

Anthropology, Ph.D.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Learn more about the Doctor of Philosophy in Anthropology.

About the Program

The Ph.D. program in Anthropology provides students with training that integrates the four traditional subfields of the discipline and organizes their engagement with anthropology around two thematic areas:

- The first thematic area, Mobility and Global Inequality, emphasizes social processes and institutions that underlie the impact of peoples' movement and the experiences they encounter in terms of social inequalities, resource distribution, and power inequities. It is marked by emphasis on ethnographic, linguistic, and visual data and analytical methods grounded in contemporary theory in the social sciences.
- The second thematic area, Evolution and Human Environments, emphasizes the origins and development of all forms of human adaptations in the bio-social realm. It is marked by emphasis on ecological, geographic, and spatial-historical data, as well as quantitative analyses grounded in evolutionary theory.

All students in the program complete a set of core courses, which includes foundational courses in the thematic areas and history of the discipline. Additional core courses provide professional training in ethics and grant writing in the discipline. Students complete elective courses allowing them to specialize in the literature, theory, and unique subdisciplinary perspectives most relevant to their intended dissertation research. Faculty from the subfields of Anthropological Linguistics, Biological Anthropology, Medical Anthropology, Prehistoric and Historic Archaeology, Sociocultural Anthropology, and Visual Anthropology contribute to the program.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 7 years

Campus Location: Main

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: Full-time status is strongly encouraged, although some students may be able to complete the degree program on a part-time basis.

Interdisciplinary Study: Anthropology is an inherently interdisciplinary field of study.

Study Abroad: Study abroad is not required, but many students conduct their independent research outside the United States.

Areas of Specialization: Faculty members specialize in such areas as anthropology of visual communication, archaeology of the eastern United States and tropical Americas, historical archaeology, human evolutionary biology, human genetic and physiological variation, language socialization, political economy of language, politics of cultural identity and difference, and sociocultural dynamics of globalization.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: Non-matriculated students are generally restricted to the following five courses:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
ANTH 5396	History of Anthropological Theory	3
ANTH 8001	Mobility and Global Inequality	3
ANTH 8002	Evolution, Human Environments, and the Culture Niche	3
ANTH 8012	Ethical Considerations in Anthropology Research	3
ANTH 8330	Funding and Grant Writing in Anthropology	3

Taking coursework as a non-matriculated student does not ensure acceptance into the doctoral program if the student later applies for admission. If a non-matriculated student is later admitted into the doctoral program, a maximum of 9 credits of non-matriculated coursework may be applied toward the degree.

Financing Opportunities: Outstanding applicants are nominated for Temple University's Presidential and University Fellowships, which provide four years of tuition remission, a living stipend, and other benefits. Limited numbers of Teaching and Research Assistantships are also available for well-qualified applicants. Students are strongly encouraged to apply for external grants and fellowships.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:

Fall: January 5, 2022; December 10, 2021 international

**** APPLICATIONS will next be accepted for FALL 2022 ADMISSION ****

Before preparing and submitting the application for admission, the applicant should, if at all possible, establish personal contact with at least one faculty member in Temple's Department of Anthropology. This should be a faculty member whose areas of research interest overlap with those of the applicant, and who could potentially serve as her/his faculty advisor.

APPLY ONLINE to this graduate program.

Letters of Reference:

Number Required: 3

From Whom: Letters of recommendation should be requested from individuals who are well positioned to evaluate the applicant's academic abilities and accomplishments as well as her/his potential for graduate study.

Master's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: A master's degree is not required.

Bachelor's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: A baccalaureate degree (B.A./B.S.) is required, but it need not be a degree in Anthropology.

Statement of Goals: In approximately 800 to 1,000 words, address your main area(s) of scholarly interest; the specific research topic that you intend to make the focus of your graduate studies; the experiences that have led you to graduate studies in Anthropology; the specific reasons for your interest in Temple's graduate program in Anthropology and the faculty members with whom you envision yourself working most closely; and your career goals.

Standardized Test Scores:

GRE: Optional. Scores may be submitted if available.

