

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

University of South Carolina – Columbia

INFORMATION ABOUT OUR GRADUATE PROGRAM

2021-2022



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ANTHROPOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2021 - 2022

We thank you for your interest in the Graduate Program in Anthropology at the University of South Carolina. The following pages will give you an idea of the strengths of the department, what faculty are up to, what courses and thesis topics the present graduate students have been involved in, the curriculum and other aspects of student life. We also give you some hints for putting together a successful application.

GRADUATE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS DEADLINE: JANUARY 1

We especially invite you to contact people in the department directly, either by phone, by email, in a visit to the campus, or at meetings around the country. For more general information, you can always contact us through the department numbers:

Department of Anthropology University of South Carolina 817 Henderson Street, Gambrell Hall, Suite 440, Columbia, SC 29208 Telephone: (803) 777-6500 / FAX: (803) 777-0259

Jennifer Reynolds, Chair Email: jreynold@mailbox.sc.edu

Sharon DeWitte, Graduate Director Email: dewittes@mailbox.sc.edu

Claudia Carriere, Graduate Coordinator Email: cfcarri@mailbox.sc.edu / Phone: (803) 777-0993

Contact Mrs. Carriere if you have any questions regarding the processing of your application. Contact Dr. DeWitte regarding the status of your application and fellowship awards. Dr. Reynolds can answer your questions about the content of the program and can arrange for you to visit the Department. Feel free to discuss your specific interests, including resources and courses available, with any of the faculty with whom you wish to work.

OUR PROGRAMS

We offer the Master of Arts and the Doctor of Philosophy degrees. Students who enter our M.A. program do not need to have an undergraduate degree in Anthropology but will need to demonstrate in their applications, that they have an anthropological perspective, can identify a good anthropological research topic and have an idea about the appropriate methods for researching the topic. Students who wish to do the Ph.D. but do not have an M.A. in Anthropology will complete our M.A. program before entering the Ph.D. program. In such cases, students can do coursework and M.A. thesis research that will contribute directly to their anticipated Ph.D. research. Students who have M.A. degrees that required the production of a thesis in Anthropology may enter the Ph.D. program directly.

We also offer a Professional Master's Degree. This is a graduate degree aimed at practicing professionals and students on career paths in the public sector of archaeology. It features an abbreviated course of study, a focus on archaeological practice, and a practice-based thesis tailored to the student's interest and career path.

THE DEPARTMENT

We are committed to offering graduate students an education in the four traditional sub-fields of anthropology: archaeology, cultural anthropology, linguistic anthropology, and biological anthropology. While students are asked to specialize in one of these fields, we particularly seek students who wish to cross the boundaries between fields and combine them in their graduate work.

We are a small program, so each student is assured of receiving personal attention from our faculty members. There are 30 anthropologists with Ph.D.'s at the main USC campus: 16 in the department, 5 at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, and 9 anthropologists in other departments on campus. We endeavor to give as many students as possible the opportunity to serve as teaching or research assistants. We also encourage students to take advantage of the excellent opportunities and resources offered throughout the university and the wider community of Columbia. For example, there are significant strengths in related fields on campus such as geology, geography (especially Geographic Information Systems) linguistics, sociology, public health, and history. In addition, location in the state's capital affords opportunities for research in government agencies.

Although we do provide training in relatively specialized fields, such as historical archaeology, the required courses provide all students with a thorough theoretical grounding, not only in anthropology as a whole, but also in the theory of their subfield.

OTHER RESOURCES

SOUTH CAROLINA INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

Our graduate students regularly work with the many excellent archaeologists in the SCIAA and use their extensive library and collections.

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The Geography Department has international prominence in GIS (graduate students may follow a sequence of GIS courses).

SC DEPT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Contains resources needed to document historic sites.

PUBLIC HISTORY

The University offers an M.A. through the History Department. Our students often take their courses in the use of historical sources and archives. The department sponsors a certificate program.

