, and Identity (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 303.
Theories and practices of race, ethnicity, and identity from a cross-cultural and anthropological perspective. History of race in US and other regions, focusing on how identities are constructed around concepts of difference.

ANTH 535. Sex, Gender, Kinship, and Marriage (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 303.
Anthropological theories and typologies relating to kinship and marriage systems, their history, their relationship to cultural practices, their implications for constraints on sexual practices, and their significance in definition of gender and gender hierarchies in world societies.

ANTH 536. Gender and Human Sexuality (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 303.
Constructions of gender and sexuality from anthropological perspective. Social constructions of body, norms, deviance, and medicalization of sexuality.

ANTH 537. Anthropology of Childhood (3)
Prerequisite: Anthropology 303.
Childhood in diverse cultural settings; evolutionary, biosocial, and health-related aspects of childhood; social and cultural uses of idea of childhood, enculturation and children’s relationship to material culture.

ANTH 560. Advanced Archaeological Field Techniques (3)
Six hours of activity.
Prerequisite: Anthropology 312.
Advanced projects in excavation and stabilization of ruins, archaeological surveys, laboratory analysis, preparation of reports, and act as unit supervisor. Course may be repeated with consent of instructor. Maximum credit six units.

ANTH 561. Archaeological Laboratory Methods (3)
Two lectures and three hours of laboratory.
Prerequisite: Anthropology 302.
Application of palynology, paleontology and relevant technologies. Individual laboratory research project required.

ANTH 580. Anthropological Data Analysis (3)
Prerequisites: At least one of the 300-level courses (Anthropology 301, 302, 303, or 304) and a statistics course.
Computer oriented data analysis class utilizing anthropological data sets.

ANTH 582. Regional Anthropology (3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Study of societies in a major geographical region of the world such as Africa, the Arctic, East Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, North America, Oceania, or South Asia. See Class Schedule for specific content. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.

ANTH 583. Topical Anthropology (3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Study of a major subdiscipline such as political anthropology, economic anthropology, social anthropology, psychological anthropology, cultural ecology, applied anthropology, anthropological genetics, or environmental archaeology. See Class Schedule for specific content. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.

ANTH 596. Topics in Anthropology (1-3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Advanced topics in anthropology. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master’s degree with approval of the graduate adviser.

GRADUATE COURSES

ANTH 600. Seminar (3)
An intensive study in advanced anthropology. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master’s degree.

ANTH 601. Seminar in Biological Anthropology (3)
Prerequisite: Classified graduate standing.
History, theory, and current research in biological anthropology. Key literature from core topical areas such as primatology, paleoanthropology, human biology, bioarchaeology, and skeletal biology.

ANTH 602. Seminar in Archaeology (3)
Prerequisite: Classified graduate standing.
History and theory in archaeological data collection, analysis, and interpretation.

ANTH 603. Seminar in Ethnology (3)
Prerequisite: Classified graduate standing.
History and theory in ethnology stressing the significant literature on such topics as cross-cultural comparison, structural-functional analysis and description, personality and culture, and sociocultural change.

ANTH 604. Seminar in Linguistics (3)
Prerequisite: Classified graduate standing.
History and theory of linguistics stressing the significant literature on such topics as cultural cognition, descriptive linguistics, lexicostatistics, and transformational analysis.

ANTH 605. Seminar in Applied Anthropology (3)
Prerequisite: Classified graduate standing.
Use of anthropological theory and methods in solving contemporary social problems. Contemporary ethnographic examples from differing regions of the world reviewed to understand complexity and locally specific variables that must be addressed in proposing interventions and solutions.

ANTH 621. Seminar in Topical Anthropology (3)
Prerequisite: Twelve upper division units in anthropology.
Study of a major subdiscipline such as political anthropology, economic anthropology, social anthropology, psychological anthropology, cultural ecology, applied anthropology, race and variation, or environmental archaeology. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master’s degree. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content.

ANTH 795. Internship in Anthropology (3-9) Cr/NC
Prerequisites: Classified graduate standing and consent of instructor.
Students assigned to various government and private agencies in which anthropological theory can be applied. Supervision shared by department supervisor and on-the-job supervisor. Maximum credit nine units; three units applicable to a master’s degree.
ANTH 797. Research (3) Cr/NC/RP  
Prerequisite: Classified graduate standing.  
Independent investigation in the general field of the thesis.

ANTH 798. Special Study (1-3) Cr/NC/RP  
Prerequisite: Classified graduate standing.  
Individual study directed toward the preparation of a paper on a specific problem. May be repeated with variable content, with a maximum credit of three units applicable to a master’s degree.

ANTH 799A. Thesis (3) Cr/NC/RP  
Prerequisites: An officially appointed thesis committee and advancement to candidacy.  
Preparation of a project or thesis for the master’s degree.

ANTH 799B. Thesis Extension (0) Cr/NC  
Prerequisite: Prior registration in Thesis, 799A, with an assigned grade symbol of RP.  
Registration required in any semester or term following assignment of RP in Course 799A in which the student expects to use the facilities and resources of the university; also student must be registered in the course when the completed thesis is granted final approval.