

# DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

University of South Carolina – Columbia

## INFORMATION ABOUT OUR GRADUATE PROGRAM

2020-2021



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## **ANTHROPOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2020 - 2021**

We thank you for your interest in the Graduate Program in Anthropology at the University of South Carolina. The following pages will give you an idea of the strengths of the department, what faculty are up to, what courses and thesis topics the present graduate students have been involved in, the curriculum and other aspects of student life. We also give you some hints for putting together a successful application.

### **GRADUATE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS DEADLINE: JANUARY 1**

We especially invite you to contact people in the department directly, either by phone, by email, in a visit to the campus, or at annual professional conferences. For more general information, you can always contact us through the department numbers:

Department of Anthropology University of South Carolina 817 Henderson Street, Gambrell Hall, Suite 440, Columbia, SC 29208 Telephone: (803) 777-6500 / FAX: (803) 777-0259

Jennifer Reynolds, Chair Email: [jreynold@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:jreynold@mailbox.sc.edu)

Sharon DeWitte, Graduate Director Email: [dewittes@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:dewittes@mailbox.sc.edu)

Claudia Carriere, Graduate Coordinator Email: [cfcarri@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:cfcarri@mailbox.sc.edu) / Phone: (803) 777-0993

Contact Mrs. Carriere if you have any questions regarding the processing of your application. Contact Dr. DeWitte regarding the status of your application and fellowship awards. Dr. DeWitte can answer your questions about the content of the program and can arrange for you to visit the Department. Feel free to discuss your specific interests, including resources and courses available, with any of the faculty with whom you wish to work.

## **OUR PROGRAMS**

We offer the Master of Arts and the Doctor of Philosophy degrees. Students who enter our M.A. program do not need to have an undergraduate degree in Anthropology, but will need to demonstrate in their applications, that they have an anthropological perspective, can identify a good anthropological research topic and have an idea about the appropriate methods for researching the topic. Students who wish to do the Ph.D. but do not have an M.A. in Anthropology will complete our M.A. program before entering the Ph.D. program. In such cases, students can do coursework and M.A. thesis research that will contribute directly to their anticipated Ph.D. research. Students who have M.A. degrees that required the production of a thesis in Anthropology may enter the Ph.D. program directly.

## **THE DEPARTMENT**

One of the things that makes our department unique is that we are committed to offering graduate students an education in the four traditional sub-fields of anthropology: archaeology, cultural anthropology, linguistic anthropology, and biological anthropology. While students are asked to specialize in one of these fields, we particularly seek students who wish to cross the boundaries between fields and combine them in their graduate work.

We are a small program, so each student is assured of receiving personal attention from our faculty members. There are 33 anthropologists with Ph.D.'s at the main USC campus: 17 in the department, 6 at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, and 10 anthropologists in other departments on campus. We endeavor to give as many students as possible the opportunity to serve as teaching or research assistants. We also encourage students to take advantage of the excellent opportunities and resources offered throughout the university and the wider community of Columbia. For example, there are significant strengths in related fields on campus such as geology, geography (especially Geographic Information Systems) linguistics, sociology, public health, and history. In addition, location in the state's capital affords opportunities for research in government agencies.

Although we do provide training in relatively specialized fields, the required courses provide all students with a thorough theoretical grounding, not only in anthropology as a whole, but also in the theory of their subfield.

## **OTHER RESOURCES**

### **SOUTH CAROLINA INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

Our graduate students regularly work with the many excellent archaeologists in the SCIAA and use their extensive library and collections.

### **GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

The Geography Department has international prominence in GIS (graduate students may follow a sequence of GIS courses).

### **ARNOLD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

The School of Public Health offers several courses (e.g. biostatistics, social determinants of health) that are useful for our students.

### **SC DEPT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY**

Contains resources needed to document historic sites.

### **PUBLIC HISTORY**

The University offers an M.A. through the History Department. Our students often take their courses in the use of historical sources and archives. The department sponsors a certificate program.

### **MUSEUMS**

There are three major museums in Columbia: the University's McKissick Museum, the State Museum, and the Columbia Museum of Art. All three have extensive collections students may use in their research.