MUSEUMS

There are three major museums in Columbia: The University's McKissick Museum, the State Museum, and the Columbia Museum of Art. All three have extensive collections students may use in their research.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Students enrolled in our graduate program may concurrently enroll in certificate programs offered by the University of South Carolina. A certificate generally entails 18 credit hours of course work, some of which may be applied from your degree program. Students enrolled in certificate programs receive in depth education in the subject area, learn additional skills and have access to additional assistantships, funding and internships. Students taking certificates often need an extra semester to complete their requirements. The most common programs are:

MUSEUM MANAGEMENT

http://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/artsandsciences/mckissick_museum/study/museum_management_certificate/index.php

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

http://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/artsandsciences/womens_and_gender_studies/study/graduate/index.php

FACULTY PROFILES

Drucilla Barker

(Ph.D., University of Illinois – Urbana Champaign, 1988; Prof.) Economic anthropology, feminist political economy, globalization and development; barkerdk@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-777-3200

Monica Barra

(Ph.D., City University of New York, 2019; Assist. Prof.) Environmental and urban anthropology, race and inequality, North America and the US South, anthropology of science and technology, political ecology; mbarra@seoe.sc.edu / 803-576-8340

Joanna Casey

(Ph.D., University of Toronto, 1993; Assoc. Prof.) Ethnoarchaeology, prehistoric archaeology, early farming communities, trade, gender, lithics; West Africa, Ethiopia; jlc@sc.edu / 803-777-6700

Carlina de la Cova

(Ph.D., Indiana University, 2009; Assoc. Prof.) Biological anthropology, skeletal biology, paleopathology, health disparities, African diaspora, biohistory, medical history; delacova@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-777-2957

Sharon DeWitte

(Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University, 2006; Prof. & Graduate Director) Human osteology, paleodemography, paleoepidemiology, paleomicrobiology, infectious and epidemic diseases, and medieval plague; dewittes@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-777-6940

John Doering-White

(Ph.D., University of Michigan, 2019; Assist. Prof.) Immigration, humanitarianism, violence, social entrepreneurship, Central America, Mexico and Detroit; doeringj@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-777-7252

Sherina Feliciano-Santos

(Ph.D., University of Michigan, 2011; Assoc. Prof.) Linguistic anthropology, activism, language and cultural revitalization, racial and ethnic formations; narrative, face-to-face interaction; Puerto Rico, Caribbean and U.S.; felicias@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-777-5760

Katherine (Kelly) Goldberg

(Ph.D., University of South Carolina, 2018; Instructor) African Diaspora, historical archaeology, public archaeology; goldbeke@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-777-6500

Eric Jones

(Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University, 2008; Assoc. Prof. & Undergraduate Director) Settlement patterns, landscapes and built environments, human-environment interactions, and demographic archaeology; 803-777-6500

Courtney Lewis

(Ph.D., University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, 2012; Assoc. Prof.) Economic anthropology, Native Nation economic development and stability, boundaries, sovereignty, political economy, American Indian and indigenous rights, globalization, entrepreneurship; lewisco@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-777-9922

Marc Moskowitz

(Ph.D., University of California – San Diego, 1999; Prof.) Cultural and visual anthropology, gender, popular culture, sexuality; China, Taiwan; moskowit@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-777-1536

Jennifer Reynolds

(Ph.D., University of California – Los Angeles, 2002; Prof., Chair) Linguistic and visual anthropology, language socialization, language ideology, transnational migration, childhood; Guatemala, Latin America, U.S.; jreynold@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-777-2392

David Simmons

(Ph.D., Michigan State, 2002; Assoc. Prof. & Faculty Principal, Galen Health Fellows Living/Learning Community) Medical Anthropology, International Public Health; West and Southern Africa, Dominican Republic; dsimmons@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-777-2321

Kimberly Simmons

(Ph.D., Michigan State, 2002; Assoc. Prof. & Co-Director for the Institute for African American Studies and Research) Cultural anthropology, race and ethnicity, gender, identityformation, women's formations, African Diaspora; US, Dominican Republic, Caribbean, Latin America; ksimmons@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-777-9898

Magdalena Stawkowski

(Ph.D., University of Colorado, 2014; Assist. Prof.) Medical Anthropology; Science, Technology and Society; Nuclear Testing and Health; Low-Dose Radiation; Political Economy of Health; Neoliberal Restructuring Programs in post-Soviet States; NGOs and Civil Society; global security; toxicity; post-Soviet Transformations; Central Asia; Kazakhstan; stawkows@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-576-7278

Terrance Weik

(Ph.D., University of Florida, 2002; Assoc. Prof.) Historical archaeology; African Diaspora, antislavery resistance, ethnogenesis, African-Native American interaction, social identity; Latin & North America; weik@mailbox.sc.edu / 803-777-6789

Anthropologists in Other Departments, Schools or Institutes

Jessica Barnes – Geography Department

(Ph.D., Columbia U, 2010) Environmental anthropology; water politics; climate change; food security; Middle East. iebarnes@mailbox.sc.edu

