Why Anthropology at San Francisco State University?

We offer an MA program that focuses on professional skills. We emphasize small-group seminar classes and one-on-one supervisor-student interactions in thesis research, project and lab work and filmmaking. Our graduates find jobs in a wide range of industries as well as in private advocacy and consulting firms and government agencies. Many continue on to PH.D. programs.

Expertise, Research, Teaching

Each graduate student will complete a culminating experience thesis or creative works project focused in an area of our faculty expertise.

Bioarchaeology
- Skeletal and Dental Analyses
- Health of Past Populations
- Skeletal Markers of Stress
- Forensic Anthropology

Archaeology
- Historical Archaeology
- Contemporary Archaeology
- Prehistoric Art
- Zooarchaeology
- Political Archaeology

Cultural Anthropology
- Global Popular Culture
- Political Anthropology
- Medical Anthropology
- Public Health
- Drug Addiction & Homelessness
- Health of Migrant Populations

Visual Anthropology
- Ethnographic & Applied Filmmaking
- Critical Race Digital Studies
- Critique of Visual Ideology
- Origins of Art
- Art/Archaeology
- Photography

Our MA Students have been awarded the Liberal and Creative Arts Hood for outstanding culminating experience projects in 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020. They have presented work at major conferences and have received prestigious ethnographic film awards.

More info: anthropology.sfsu.edu/content/graduate-program
Application Deadlines

Fall—February 15th
Applications after the deadline are accepted on a space available basis

Application and Admission

- BA or BS in Anthropology or a Related Field
- Statement of Purpose (500 word max.)
- Two Letters of Recommendation
- Writing Sample
- Official Transcripts
- Test of English as a Language (TOEFL), if required

Program Curriculum

The M.A. in Anthropology consists of 30 hours of coursework. Required seminar and professional skills courses provide the foundations in theory and practice. Students tailor the program to their interests through the selection of elective units and the focus of their culminating experience.

Contact Us

Graduate Program
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anthropology.sfsu.edu/content/graduate-program

Recent MA Graduate Destinations

PhD Programs

New York University
Ohio State University
University of Alaska at Fairbanks
University of Arizona
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, San Diego
University of California, San Francisco
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Notre Dame
University of Pennsylvania
Stanford University
University of Texas
Yale University

Careers

Advocate for Native Americans
Archaeological project staff
Attorney at law
Community college teacher
Company director, marketing and public relations
Defense Language Institute, instructor
Development associate, non-profit health and energy organization
Environmental scientist
Executive director, arts
Film producer
Founder, ethically sourced food distributor
Freelance author
Government relations associate
Health care consultant
High school teacher
Marketing director
Museum staff
Musician
Office manager
Philanthropy Consultant
Research assistant/researcher
Sales manager, sustainable coffee distributor
Staff, United Nations High Commission for Refugees