## **CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS**

Students enrolled in our graduate program may concurrently enroll in certificate programs offered by the University of South Carolina. A certificate generally entails 18 credit hours of course work, some of which may be applied from your degree program. Students enrolled in certificate programs receive in depth education in the subject area, learn additional skills and have access to additional assistantships, funding and internships. Students taking certificates often need an extra semester to complete their requirements. The programs our students most commonly participate in are:

### **MUSEUM MANAGEMENT**

[http://www.sc.edu/study/colleges\\_schools/artsandsciences/mckissick\\_museum/study/museum\\_management\\_certificate/index.php](http://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/artsandsciences/mckissick_museum/study/museum_management_certificate/index.php)

### **WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES**

[http://www.sc.edu/study/colleges\\_schools/artsandsciences/womens\\_and\\_gender\\_studies/study/graduate/index.php](http://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/artsandsciences/womens_and_gender_studies/study/graduate/index.php)

## FACULTY PROFILES

### **Drucilla Barker**

(Ph.D., University of Illinois – Urbana Champaign, 1988; Prof) Economic anthropology, feminist political economy, globalization and development; [barkerdk@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:barkerdk@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-777-3200

### **Monica Barra**

(Ph.D., City Univesrity of New York; Assist. Prof.) Environmental and urban anthropology, race and inequality, North America and the US South, anthropology of science and technology, political ecology; [mbarra@seoe.sc.edu](mailto:mbarra@seoe.sc.edu) / 803-576-8340

### **Joanna Casey**

(Ph.D., University of Toronto, 1993; Assoc. Prof.) Ethnoarchaeology, prehistoric archaeology, early farming communities, trade, gender, lithics; West Africa, Ethiopia; [jlc@sc.edu](mailto:jlc@sc.edu) / 803-777-6700

### **Carlina de la Cova**

(Ph.D., Indiana University, 2009; Prof. & Graduate Director) Biological anthropology, skeletal biology, paleopathology, health disparities, African diaspora, biohistory, medical history; [delacova@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:delacova@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-777-2957

### **Sharon DeWitte**

(Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University, 2006; Assoc. Prof.) Human osteology, paleodemography, paleoepidemiology, paleomicrobiology, infectious and epidemic diseases, and medieval plague; [dewittes@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:dewittes@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-777-6940

### **John Doering-White**

(Ph.D., University of Michigan; Assist. Prof.) Immigration, humanitarianism, violence, social entrepreneurship, Central America, Mexico and Detroit; [doeringj@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:doeringj@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-777-7252

### **Sherina Feliciano-Santos**

(Ph.D., University of Michigan, 2011; Assoc. Prof.) Linguistic anthropology, activism, language and cultural revitalization, racial and ethnic formations; narrative, face-to-face interaction; Puerto Rico, Caribbean and U.S.; [felicias@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:felicias@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-777-5760

### **Katherine (Kelly) Goldberg**

(Ph.D., University of south Carolina, 2018; Instructor) African Diaspora, historical archaeology, public archaeology; [goldbeke@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:goldbeke@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-777-6500

### **Eric Jones**

(Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University, 2008; Assoc. Prof.) Settlement patterns, landscapes and built environments, human-environment interactions, and demographic archaeology; 803-777-6500

### **Courtney Lewis**

(Ph.D., University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, 2012; Assist. Prof.) Economic anthropology, Native Nation economic development and stability, boundaries, sovereignty, political economy, American Indian and indigenous rights, globalization, entrepreneurship; [lewisco@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:lewisco@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-777-9922

**Marc Moskowitz**

(Ph.D., University of California – San Diego, 1999; Prof. & Interim Chair 2018 - 2019) Cultural and visual anthropology, gender, popular culture, sexuality; China, Taiwan; [moskowit@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:moskowit@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-777-1536

**Jennifer Reynolds**

(Ph.D., University of California – Los Angeles, 2002; Prof. ) Linguistic and visual anthropology, language socialization, language ideology, transnational migration, childhood; Guatemala, Latin America, U.S.; [jreynold@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:jreynold@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-777-2392

**David Simmons**

(Ph.D., Michigan State, 2002; Assoc. Prof. & Faculty Principal, Galen Health Fellows Living/Learning Community ) Medical Anthropology, International Public Health; West and Southern Africa, Dominican Republic; [dsimmons@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:dsimmons@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-777-2321

**Kimberly Simmons**

(Ph.D., Michigan State, 2002; Assoc. Prof.) Cultural anthropology, race and ethnicity, gender, identity formation, women's formations, African Diaspora; US, Dominican Republic, Caribbean, Latin America; [ksimmons@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:ksimmons@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-777-9898

**Magdalena Stawkowski**

(Ph.D., University of Colorado, 2014; Assist. Prof.) Medical Anthropology; Science, Technology and Society; Nuclear Testing and Health; Low-Dose Radiation; Political Economy of Health; Neoliberal Restructuring Programs in post-Soviet States; NGOs and Civil Society; global security; toxicity; post-Soviet Transformations; Central Asia; Kazakhstan; [stawkows@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:stawkows@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-576-7278

**Gail Wagner**

(Ph.D., Washington University – St. Louis, 1987; Assoc. Prof.) Archaeology, paleoethnobotany, ethnobotany, chiefdoms; Southeastern, North America; [gail.wagner@sc.edu](mailto:gail.wagner@sc.edu) / 803-777-6548

