Public Issues Anthropology: MA Program

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology is pleased to offer an MA in Public Issues Anthropology, with an emphasis on sociocultural anthropology. Our focus is on the interface between anthropological knowledge and issues crucial to governance, public discourse, livelihoods, civil society and contemporary public issues. Our program draws on the expertise of anthropologists who conduct research on a wide range of public issues, including: migration, globalization, human rights, indigenous peoples’ issues, food, culinary and dietary practices, agriculture and rural livelihoods, families and aging, social inequalities, and the anthropology of development. Faculty ethnographic areas include Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, Latin America, and North America, and our students have conducted research in a variety of cultural settings including Botswana, Canada, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Nepal, and Paraguay.

Our course offerings emphasize:

- the current and historical contributions that anthropological knowledge has made and can make to issues of public concern and public policy, and
- the skills, approaches and methods needed to develop and conduct archival and ethnographic research and share results in diverse academic and public venues.

Our deadline for applications for the 2015 cohort is February 1, 2015, and students begin the program in the Fall semester (September).

Program Objectives

The main objectives of the program are to prepare students to enter doctoral programs in Anthropology and to use anthropological knowledge in a range of professional and public roles. Our graduates are well prepared to apply anthropological perspectives and insights to a variety of public issues in diverse workplace and academic settings. Our graduates have continued on to a variety of academic and employment fields, including doctoral programs and working with NGOs.

Admissions

Students with a 4-year undergraduate honours degree in Anthropology will be preferentially considered for admission to the program. However, we will also accept students with a background in other disciplines as long as they have taken at least five Anthropology courses, including both Ethnography and anthropological theory.

http://www.uoguelph.ca/socioanthro/graduate-studies/ma-pia