Chester DePratter – SCIAA

(Associate Research Professor and Head, Research Division, SCIAA. PhD Georgia, 1983) Spanish explorations, contact period, Civil War prisons, coastal shell middens. depratter@sc.edu

Ken Erickson – Darla Moore School of Business

(Ph.D., Kansas, 1995) Business anthropology, ethnographic method & theory, craft production, small business in contemporary China. ken.erickson@moore.sc.edu

David Hudgens – Regional Director for Asia - Darla Moore School of Business

(Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh, 2001)

Research and consulting on business and economic development in China.

dhudgens@moore.sc.edu

Adam King – SCIAA (Director)

(Ph.D. Pennsylvania State, 1996) Political organization, prehistoric chiefdoms; regional scale, change. aking@sc.edu

David Kneas – Geography

(Ph.D., Yale University, 2014) Political ecology, historical ethnography, Latin America

kneas@mailbox.sc.edu

Jonathan Leader – SCIAA (State Archaeologist)

(Ph.D., University of Florida, 1988) Archaeometry, conservation, ethnohistory, pre-historic and historic archaeology; North America. Leaderj@mailbox.sc.edu

Kathryn J. Luchok

(Ph.D., University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, 1993) Women's Health, Maternal and Child Health, Health Equity/Disparities, Global Health, Social Justice, Applied Anthropology, Medical Anthropology, Sociocultural Determinants of Health, Health Services Research, Combining Research Methods, S.E. United States, West Africa, Nepal. luchok@mailbox.sc.edu

Mark Macaуда – Public Health

(Ph.D., University of Connecticut, 2007) Applied anthropology; Program Evaluation; Tobacco prevention; Vector-borne disease; Adolescent reproductive health. macaуда@mailbox.sc.edu

Payal Shah – College of Education

(Ph.D., Indiana University, 2011) Girls' education, international development and education policy, ethnography and qualitative research methodology, and qualitative research methodology, with geographical expertise in South Asia. pshah@mailbox.sc.edu

Steven D. Smith -SCIAA

(Ph.D., University of South Carolina, 2010) Anthropology of warfare, military site archaeology, and conflict archaeology. smiths@mailbox.sc.edu

Jim Spirek – SCIAA

(MA/MS East Carolina University, 1993) Civil War naval operations, 16th-c seafaring and ship architecture, SC maritime archaeology. spirek@sc.edu

**Christopher Toumey – Center for Environmental Nanoscience and Risk
Environmental Health Sciences – Arnold School of Public Health**

(Ph.D., University of North Carolina, 1987) toumey@mailbox.sc.edu

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR EMERITI

Leland G. Ferguson

(Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Ph.D., University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, 1971) Historical archaeology, African and Native Americans, complex society.

Karl G. Heider

(Carolina Distinguished Professor. Ph.D., Harvard, 1966) Cultural, psychological, visual anthropology, ethnographic film, fiction film, nonverbal behavior; Indonesia (West Papua, Sumatra).

Alice Bee Kasakoff

(Distinguished Professor Emerita, Ph.D., Harvard, 1970) Social organization, demography, migration, history and anthropology; North American Indians.

Kenneth Kelly

(Distinguished Professor Emeritus, PhD, U California-Los Angeles, 1995; Prof & Chair) Archaeology, historical archaeology, culture change, African Diaspora; West Africa, Caribbean.

Morgan D. Maclachlan

(Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Ph.D., Stanford, 1971) Economic anthropology, sex roles; India.

Gail Wagner

(Professor Emerita, Ph.D., Washington University – St. Louis, 1987; Assoc. Prof.) Archaeology, paleoethnobotany, ethnobotany, chiefdoms; Southeastern, North America.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Retired faculty may teach occasionally and may be willing to consult with students, however, they are under no obligation to teach or mentor students.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

In addition to their undergraduate transcripts and two letters of recommendation, applicants are required to submit a writing sample and a statement of their purpose in studying Anthropology at the University of South Carolina. While our standards are flexible, we particularly seek students whose GPAs are above 3.5. We look closely at the letters of reference and grades, life experiences, and writing samples of students with lower scores, for evidence that they will be able to complete our program.

Your personal statement is an important way for us to get to know a little more about you and decide whether our program will be a good fit for you. Use your personal statement to tell us about your experiences that you feel will contribute to your success in the program, but which may not be evident from your transcripts. Let us know the subfield(s) in which you wish to specialize and the kinds of topics you would like to research. You do not need to have a fully formed proposal, but we would like to see that you can identify a good research topic that can be supervised within our department. Please indicate those professors with whom you would like to study and explain why. In general, the more focused your interests, the easier it will be for us to evaluate whether we can meet your research needs. Please make your statement as professional as possible (e.g.: A person's desire to be an archaeologist when they were a child is perhaps less relevant than what has happened in their more recent history that has made them decide to pursue a graduate degree in Anthropology.)

