ANTHROPOLOGY (ANTH)

Graduate Degree Program
College: Behavioral and Social Sciences

Abstract

The Department of Anthropology at the University of Maryland offers graduate study leading to the Master of Applied Anthropology (M.A.A.), the Master of Applied Anthropology and Master of Historic Preservation (M.A.A./M.H.P. Dual Degree), the Masters of Professional Studies in Cultural and Heritage Resource Management (M.P.S. (CHRM)), and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degrees. Our graduate degrees reflect the department's interest and expertise in applied anthropology—the application of anthropological knowledge, anthropology-in-use, and practicing anthropology— in a variety of institutional and community settings.

Current faculty members represent two subfields of the discipline (archaeology and socio-cultural anthropology). Drawing their intellectual and applied orientations from training and application of the above subdisciplines, the department's faculty also recognize the need to identify topics or problems where the expertise of individual faculty members can be applied in a manner that integrates the subdisciplines. In this ongoing effort, the faculty has identified three areas of research concentration: Anthropology of Health, Anthropology of Environment, and Anthropology of Heritage. The areas can be thought to contain and generate research problems of interest to the faculty's experience and expertise within the subdisciplines. These problems can be addressed individually through socio-cultural anthropology and archaeology. However, the anthropological contribution to addressing these problems is enhanced by collaboration across subdiscipline interests and expertise.

The Master of Applied Anthropology (MAA) is a program designed both for students interested in an anthropology career outside of academia and for those who plan on continuing to a PhD. The program has been offered at the University of Maryland since 1984, and graduates have successfully secured employment or pursued doctoral work in a variety of fields, such as working in the areas of medical and health practice, urban and regional planning and development, community development, conservation and heritage resource development, cultural resource management, and historical archaeology. The focus of the MAA program has been to participate in the building of anthropological practice.

The dual degree Master's Program in Applied Anthropology and Historic Preservation is a holistic, comprehensive primer for a professional career in the research, understanding and preservation of cultural resources and heritage. The first of its kind in the United States, the new degree prepares students for the challenges—and increasing demand —of understanding, documenting and saving a wide range buildings, landscapes, sites and communities.

The graduate program in Cultural and Heritage Resource Management (CHRM) provides rigorous interdisciplinary training in the skills necessary to advance a career in cultural heritage resource management. CHRM graduate programs include a Master of Professional Studies or a Graduate Certificate. Built on a broad foundation including research methods, critical thinking, ethics, communication and technical writing, management techniques, and leadership skills, this program prepares professionals for employment or advancement with private contracting firms, governmental agencies, and non-profit organizations.

A major focus of the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program is to direct research scholarship and to encourage theoretical and methodological advancement in such a way as to reflect upon the specific practices of anthropology, with the aim of improving those practices and thereby increasing the value and usefulness of the discipline. Doctoral students are typically prepared for research and development careers outside of academic settings, as well as for academic careers in anthropology departments and other disciplinary settings.

Financial Assistance

A limited number of Departmental Fellowships and Teaching Assistantships are available to qualified graduate students. Part-time employment related to department research is occasionally available.

Doctoral students have the option of applying for Fellowships in Support of Diversity and Inclusion (https://anth.umd.edu/content/graduate-admissions/). If you're interested in applying for the Fellowships in Support of Diversity and Inclusion in the Behavioral and Social Sciences, please be sure to upload your materials under "Supplementary Application" when submitting your online admissions application.

Contact

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Courses: ANTH (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/courses/anth/)

Relationships: Applied Anthropology and Historic Preservation (AAHP) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/applied-anthropology-historic-preservation-aahp/), Historic Preservation (HISP) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/historic-preservation-hisp/), Cultural and Heritage Resource Management (MPCH (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/cultural-heritage-resource-management-mpch/)), Women's Studies (WMST) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/womens-studies-wmst/)

ADMISSIONS
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS
- Statement of Purpose
- Transcript(s)
- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements/))

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS
- Letters of Recommendation (3)
- CV/Resume
- Description of Research/Work Experience (optional)
- Writing Sample
- Supplementary Application (optional for Ph.D., not required for M.A.A.)
- Faculty of Interest

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If you're interested in applying for the M.A.A./M.H.P. program, please see the AAHP program here: https://gradschool.umd.edu/architectureplanningpreservation/aahp (https://gradschool.umd.edu/architectureplanningpreservation/aahp/)

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Type of Applicant	Fall Deadline
Domestic Applicants	
US Citizens and Permanent Residents	January 7, 2025
International Applicants	
F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas; A,E,G,H,I and L visas and immigrants	January 7, 2025

RESOURCES AND LINKS:
Program Website: anth.umd.edu (http://www.anth.umd.edu)
Application Process: https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/)

REQUIREMENTS
- Anthropology, Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/anthropology-anth/anthropology-phd/)
- Anthropology, Master of Applied Anthropology (M.A.A.) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/anthropology-anth/anthropology-maa/)
- Cultural and Heritage Resource Management, Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/cultural-heritage-resource-management-mpch/cultural-heritage-resource-management-mps/)

FACILITIES AND SPECIAL RESOURCES

The Department has three archaeology labs (Archaeology in Annapolis, Archaeology of the Irish Diaspora and Modern Ireland, and the Center for Heritage Research Study) in addition to a Zooarchaeology Lab, an Ecological-Environmental Anthropology Lab, and Environmental Sensory Lab. Other research centers and programs include the Center for Research and Collaboration in the Indigenous Americas, Chesapeake Bay Environment Program, and the Deal Island Peninsula Project. Advanced computer software & hardware, such as scanners, graphic programs, and digitizing tablets are located in computer labs. UM is a Carnegie Class I research institution with opportunities for students to participate in research projects. The university is also part of the CIC.