

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

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Fairfax Campus

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Undergraduate Programs

Anthropology

The department offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/anthropology-ba/>). The program draws broadly from the social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences, making it a strong undergraduate major that provides a sound interdisciplinary preparation for a variety of careers.

Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Program

The department offers highly-qualified majors in anthropology the opportunity to apply to an accelerated master's degree program in anthropology (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/anthropology-ma/#acceleratedmasterstext>). If accepted, students will be able to earn both the undergraduate and graduate degrees after satisfactory completion of 138 credits, generally within five years.

Sociology

The department offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/sociology-ba/>). Sociology majors study how social movements emerge from the collective efforts of individuals and the role that social forces play in defining racial identities and gender roles. They take courses in the theories that explain social phenomena and develop strong research skills, learning how to conduct surveys, interviews, systematic observation as well as how to evaluate sources.

With the strong research skills, critical thinking, and effective writing that are the hallmark of sociology graduates, they are prepared for a variety of career paths from teaching, human service, and human resource occupations to work in the criminal justice system, marketing, and social research. The sociology major is also excellent preparation for students considering law school or graduate training in the social and behavioral sciences.

Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Program

The department offers highly-qualified undergraduates the opportunity to apply to an accelerated master's degree program in sociology (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/sociology-ma/#acceleratedmasterstext>). If accepted, students will be able to earn both the undergraduate and graduate degrees after satisfactory completion of 141 credits, generally within five years.

Minors

The department offers minors in anthropology (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/anthropology-minor/>) and sociology (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/sociology-minor/>) available to students in any major. The department coordinates the interdisciplinary minor in immigration studies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/immigration-studies-minor/>) and the faculty participate in many other minors in the college.

catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/immigration-studies-minor/) and the faculty participate in many other minors in the college.

Graduate Programs

Anthropology

The department offers a Master of Arts degree in Anthropology (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/anthropology-ma/>). Students can choose one of three emphases: advanced training in sociocultural anthropology; culture, health and bioethics; or transnational and global issues. They can choose from many courses that are richly interdisciplinary covering such diverse topics as nationalism and transnationalism; bioethics; social movements, ethnicity and identity; conflict and violence; migration, displacement, and refugees; regional ethnography; and political economy and globalization. Departmental specializations include the following regions: Africa, Asia, Central and South America, Europe, the Middle East, and the United States. Coursework progresses from core courses to more advanced courses and culminates in a thesis.

Sociology

The department offers master's and doctoral degrees in sociology. Students pursuing a master's degree in sociology (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/sociology-ma/>) take required courses in theory and methods and a host of electives.

The doctoral degree in sociology (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/sociology-anthropology/sociology-phd/>) provides rigorous training in public and applied social research, including skills in research design, data analysis, and substantive areas that are pertinent to various sectors in the Washington, D.C., area. Graduates have the theoretical, analytical, and professional skills that prepare them for academic positions in teaching or research. They are also well-qualified for nonacademic positions in the many settings that rely on the expertise of sociologists including human service agencies, marketing research firms, educational systems, nonprofit foundations, and law enforcement agencies.

Funding

The department has a limited number of teaching assistantships which are awarded on a competitive basis. Other sources of funding such as grants, loans, and employment on campus are also available. Students awarded assistantships must register for a minimum of six credits a semester and show satisfactory progress toward their degree.

Faculty

Department Faculty

Professors

Amy L Best (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/abest/>)
Shannon N Davis (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/sdavis/>)
Rutledge M Dennis (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/rdenni1/>)
Lester R. Kurtz (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/lkurtz/>)
Patricia Anne Masters (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/pmasters/>)
Anne L Schiller (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/schiller/>)

Joseph A Scimecca (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/jscimecc/>)

James Witte (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/jwitte/>)

Emeritus Professors

Thomasina Borkman (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/tborkman/>)

Gregory A Guagnano (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/gguagnan/>)

David W Haines (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/dhaines1/>)

Karen E Rosenblum (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/krosenbl/>)

Linda J Seligmann (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/lseligm2/>)

Associate Professors

Johanna Bockman (<https://globalaffairs.gmu.edu/people/jbockman/>)

Jamie L Clark (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/jclark68/>)

John G. Dale (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/jdale/>)

Nancy W Hanrahan (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/nhanraha/>)

Cortney Hughes Rinker (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/chughe13/>)

Dae Young Kim (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/dkio/>)

Haagen Klaus (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/hklaus/>)

Manjusha Nair (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/mnair4/>)

Rashmi Sadana (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/rsadana/>)

Elizangela Storelli (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/estorell/>)

Daniel H Temple (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/dtemple3/>)

Susan R Trencher (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/strenche/>)

Assistant Professors

Yasemin Ipek (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/yipek/>)

Brian Louis Levy (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/blevy4/>)

Huwymmin Lucia Liu (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/hliu27/>)

Ben Manski (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/bmanski/>)

Christopher Morris (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/cmorri2/>)

Amaka Okechukwu (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/aokechuk/>)

Blake Silver (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/bsilver/>)

Rick W. A. Smith (<https://soan.gmu.edu/people/rsmith86/>)

Requirements & Policies

Policies

Non-Degree Status

Applicants who do not wish to pursue a degree may apply for non-degree status. Non-degree students must meet the same admission requirements as degree-seeking students (minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.00, among other criteria). Non-degree students may later apply for admission to a degree program. Up to nine credits earned in non-degree status may transferred to the master's degrees in anthropology or sociology, subject to the approval of the program director and dean.

Programs

- Anthropology Minor
- Anthropology, BA
- Anthropology, MA
- Immigration Studies Minor
- Sociology Minor
- Sociology, BA
- Sociology, MA
- Sociology, PhD