

University of Washington Department of Anthropology  
**Admission Statistics**

Competition for admission is high. An applicant's written statement of purpose is a very important part of the application, as it allows the faculty to look for excellent writing ability, clarity of purpose, realistic assessments of both self and the anthropological profession, and an indication that this department has been chosen for a definite reason. Additionally, letters of recommendation are of interest to faculty, particularly if they are detailed and focus on the intellectual abilities and accomplishments of the applicant. GRE scores and GPA are considered as part of the application; however, these are not necessarily a good indication of a student's capacity to succeed at the graduate level. Therefore, the application is considered as a whole.

**How many applications were submitted for Autumn, 2009?**

| <u>Subdiscipline</u>       | <u># of Applications</u> | <u># of Available Spaces</u> |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Archaeology                | 32                       | 2                            |
| Biocultural Anthropology   | 24                       | 2                            |
| Sociocultural Anthropology | 98                       | 5                            |

**What were the average scores of the students who were admitted for Au/2009?**

|                |          |                |                      |                 |
|----------------|----------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Sociocultural: | GPA 3.79 | GRE Verbal 600 | GRE Quantitative 540 | GRE Writing 5.0 |
| Archaeology:   | GPA 3.73 | GRE Verbal 590 | GRE Quantitative 630 | GRE Writing 4.5 |
| Biocultural:   | GPA 3.87 | GRE Verbal 590 | GRE Quantitative 700 | GRE Writing 5.0 |

**What was the graduate student enrollment for Spring, 2009?**

*There were 128 graduate students in the Department. The subdiscipline enrollment follows:*

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Archaeology                | 37 |
| Biocultural Anthropology   | 22 |
| Environmental Anthropology | 15 |
| Sociocultural Anthropology | 54 |

**Reasons why applicants may be denied admission:**

- low GPA
- low GRE scores
- low TOEFL scores
- insufficiently competitive with other applicants
- department has inadequate faculty and curriculum for applicant's interest area
- statement of purpose is unclear as to why the applicant wants to study anthropology
- applicant does not indicate a definite reason why our department has been chosen for study
- applicant's assessment of the anthropological profession is unrealistic
- writing skills undeveloped
- interest area is unfocused

In order for all applicants to become acquainted with programs that might suit their academic needs, we ask applicants to consult the American Anthropological Association Guide (A Guide to Departments: A Directory of Members <http://www.aaanet.org/pubs/guide.htm> ) for application criteria of anthropological institutions here in the United States.