



Department of Anthropology

Fall 2020

The Department of Anthropology at Southern Methodist University has a small and well-established graduate program and is seeking applications from undergraduate and masters students. Our program strengths are in archaeology and cultural anthropology (with special attention to medical and psychological anthropology, as well as political economy and migration). We also have an interdisciplinary strength in environmental anthropology. Our faculty are active in field research and have been recently funded by various federal agencies and private foundations (e.g., National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, Russell Sage Foundation, Fulbright). Our regional strengths include Europe, East Asia, the Pacific Islands, Africa, Native North America, Latin America, and South America. Our new Teaching Computer Lab includes GIS and other qualitative software packages for students to use freely in their own research projects. We also have rich archaeological collections and students can gain training in dimensions of collections management.

Our graduate curriculum is structured, but leaves time for electives and independent study. Classes are small and students work closely with faculty. SMU graduate students have been very competitive for national funding for dissertation support from the National Science Foundation, Wenner-Gren, Fulbright, Boren Scholars Program, and other sources. We believe that their success is related to their extensive training in methods, data analysis, and grant proposal writing within their respective sub-disciplines. Our graduates have found employment in academia, with NGOs, federal agencies, and in private industry. A few have even started their own consulting firms.

Most doctoral students receive tuition waivers and are funded as Teaching Assistants or Graduate Research Assistants. Expected pay for TAs and GRAs is at least \$16,000 for the 2021-2022 academic year. Our best candidates are also eligible for additional stipends from the Dean of Research and Graduate Studies. Three incoming students received these additional awards for this year. We also have special funds available to assist students to travel to professional meetings to present papers/posters and to travel to the field for summer research. Indeed, after ten years of support from an NSF Ethnographic Training Grant, we now have an endowment for summer field research that has come to us through a bequest.

More information, including a copy of our most recent *Newsletters*, can be found on our departmental website (<http://www.smu.edu/anthro>) or on our Department's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/SMUanthro/>). Students should feel free to contact faculty members with whom they might wish to work with at SMU. Many potential students have found that making a campus visit is an excellent way to increase their chances for receiving high priority for funding. We will be happy to arrange visits for those interested. The deadline for applications is January 15, 2021.

Please pass this information on to undergraduate or masters students who are interested in pursuing graduate education in anthropology. Thank you for your assistance.