

**MASTER'S PROGRAM IN ANTHROPOLOGY  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

**Plan A (Thesis Option) – 30 credits**

Course Work Requirements

- Any course identified during admission process to meet deficiencies.
- Minimum of 30 credits.
- ANTH 500, Development of Anthropological Theory – 3 credits.
- GRAD 544, Ethical Conduct of Research – 1 credit.
- Methods course (3-4 credits) appropriate to the student's research interest. If the methods course is counted as an outside course, then the student must take one additional, regular graduate-level Anthropology course. (Please see the List of Methods Courses on Graduate Programs web page.)
- Minimum of 3 credits of Anthropology graduate level (500-799) course in a subfield other than the student's subfield of specialization.
- Minimum of 6 credits (300-799) outside the Anthropology Department and integrated with the student's program of study.
- Maximum of six credits of ANTH695, Independent Study, may be used.
- Maximum of six credits of ANTH699, Thesis, will be allowed towards graduation for the thesis degree option.
- In addition to the core requirements above, a minimum of 18 of the credits completed must be in regular number Anthropology courses. Regular number courses are courses ending in \*81 and lower (e.g., 581, 525, 517, 682, 629, etc. Reading/independent study or thesis credits are NOT Regular.)
- Graduate School course requirements must also be met (please see below).

Thesis Requirements

- Formation of a graduate committee prior to the end of the student's second semester. The graduate committee is composed of the graduate advisor, a committee member from the Department of Anthropology, and an outside committee member from a department other than the Department of Anthropology. A co-advisor or additional committee members from the Department of Anthropology or from an outside department may be added to the student's committee, if appropriate, as long as the committee is composed of the previously stated three members.
- Submission of a proposal to the student's committee for review.
- Defense of the proposal before the committee and interested faculty resulting in the final form of the proposal. Defense should be made prior to the initiation of research.
- Completion of the research.
- Preparation of the thesis.
- Oral examination
  - Must be attended by the full committee.
  - May cover any area in which student has had relevant course work.
  - Constitute a defense of the thesis.

- Grading will be conducted by the student's committee.

### **Plan B (Portfolio Option) – 36 credits**

#### Course Work Requirements

- Any course identified during admission process to meet deficiencies.
- Minimum of 36 credits.
- ANTH 500, Development of Anthropological Theory – 3 credits.
- GRAD 544, Ethical Conduct of Research – 1 credit.
- Methods course (3-4 credits) appropriate to the student's research interest. If the methods course is counted as an outside course, then the student must take one additional, regular graduate-level Anthropology course.
- Minimum of 3 credits of Anthropology graduate level (500-799) course in a subfield other than the student's subfield of specialization (archaeology, socio-cultural or biological anthropology).
- Minimum of 6 credits (300-799) outside the Anthropology Department and integrated with the student's program of study.
- A minimum of three credits and a maximum of six credits of ANTH 695, Independent Study are required for graduation under the plan B option.
- No credits of ANTH 699, Thesis Credit will be allowed toward graduation under plan B.
- In addition to the core requirements above, a minimum of 18 of the credits completed must be in regular number Anthropology courses. Regular number courses are courses ending in \*81 and lower (e.g., 581, 525, 517, 682, 629, etc. Reading/independent study or thesis credits are NOT Regular.)
- Graduate School course requirements must also be met (please see below).

#### Portfolio Requirements

- Preparation of a final portfolio: Students must complete a portfolio of work demonstrating both the breadth of their understanding of anthropology and their own area of specialization, selected in consultation with the student's adviser. A portfolio will generally contain at least four pieces of original work completed by the student while fulfilling degree requirements. Typically, one or more of these pieces will reflect practical work and/or research completed in conjunction with an agency or organization during an internship. A theory statement is also generally expected as an inclusion in the portfolio, as is some form of structured analysis of an issue related to the student's research or professional interests (for example, a structured analysis of interviews or survey data). Longer research or technical papers, typically expanded from coursework, are also acceptable. Portfolios should reflect work completed and skills acquired in fulfillment of the M.A. requirements that could be presented to a potential employer or a Ph.D. program. A final examination consists of a defense of the portfolio as well as other parts of the program of study.

### **Other Policies**

- Incoming students will be assigned a temporary advisor on the basis of their area of interest.

- Students finalize their graduate committee by the end of their second semester, and submit the GS6 form to the Graduate School.
- Students cannot carry more than two incomplete grades simultaneously. Addition of more incompletes will result in suspension or dismissal from the program as deemed appropriate by the committee. Students carrying two incompletes will not be eligible for Graduate Assistantships or Tuition Scholarships.
- A student who fails any part of the oral examination will be re-examined no sooner than two months, nor later than 12 months following the first examination.
- If upon re-examination the student fails again, he/she will be required to leave the program without obtaining a degree.

**Graduate School Course Requirements:**

- A minimum of 24 credits must be earned at Colorado State University, 21 of which must be earned after admission to the Graduate School.
- A minimum of 16 credits that are in 500 or higher level courses.
- Of the 16 credits in 500 or higher level courses, at least 12 MUST be in regular number courses. As noted above, regular number courses are courses ending in \*81 and lower (e.g., 581, 525, 517, 682, 629, etc. Reading/independent study or thesis credits are NOT Regular.)
- MA students can also count 300 and 400-level courses in their program of study.