

Integrated Baccalaureate and Master's Degree in Anthropology (BA) and Museum Studies (MA)



The Integrated Baccalaureate and Master's Degree Program in Anthropology (ANTH) and Museum Studies provides an opportunity for students to complete a BA degree in four years, with an additional year to complete an MA. This unique 4 + 1 program fast tracks outstanding students to careers working with cultural and natural resources. Both degree programs emphasize applied experience in museums and community resources with instruction and mentoring from professionals in the field.

Career Opportunities

Have you wondered what kinds of jobs there are in museums? Here's a selection of positions our graduates hold:

- Executive director, Campbell Center for Historic Preservation Studies
- Administrator, Bishop Hill Heritage Association
- Curator, Amana Colonies
- Adult programming coordinator, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
- Assistant director and curator, German American Heritage Center
- Manager, Member and Donor Relations Development, Shedd Aquarium
- Membership coordinator, Science Museum of Minnesota
- Visitor services manager, Milwaukee Art Museum
- Museum outreach educator, Figge Art Museum
- Assistant curator, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum
- Associate and museum internship coordinator, Albright-Knox Art Gallery
- Collections assistant, National Mississippi River Museum
- Executive director, Pella Historical Society and Tulip Time Festival
- Preparator, Northern Arizona University Art Museum
- Educator, Play Museum of Illinois State Museum
- Account manager, Special Events, Field Museum
- Museum educator, Putnam Museum and Science Center
- Research assistant, Grout Museum District

Admission Requirements

Undergraduate Anthropology students may apply for admission to the Integrated Baccalaureate and Master's Degree Program after completing 60

semester hours (SH) of undergraduate coursework, a minimum of 30 SH of which must have been completed at WIU. Applicants for admission to the integrated program must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.25, and a GPA of 3.25 in the anthropology major.

To apply to the integrated program, students should submit the following documents to the WIU School of Graduate Studies:

- A School of Graduate Studies application form available at wiu.edu/graduate_studies
- Official transcripts from each college or university previously attended
- A one-two page personal statement that explains career goals and how the integrated program will further those objectives
- Three confidential letters of recommendation
- Application for a graduate assistantship during the MA in museum studies program (optional)

Applications will be reviewed when all application materials are received by the School of Graduate Studies office.

Integrated Degree Course Requirements

Admission must be granted by the School of Graduate Studies before a student will be allowed to enroll in the integrated program's bridge ("B") courses. Students may begin taking bridge course after the completion of 90 SH. Students in the integrated program may use 9 SH of bridge courses to satisfy both the BA in anthropology and MA in museum studies, including two required courses and one elective as follows:

Required Course (one)

- MST/ANTH 500B Introduction to Museums

Contact Information

Questions about the undergraduate portion of the program:

Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Morgan Hall 404, Macomb Campus
wiu.edu/cas/sociology/anthro
John Wozniak
(309) 298-1056
JF-Wozniak@wiu.edu
-or-
Ralph Heissinger
(309) 298-1129
RW-Heissinger@wiu.edu

Questions about the graduate portion of the program:

Museum Studies Graduate Program
Pamela White, Director
(309) 762-9481, extension 62340
PJ-White@wiu.edu
wiu.edu/museumstudies

General admission questions:

School of Graduate Studies
(309) 298-1806 or (877) WIU GRAD
Grad-Office@wiu.edu
wiu.edu/grad



**Western Illinois
University**

Elective Courses (choose one)

- ANTH 419B Anthropological Theory
- ANTH 405B Forensic Anthropology
- ANTH 420B Cultural Feast: The Anthropology of Food
- ANTH 425B Culture and Catastrophe: The Anthropology of Disaster

“Adding an anthropologist to a research team is like moving from black-and-white TV to color. We’re able to observe shades of color that others can’t see. Anthropologists understand complexity and can help devise answers that reflect that complexity.”

—Cathleen Crain of LTG Associates

Anthropology Degree (BA)

The bachelor’s degree program in anthropology requires 120 SH of study.

I. ANTH Core Courses: 12 SH

- ANTH 110 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (3 SH)
- ANTH 111 Introduction to Physical Anthropology and Archeology (3 SH)
- ANTH 419G Anthropological Theory (3 SH)
- ANTH 380 OR EIS 440G Language and Culture (3 SH)

II. ANTH Directed Courses: 6 SH

- ANTH 201 World Culture Regions (3 SH)
or
- ANTH 249 Native North American Cultures (3 SH)
- ANTH 305 Applied Anthropological Methods (3 SH)
or
- ANTH 325 Laboratory Analysis of Archaeological Material (1-3 SH)
or
- ANTH 326 Archaeological Field Methods (1-6 SH)

III. ANTH Elective Courses: 15 SH

III. Approved University Minor or Directed Elective Courses: 16 SH minimum

Anthropologists are responsible for popularizing the concept of culture. As a discipline, anthropology also emphasizes a holistic understanding of the connectivity between gender, religion, ethnicity, nationality and economics. Students pursuing a BA in anthropology will be encouraged to see the world holistically as the sum of its biological, social and cultural parts. Holism—an eye toward the all-encompassing “Big Picture”—is what distinguishes anthropology from more technical and specialized fields such as marketing, finance, economics, mathematics and other majors that view the world through narrower lenses.



Anthropology faculty at WIU have extensive field research experience and are nationally and internationally known scholars who specialize in human relationships with the environment.

Museum Studies Degree (MA)

I. Core Courses: 18 SH

- MST/ANTH 500 Introduction to Museums (3 SH)
(completed as bridge course)
- ANTH 419G (3 SH) (completed as bridge course)
- MST 501 Museum Administration (3 SH) (Fall semester)
- MST 515 Museum Education (3 SH) (Fall semester)
- MST 502 Museum Exhibition (3 SH) (Spring semester)
- MST 503 Collections Management (3 SH) (Spring semester)
- MST 516 Visitor Studies (3 SH) (Spring semester)

II. Directed Electives: 12 SH

- MST 520 Independent Study (1-3 SH, repeatable)
- MST 560 Practicum in Museums (1-3 SH, repeatable to 3 SH)
- MST 599 Special Topics in Museums (3 SH)

III. Culmination of the Program

- MST 600 Internship (4 SH)
- MST 601 Workshop Requirement (0 SH)

Total Program: 34 SH (including the 9 SH of bridge courses)

“As a museum studies student through Western Illinois University, the relationships you make with classmates and professors are invaluable. The program teaches you how to be a successful museum professional, and the professors encourage and help you achieve your goals, especially through the internship requirement. I was accepted as an intern at the Abraham Lincoln President Library and Museum and could not be more excited!”

— Krista Sellers
MA, Museum Studies, 2014