We do not require you to have majored in Anthropology as an undergraduate. However, it is very helpful if you have had some courses in Anthropology, otherwise, it may be difficult for you to write a good statement of purpose. If you have not had such courses, you should try to study anthropology either at a University or College and/or to do volunteer work having to do with the field within anthropology that you wish to study. It may be helpful for you to delay your application until you have had such experience. If you are interested in Archaeology, it is very helpful if you have had experience working on a research project. If you have not yet done so, you might seek out opportunities to do so as a volunteer. Experience living abroad is very helpful, as are foreign language and computer expertise.

Your writing sample should be a research paper, completed during the past five (5) years, if possible. We are looking for clear writing and evidence that you can summarize your own research and that of others.

Students who wish to do the Ph.D. but do not have an M.A. in Anthropology will be expected to complete our M.A. program before advancing to the Ph.D. program. Students who intend to do the Ph.D. may orient their coursework and research toward obtaining the skills and background that they will need to conduct their Ph.D. research. These students should apply to the program as Ph.D. students.

It can be helpful for you to **visit the campus**. We like to meet prospective students and, while we do not require an interview, meeting you in person can often help us to get to know you in ways that are not possible through application forms and written statements. It is also a chance for you to meet us and some of our graduate students. However, since we are all on different schedules and sometimes away at meetings, it is important that you **call ahead and make an appointment**. Holidays and breaks are not a good time to find professors or students on campus. (Please see the published calendar for UofSC on the Registrar's website.)

ASSISTANTSHIPS AND OTHER SUPPORT

The department has a limited number of teaching assistantships that we offer to both the standard M.A.* and Ph.D. students. While we may not guarantee multiple years of funding, it is generally expected that students who are offered assistantships at the time they are admitted to the program will have their assistantships renewed subject to the availability of funds and the students' continued good standing in the program. Students enrolled in the standard M.A. are generally funded for four (4) semesters, those entering the Ph.D. program without an M.A. may receive funding for up to 10 semesters, and those entering the Ph.D. directly may receive funding for up to six (6) semesters.

Students pursuing the Ph.D. are expected to seek funding from outside the department and by doing so can often increase the length of time they are funded. In general, students who have funding from outside the department that is equal to or greater than the funding offered by the department, will not receive department funding during those semesters unless there are teaching assistantships that have not yet been filled. Students who receive a small amount of funding from outside the department may receive department funding to raise the level to that offered by the department. Students who have had outside funding for much of their program may receive funding from the department during their final stages of writing the dissertation. The only funding offered by the department is teaching assistantships; therefore, students can only receive it if they are present on campus. Assistantships are often available outside the department, and our students have found work at SCIAA, the McKissick Museum, Women's & Gender Studies and other venues around campus. The university will not fund students beyond their sixth year in their programs.

A typical assistantship, for an M.A. student, pays \$6750 per semester and students work 15 hours per week. Assistantships for Ph.D. students pay \$7750 per semester and require 20 hours of work per week. Assistantships qualify students for in-state tuition and for tuition fee abatement to help cover tuition for 9 hours for M.A. students and 6 hours for Ph.D. students.

Please note that health insurance coverage is mandatory for all graduate students. The University provides graduate assistants with an insurance subsidy that covers the cost of the University-sponsored student health insurance plan.

You may also choose another insurance plan; however, you will not be eligible for the insurance subsidy. Should you choose not to use the student health insurance, you must complete an insurance waiver application.

*Assistantships are not offered to the Professional Master's Degree students.

International Students

The office of International Student Services states that “[a]s an international student at USC, you are required to submit documentation proving that you have enough funding to support your first two semesters of study. You will need to provide financial documentation to cover the estimated tuition and fees for your academic program, as well as the estimated living expenses for two semesters of study. If you are unsure about the amount you [will be] required to provide [please] contact International Student Services at iss@sc.edu” or visit them online at https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/international_student_services/before_you_arrive/understand_tuition_and_fees/index.php

FACILITIES

Graduate students will have office space only if they receive funding from the department as a teaching assistant. All Graduate students have access to the Student Computer Lab, a Physical Anthropology Lab, and several Archaeology Labs. Other computer facilities are available in the College of Arts & Sciences Computing Lab.