

Graduate Application Information and Frequently asked Questions

General information for applicants

Graduate Application deadline:

The deadline this year is January, 1, 2016, for a Fall 2016 admission.

Typically the deadline is the first Friday in January for our Fall admission period.

We do not currently offer an admissions period for Spring or Summer.

How to apply:

After reading the information and FAQs below, submit your application using the Anthropology **Application Procedures for the Online Graduate Application** instructions as a guide:

<http://anthropology.unm.edu/assets/pdf/Grad/Anthro%20Procedures%20online%20grad%20app.pdf>

UNM online graduate Application:

https://app.applyyourself.com/AYApplicantLogin/fl_ApplicantLogin.asp?id=unmgrad

Getting started (Is the program a good fit for you? Will the faculty think you are a good fit?):

It is good to start by taking a look at our faculty in our 4 subfields listed below to determine if you are a good fit for our program. Information on our faculty and their areas of interest are on our department web site

http://anthropology.unm.edu/people_faculty.htm . Just select your area (subfield) of interest There is a link under the name of each faculty member that says “faculty profile” that enables you to see an overview of their research areas.

Please Note: In your area of interest, it is a good idea to check with the faculty to see if they will be taking new students the year you plan to apply and that will be able to work with you and who support your interests.

You might also start by talking to advisors in your area of interest...

Graduate Advisors:

General admission advisement: Matt Tuttle, mattt@unm.edu, 505-277-2732

Ethnology advisor: David Dinwoodie ddinwood@unm.edu 505-277-5211

Archaeology advisor: Bruce Huckell bhuckell@unm.edu 505-277-4491

Evolutionary Anthropology advisor: Martin Muller muller@unm.edu 505-990-8377

Public Archaeology Advisor: Emily Jones elj@unm.edu 505-277-4524

Curriculum Requirements for Graduate students:

Timelines for each subfield interest in anthropology and curriculum information can be found on these links

http://anthropology.unm.edu/programs_graduate_curriculum.htm and

<http://anthropology.unm.edu/assets/pdf/Grad/currentGRADhandbook.pdf>

To find out more about any program within anthropology (PhD and/or Masters), go to the department web page and click on “programs” and the specific field name.

Funding available to graduate students: <http://anthropology.unm.edu/finaid.htm>

Department funding for incoming graduate applicants: Applicants do not need to apply to the department for funding. The graduate application will provide the information we need. All accepted applicants will be considered for funding and funding will be offered if available or as it becomes available. If accepted, you may be asked to apply for certain UNM funding depending on the eligibility requirements. We will assist.

Note: **Apply for federal support FAFSA by March 1st for priority consideration**, especially if you are a resident NM student. We also encourage you to apply for outside sources of funding such as NSF, Fulbright, private or government funding.

Courses offered in the Anthropology Department

Would you like to take a look at some typical courses we might offer in a semester? You can look at class schedules and course descriptions (when available) here http://anthropology.unm.edu/resources_course_listings.htm

The UNM catalog is available here: <http://catalog.unm.edu/catalogs/2015-2016/>

PhD VS Masters

Archaeology offers a PhD (Master’s on route to PhD).

Public Archaeology also offers a Master’s (only) degree

Ethnology offers Masters and PhD programs, but Ethnology typically only accepts students at the Master’s level. Students may elect to go on for a PhD after master’s work and a master’s exam at a PhD level in Ethnology. These students must reapply (internally) to the faculty.

Evolutionary Anthropology offers a PhD track only (with a Master’s on route to PhD).

Students with an existing Master’s degree may petition a fast track route but may still be required to complete some Master’s work. Course work is accepted on a case by case basis. Inquire with the faculty

Frequently Asked Questions

What should I put in a Letter of Intent? - *It is particularly important to be explicit in choosing a subfield (Archaeology, Public Archaeology, Ethnology or Evolutionary Anthropology). Applications are first sorted and then reviewed by the faculty of a chosen subfield. Applications*

without an explicit choice indicated may be sorted into the incorrect subfield. If you are unsure, please contact the sub-field advisor.

The Letter of Intent is an important part of your application. It should reflect why you are a good candidate. Most letters are 1-2 pages long. There are no page or format requirements. There are some good guidelines about how to write a Letter of Intent otherwise known as a Statement Letter on the Graduate Studies web site at <http://grad.unm.edu/resources/gs-forms/letter-of-intent.html>

Can I apply directly to the PhD Program even if I do not have a Master's degree? – Yes, it is possible for students with a Bachelor's degree get admitted directly to the PhD “track” program and pick up a Master's along the way. However, after entering our program, you do have to pass your masters and/or the PhD qualifying exam to continue on the PhD track.

