

Integrated Baccalaureate Degree in Anthropology (BA) and Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences (MLAS)



The integrated Baccalaureate and Master's Degree Program in Anthropology (ANTH) and Liberal Arts and Sciences (MLAS) at Western Illinois University provides an opportunity for students to complete a BA degree in four years, with an additional year to complete an MLAS. This unique 4 + 1 program fast tracks outstanding students with a multidisciplinary orientation 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.

Distinctive Features

Flexible Program Structure – Students can pursue the integrated BA in Anthropology and master's degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) **in the classroom, online or in a combination of both formats**. Additionally, students have a variety of elective options: write a thesis, work on an applied project or pursue an internship. All these options feature a close working relationship with a faculty director chosen from the graduate faculty within the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS).

Student Organizations – Western's Anthropology and Sociology Club (WASC) and the LAS Student Organization (LASSO) are comprised of undergraduate and graduate students and faculty advisers. The groups sponsor speakers and events relating to diversity issues, culture, sustainability and environmental awareness, and the social side of education, medicine, politics and many other subjects.

Special Opportunities – Our faculty teach short-term **study abroad** courses/field schools to Germany, Puerto Rico, India, Peru and Ecuador. We also offer a summer **archaeological field school** where students explore the prehistoric past.

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- to two-page personal statement that explains career goals and how the integrated program will further those objectives
- Three confidential letters of recommendation

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

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 courses after the completion of 90 SH. Students in the integrated program may use 9 SH of the following bridge courses to satisfy both the BA in Anthropology and the Master's of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree:

- ANTH 405B Forensic Anthropology
- ANTH 410B Anthrozoology
- ANTH 417B Primate Ecology, Behavior and Evolution
- ANTH 419B Anthropological Theory
- ANTH 420B Cultural Feast: The Anthropology of Food
- ANTH 425B Culture and Catastrophe: The Anthropology of Disaster
- ANTH 463B (BOT) Ethnobotany
- ANTH (SOC) 508B Women and Social Movements

Contact Information

Questions about the undergraduate portion of the program:

Department of Sociology and Anthropology
John Wozniak, chair
Morgan Hall 404, Macomb Campus
(309) 298-1056
JF-Wozniak@wiu.edu

Questions about the graduate portion of the program:

Liberal Arts and Sciences Program
Professor Amy Carr, graduate director
Morgan Hall 203A
(309) 298-2507
grad-las@wiu.edu
wiu.edu/las

General admission questions:

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

If taken after the undergraduate degree has been completed, those courses should not be taken with the “B” designator.

“Adding an anthropologist to a research team is like moving from a 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

IV. 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.



Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences Degree (MLAS)

I. Core Courses: 9 SH

- LAS 501 Tradition and Change: Focus on the History and Philosophy of the Sciences (3 SH)
- LAS 502 Tradition and Change: Focus on the Social Sciences (3 SH)
- LAS 503 Tradition and Change: Focus on the Humanities (3 SH)

II. Electives: 18 SH

- Any College of Arts and Sciences Post-Baccalaureate Certificate and/or directed electives approved by the director of Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences program
- No more than three credits of electives may be independent work
- No more than 9 SH of bridge courses in Anthropology may count toward both the BA in Anthropology and the MLAS

III. Select One of the Following Exit Options: 6 SH

- A. *Thesis*
LAS 667 Thesis (6 SH)
- B. *Internship*
LAS 695 Internship Preparation (3 SH)
LAS 696 Internship (3 SH)
- C. *Applied Project*
LAS 699 Applied Project (6 SH)

Total Program: 33 SH

“Anthropology bridges the gaps of understanding between cultures, past and present. It is the needle with which we weave the tapestry of humanity.”

— Christopher Hendricks, Senior