

UNT Master's Program in Applied Anthropology – Q&A

The [anthropology department website](#) contains very detailed information about both graduate programs: admissions, costs, degree plan, timeline, course information, etc. Please be sure to review our website.

The Application Process

Q: What are the required application items?

A: When you complete the GradCAS application, you will need to submit the application fee and transcripts from all previous college coursework. You'll also need to provide three letters of recommendation, a statement of purpose, and a writing sample.

By which criteria does the admission committee evaluate applications?

Q: The admissions committee evaluates applications according to five (5) criteria:

A:

- 1) Written Communication skills demonstrated in statement of purpose, writing sample, and recommendations
- 2) Academic preparation demonstrated in transcripts, statement of purpose, resume/CV, and recommendations
- 3) Engagement beyond the classroom (research/scholarly/technical/applied skills and/or experiences) demonstrated in statement of purpose, recommendations, writing sample, and resume/CV
- 4) Persistence and motivation demonstrated in statement of purpose, recommendations, resume/CV
- 5) Program fit demonstrated in statement of purpose, recommendations, writing sample, and application form. (Take the time to research the department and program!)

Q: Do you have spring admissions?

A: No, the department only accepts students for the fall semester.

Q: I've been out of school for a while, who should write my letters of recommendation?

A: Letters of recommendation should be written by someone who can speak about your potential to be successful in graduate school. We prefer letters from faculty members first, employers or supervisors next, or directors/managers of places where you may volunteer. We do not look favorably on letters from friends and family members.

Q: I live close to UNT but work during the day, should I apply to the online or on-campus program?

A: Both programs are equal in terms of degree plan, courses, and faculty members. The majority of on-campus graduate courses are offered at night to facilitate work and school. The online program is very popular and gets full quickly. We generally do not allow students to switch back and forth between programs.

Q: What are the costs of the applied anthropology program?

A: The online program costs are outlined on our website:

<http://anthropology.unt.edu/graduate/costs-and-financial-aid>.

People applying to the on-campus program or in-state online applicants can consult the student accounting page for tuition information: <http://sfs.unt.edu/>.

Program Information

- Q:** What is applied anthropology and how is that different than regular anthropology?
- A:** Applied anthropology is simply "anthropology put to use" (to quote John Van Willigen). It is any kind of anthropological research that is done to solve practical problems versus research conducted for research-sake. All faculty members in the UNT department are [applied anthropologists](#). Here are some websites that explain more about applied anthropology: <http://anthropology.unt.edu/about/what-anthropology>
<https://www.sfaa.net/about/>
- Q:** I'm interested in archaeology or forensic anthropology. Do you offer that concentration?
- A:** There are 6 concentrations at the master's level: medical anthropology, organizational anthropology, migration and border studies, anthropology of education, urban anthropology, and environmental anthropology. We do not offer courses nor do we have faculty members who specialize in archaeology or forensics. As far as we know, there are no fully online archaeology or CRM graduate programs.
- Q:** I'm just looking to take a course or two as an elective. Do I need to apply to the program?
- A:** No, you do not need to be in the program to take a course. You could potentially enroll in a course as a graduate non-degree seeking student: <http://tgs.unt.edu/future-students/graduate-admissions/other-graduate-opportunities>.