Applicants who earned their baccalaureate degree from an institution where the language of instruction was other than English, with the exception of those who subsequently earned a master's degree at a U.S. institution, must report scores for a standardized test of English that meet these minimums:

- TOEFL iBT: 79
- IELTS Academic: 6.5
- PTE Academic: 53

Advanced Standing: After completing the first academic year, a student who entered the doctoral program with a master's degree in Anthropology (or a closely related field) may petition the Department's Graduate Committee for advanced standing. The maximum number of advanced standing credits that can be accepted is 24.

Program Requirements

General Program Requirements:

Number of Credits Required to Earn the Degree: 43

Required Courses:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Courses		
ANTH 5396	History of Anthropological Theory	3
ANTH 8001	Mobility and Global Inequality	3
ANTH 8002	Evolution, Human Environments, and the Culture Niche	3
ANTH 8012	Ethical Considerations in Anthropology Research	3
ANTH 8330	Funding and Grant Writing in Anthropology ¹	3
CLA 8985	Teaching in Higher Education: Liberal Arts	1
Methods Course		
Select one from the following:		
ANTH 5006	Quantitative Analysis of Anthropological Data	3
ANTH 5170	Methods in Archaeology	
ANTH 5189	Field Session in Archaeology	
ANTH 5389	Fieldwork in Ethnography	
ANTH 5444	Anthropological Problems in Visual Production	
ANTH 5458	Anthropology of Public Culture	
ANTH 5504	Language as Social Action	
ANTH 5509	Language Socialization and Cultural Reproduction	

ANTH 5510	Methods in Linguistic Anthropology	
ANTH 5770	Methods in Physical Anthropology	
ANTH 8011	Teaching of Anthropology	
Electives ²		18
Research Courses ³		6
ANTH 9994	Preliminary Examination Preparation	
ANTH 9998	Pre-Dissertation Research	
ANTH 9999	Dissertation Research	
Total Credit Hours		43

- ¹ Ph.D. students must be in the second year of their program to enroll in ANTH 8330.
- ² Ph.D. students select six electives from the approved list below, which is delineated by theme, and/or from the list of Methods courses above. Note that a maximum of three courses (9 credits) may be taken in Independent Study, with only one such course taken in a given semester, and/or from outside the department. Courses taken outside the department require the advisor's approval.
- ³ Of the 6 credits, the following minimums are required: 1 credit of ANTH 9994, 1 credit of ANTH 9998, and 2 credits of ANTH 9999. Two additional credits can be taken in any of these courses.

Approved Electives Grouped by Theme

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Evolution and Human Environments		
ANTH 5171	Comparative Early Civilizations	3
ANTH 5172	Seminar in Northeastern Prehistory	3
ANTH 5796	Biocultural Adaptation of Human Populations	3
ANTH 5797	Reproductive Biology of Human Populations	3
ANTH 5798	Seminar in Evolutionary Biology	3
ANTH 8005	Approaches in Physical Anthropology	3
ANTH 8006	Approaches in Archaeology	3
ANTH 8110	Problems in Archaeology	3
Mobility and Global Inequality		
ANTH 5177	Approaches to Historic Sites in Archaeology	3
ANTH 5180	Historic Sites in Archaeology	3
ANTH 5310	Theories and Methods in Cultural Anthropology	3
ANTH 5322	Anthropology and Development	3
ANTH 5325	Culture, History, and Power	3
ANTH 5328	Seminar in Social Organization	3
ANTH 5332	Medical Anthropology	3
ANTH 5335	Anthropology and Social Policy	3
ANTH 5355	Anthropology of Sexuality and Gender	3
ANTH 5358	Race and Class in North America	3
ANTH 5366	Contemporary Perspectives in Urban Anthropology	3
ANTH 5428	Theory and Methods in Culture and Communication	3
ANTH 5438	Anthropology of Mass Media	3
ANTH 5501	Language, Power, and Agency	3
ANTH 8003	Approaches in Cultural Anthropology	3
ANTH 8004	Approaches in Linguistic Anthropology	3
ANTH 8310	Problems in Socio-Cultural Anthropology	3
ANTH 8320	Problems in Ethnology	3
ANTH 8340	Advanced Seminar in Social Anthropology	3
ANTH 8344	Seminar in Expressive Culture	3
ANTH 8366	Violence: An Anthropological Approach	3
ANTH 8408	Approaches in the Anthropology of Visual Communication I	3
ANTH 8409	Approaches in the Anthropology of Visual Communication II	3