**Terrance Weik**

(Ph.D., University of Florida, 2002; Assoc. Prof.) Historical archaeology; African Diaspora, antislavery resistance, ethnogenesis, African-Native American interaction, social identity; Latin & North America; [weik@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:weik@mailbox.sc.edu) / 803-777-6789

## **Anthropologists in Other Departments, Schools or Institutes**

### **Jessica Barnes – Geography Department**

(Ph.D., Columbia U, 2010) Environmental anthropology; water politics; climate change; food security; Middle East. [jebarnes@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:jebarnes@mailbox.sc.edu)

### **Daniel Buxhoeveden – College of Social Work**

(Ph.D., University of Chicago, 1993) Comparative anatomy of the primate cortex with specialization in the minicolumn structures of the hominid brain. [danbux@sc.edu](mailto:danbux@sc.edu)

### **Chester DePratter – SCIAA**

(Associate Research Professor and Head, Research Division, SCIAA. PhD Georgia, 1983) Spanish explorations, contact period, Civil War prisons, coastal shell middens. [depratter@sc.edu](mailto:depratter@sc.edu)

### **Ken Erickson – Darla Moore School of Business**

(Ph.D., Kansas, 1995) Business anthropology, ethnographic method & theory, craft production, small business in contemporary China. [ken.erickson@moore.sc.edu](mailto:ken.erickson@moore.sc.edu)

### **David Hudgens – Regional Director for Asia - Darla Moore School of Business**

(Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh, 2001)

Research and consulting on business and economic development in China.

[dhudgens@moore.sc.edu](mailto:dhudgens@moore.sc.edu)

### **Adam King – SCIAA**

(Ph.D. Pennsylvania State, 1996) Political organization, prehistoric chiefdoms; regional scale, change.

[aking@sc.edu](mailto:aking@sc.edu)

### **David Kneas – Geography**

(Ph.D., Yale University, 2014)

Political ecology, historical ethnography, Latin America

[kneas@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:kneas@mailbox.sc.edu)

### **Jonathan Leader – SCIAA (State Archaeologist)**

(Ph.D., University of Florida, 1988) Archaeometry, conservation, ethnohistory, pre-historic and historic archaeology; North America. [Leaderj@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:Leaderj@mailbox.sc.edu)

### **Kathryn J. Luchok**

(Ph.D., University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, 1993) Women's Health, Maternal and Child Health, Health Equity/Disparities, Global Health, Social Justice, Applied Anthropology, Medical Anthropology, Sociocultural Determinants of Health, Health Services Research, Combining Research Methods, S.E. United States, West Africa, Nepal. [luchok@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:luchok@mailbox.sc.edu)

### **Mark Macaуда – Public Health**

(Ph.D., University of Connecticut, 2007) Applied anthropology; Program Evaluation; Tobacco prevention; Vector-borne disease; Adolescent reproductive health. [macaуда@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:macaуда@mailbox.sc.edu)

### **Jennifer Pournelle – School of the Earth, Ocean and Environment**

(Ph.D., University of California San Diego 2003) Urban origins, sustainability, environment, wetlands, social and cultural change; Mesopotamia, Middle East. [jpournelle@environ.sc.edu](mailto:jpournelle@environ.sc.edu)

**Payal Shah – College of Education**

(Ph.D., Indiana University, 2011) Girls' education, international development and education policy, ethnography and qualitative research methodology, and qualitative research methodology, with geographical expertise in South Asia. [pshah@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:pshah@mailbox.sc.edu)

**Steven D. Smith -SCIAA (Director)**

(Ph.D., University of South Carolina, 2010) Anthropology of warfare, military site archaeology, and conflict archaeology. [smiths@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:smiths@mailbox.sc.edu)

**Jim Spirek – SCIAA**

(MA/MS East Carolina University, 1993) Civil War naval operations, 16th-c seafaring and ship architecture, SC maritime archaeology. [spirek@sc.edu](mailto:spirek@sc.edu)

**Christopher Toumey – Nanotech Center**

(Ph.D., University of North Carolina, 1987) Anthropology of science, using interpretive anthropology to examine the cultural dynamics of scientific controversies; societal and cultural issues in nanotechnology, including contested narratives of nanotech and religious reactions to nanotech. [toumey@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:toumey@mailbox.sc.edu)

**Andrew White – SCIAA**

(Ph.D., University of Michigan, 2012) Hunter-gatherers, lithic technology: human evolution: and complex systems; eastern North America. [aawhite@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:aawhite@mailbox.sc.edu)

**DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS EMERITUS****Leland G. Ferguson**

(Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Ph.D., University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, 1971 – Retired 2002) Historical archaeology, African and Native Americans, complex society.