What if I don't have an undergrad or master's degree in Anthropology? – You are not required to have a degree in Anthropology, though it will make your application more competitive. A rule of thumb is that you should have at least two 300 level classes (or above) in the field in which you apply. It is possible if your education is in a very similar area of study and/or you have lots of field or life experience in the field of study, you can be considered. However, in this case you should check with the subfield advisor (Archaeology, Public Archeology, Ethnology, or Evolutionary Anthropology). In General, Evolutionary Anthropology is usually looking for candidates with a background in Biological or Evolutionary Anthropology or very similar.

Can I apply to get just my masters degree? - Each field within Anthropology (Archaeology, Public Archeology, Ethnology, or Evolutionary Anthropology) handles this a little differently and you should talk to the subfield advisor. For example, Ethnology, there are two tracks, the MA program and the Ph.D. program, Public Archeology is only an MA program but for the most part Archaeology and Evolutionary Anthropology are only accepting PhD track students.

If I have a Master's already, will it transfer? – Technically UNM will allow us to accept up to 50% of graduate coursework, but it will be up to the Graduate advisor in your subfield of anthropology (and/or the subfield faculty) to determine what transfer coursework they will allow. Coursework used for a master's degree may not be used as transfer work for another master's degree, but it may be used for 50% of a PhD.

While students with a master's degree may be on the PhD “track”, they must still either take a Master's exam or pass at a PhD level (with a PhD qualifying exam) and are take the required coursework (or have it waived) to continue on to the PhD program.

What is coursework is required to acquire a PhD? - Required coursework for a PhD is 48 credits (16 classes, unless waived) which can also include some independent study classes and depending on your subfield interest may include (3-6 core classes). Students are also required to take 18 hours of dissertation credits. In addition, PhD students are required (post masters) to have a language and skill (in some cases two languages or two skills): Examples include Spanish and Statistics or GIS or Video. If you previously mastered a language or skill at another school you can request that these be accepted. Mastery level of language and skill is comparable to completing two upper division (300 or 400 level) classes in the subject or a minor.

How many applications does the Anthropology Department get each year and how many students are accepted? *You can click on this link to get a basic idea of the department wide acceptance rates.*

<http://ogs.unm.edu/graduate-programs/documents/grad-profiles-a-b.html#ANTH>

These numbers are not entirely accurate because the data breaks applications down by MA/MS/PhD based on what applicants selecting on the application. Some people applying for a PhD, thought they had to select MA or MS on their application which throws off the true numbers for PhD applications. Still it gives a general picture.

What is the minimum GPA? - *The minimum GPA is 3.2. However the average GPA (of student admitted in past years) is 3.6.*

What GRE scores are required? - *There is no minimum set by the department. The amount of weight given to GRE scores varies by subfield. In Evolutionary Anthropology, GRE scores are particularly important. In Ethnology and Archaeology the entire application packet is weighed equally. Decisions, on each application for all subfields, are made on a case by case basis; however here are some common trends.*

Typically 70% or better is average for people accepted into the program. The scoring on GRE exams has changed drastically over the years. The GRE scores, for those admitted in the last couple years, ranged from 140-170 in the verbal and quantitative sections. The analytical section scores for those admitted typically ranged from 4-5 (with the exception of a few international students).

Which GRE exam is required, General or Subject? -*The general exam is required*

How do I sign up for the GRE? -*Here is the link to the GRE webpage where you can set up and exam, find a place and time for it, find practice exams etc.* <http://www.ets.org/gre/>

When should I take the GRE in order to meet the department's deadline? -*No later than early December. It takes several weeks for GRE to process and send final scores to UNM in electronic batches and for UNM to download them for departments. FYI We will accept the scores from a retake and take the highest score.*

What if my GRE scores are old? -*The department has no policy on this.*

Do I need to send a writing sample? – *No. Other materials, such as a writing sample, CV, or published paper are option.*

What is the School Code and the Department Code for the GRE exam? *School is 4845 and dept is 1701*

What is the "Major Code" on the admission application?

MA - ANTH

MS- ANTH

PHD - ANTH

What is the “Graduate Unit” on the admission application? *Anthropology*

Feel free to give Matt a call if you have any questions after looking this all over, 505-277-2732.