ANTH 8429	Problems in the Anthropology of Visual Communication	3
ANTH 8435	Seminar in Visual Anthropology and the Arts	3
ANTH 8550	Current Issues in Linguistic Anthropology	3

Language Examination: Each doctoral student must pass a written examination of proficiency in a language other than English, preferably by the end of the second year.

Culminating Events:

Comprehensive Exam:

At the end of the fourth semester, students take a comprehensive examination. This exam is meant to assess the integrated knowledge gained in the five core anthropology courses. A committee of faculty who teach the five courses write this exam. All members of a cohort take the same exam.

Dissertation Research Proposal:

Students must have an approved doctoral dissertation research proposal in order to advance to doctoral candidacy. The research proposal must be approved by the student's advisory committee before taking the preliminary examination for doctoral students. Students whose proposed research involves working with human subjects must apply for approval from Temple's Institutional Review Board (IRB).

Preliminary Examination for Doctoral Students:

Each student must pass the preliminary exam before being advanced to doctoral candidacy. This examination is written by the members of each student's Preliminary Examination Committee and is intended to evaluate the student's knowledge of the field, readiness to perform doctoral research, and preparedness to write a doctoral dissertation. The preliminary exam should be completed no more than one year after the student finishes her/his coursework. No student may take the preliminary examination more than twice.

Advancement to Doctoral Candidacy:

A doctoral student is advanced to doctoral candidacy when s/he has completed all requirements for the doctoral degree except the research, writing, and defense of the doctoral dissertation. These requirements include completing all required coursework, passing the comprehensive examination, writing an acceptable dissertation research proposal, passing the preliminary examination for doctoral students, and fulfilling the language proficiency requirement. A student cannot be advanced to candidacy with a grade of "I" (Incomplete) or "NR" (No Record) on her/his transcript.

Doctoral Dissertation:

The doctoral dissertation must constitute a significant, original, research-based contribution to scholarship in the student's field of study. It must also conform to the rules set out in Temple University Graduate School's "Dissertation and Thesis Handbook."

Upon advancement to doctoral candidacy, each student must form a Doctoral Advisory Committee. This committee must include at least two Graduate Faculty members from the Department of Anthropology, one of whom serves as the student's primary academic advisor and as chair of the committee. The committee may also include one or more Graduate Faculty members from other Temple schools/colleges, departments, or programs; faculty members from other universities; and/or other doctorally trained experts. The members of the Doctoral Advisory Committee supervise the student's doctoral research and the writing of the dissertation.

The completed dissertation is read and evaluated by a Dissertation Examining Committee, which consists of the members of the Doctoral Advisory Committee plus an external reader for the dissertation defense. The external committee member is ideally a member of the Graduate Faculty at Temple but may not be from the faculty of the student's home department and may not have been involved in the planning, execution, or write-up of the dissertation research. A faculty member from another university or other doctorally trained expert may also serve as the external committee member with approval of the Graduate School. In addition to being evaluated and approved by the committee members in its written form, the completed doctoral dissertation must be presented and defended orally by the doctoral candidate.

Contacts

Program Web Address:

<https://www.temple.edu/academics/degree-programs/anthropology-phd-la-anth-phd>

Department Information:

Department of Anthropology
210 Gladfelter Hall
1115 W. Polett Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6089
anthgapp@temple.edu
215-204-7577

Submission Address for Application Materials:

<https://apply.temple.edu/CLA/>

Department Contacts:

Admissions:

Dr. L. Christie Rockwell
lrockwel@temple.edu
215-204-7577

Director of Graduate Studies:

Dr. L. Christie Rockwell
lrockwel@temple.edu
215-204-7577

Chairperson:

Dr. Charles Weitz
weitz@temple.edu
215-204-1424