**Karl G. Heider**

(Carolina Distinguished Professor. Ph.D., Harvard, 1966 – Retired 2008) Cultural, psychological, visual anthropology, ethnographic film, fiction film, nonverbal behavior; Indonesia (West Papua, Sumatra).

**Alice Bee Kasakoff**

(Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Ph.D., Harvard, 1970 – Retired 2008) Social organization, demography, migration, history and anthropology; North American Indians.

**Morgan D. Maclachlan**

(Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Ph.D., Stanford, 1971 – Retired 2000) Economic anthropology, sex roles; India.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Retired faculty may teach occasionally and may be willing to consult with students, however, they are under no obligation to teach or mentor students.

## ADMISSIONS PROCESS

In addition to their undergraduate transcripts, the GRE exams, and two letters of recommendation, applicants are required to submit a writing sample and a statement of their purpose in studying Anthropology at the University of South Carolina. While our standards are flexible, we particularly seek students whose GPAs are above 3.5 and GRE scores are above 148 on the quantitative and 160 on the verbal parts of the test, and above 4.5 in analytical writing. We look closely at the letters of reference and grades, life experiences, and writing samples of students with lower scores, for evidence that they will be able to complete our program.

Your personal statement is an important way for us to get to know a little more about you and decide whether our program will be a good fit for you. Use your personal statement to tell us about your experiences that you feel will contribute to your success in the program, but which may not be evident from your transcripts. Let us know the subfield(s) in which you wish to specialize and the kinds of topics you would like to research. You do not need to have a fully formed proposal, but we would like to see that you can identify a good research topic that can be supervised within our department. Please indicate those professors with whom you would like to study and explain why. In general, the more focused your interests, the easier it will be for us to evaluate whether we can meet your research needs. Please make your statement as professional as possible (e.g.: a person's desire to be an archaeologist when they were a child is perhaps less relevant than what has happened in their more recent history that has made them decide to pursue a graduate degree in Anthropology.)

We do not require you to have majored in Anthropology as an undergraduate. However, it is very helpful if you have had some courses in Anthropology, as otherwise, it may be difficult for you to write a good statement of purpose. If you have not had such courses, you should try to study anthropology either at a University or College and/or to do volunteer work having to do with the field within anthropology that you wish to study. It may be helpful for you to delay your application until you have had such experience. If you are interested in Archaeology, it is very helpful if you have had experience working on a research project. If you have not yet done so, you might seek out opportunities to do so as a volunteer. Experience living abroad is very helpful, as are foreign language and computer expertise.

Your writing sample should be a research paper, completed during the past five (5) years, if possible. We are looking for clear writing and evidence that you can summarize your own research and that of others.

Students who wish to do the Ph.D. but do not have an M.A. in Anthropology will be expected to complete our M.A. program before advancing to the Ph.D. program. Students who intend to do the Ph.D. may orient their coursework and research toward obtaining the skills and background that they will need to conduct their Ph.D. research. These students should apply to the program as Ph.D. students.

It can be helpful for you to **visit the campus**. We like to meet prospective students and, while we do not require an interview, meeting you in person can often help us to get to know you in ways that are not possible through application forms and written statements. It is also a chance for you to meet us and some of our graduate students. However, since we are all on different schedules and sometimes away at meetings, it is important that you **call or email ahead of time and make an appointment**. Holidays and breaks are not a good time to find professors or students on campus. (Please see the published calendar for UofSC on the Registrar's website.)

## **ASSISTANTSHIPS AND OTHER SUPPORT**

The department has a limited number of teaching assistantships that we offer to both M.A. and Ph.D. students. While we may not guarantee multiple years of funding, it is generally expected that students who are offered assistantships at the time they are admitted to the program will have their assistantships renewed subject to the availability of funds and the students' continued good standing in the program. Students pursuing the M.A. are generally funded for four (4) semesters, those entering the Ph.D. program without an M.A. may receive funding for up to 10 semesters, and those entering the Ph.D. directly may receive funding for up to six (6) semesters.

Students pursuing the Ph.D. are expected to seek funding for field or labwork from outside the department (e.g. from the National Science Foundation, Wenner-Gren Foundation, or Fulbright Program) and by doing so can often increase the length of time they are funded. In general, students who have funding from outside the department that is equal to or greater than the funding offered by the department, will not receive department funding during those semesters unless there are teaching assistantships that have not yet been filled. Students who receive a small amount of funding from outside the department may receive department funding to raise their funding level to that typically offered by the department. Students who have had outside funding for much of their program may receive funding from the department during their final stages of writing the dissertation. The only funding offered by the department is teaching assistantships (though individual faculty may have research assistantships periodically funded through sources such as NSF); therefore, students can only receive it if they are present on campus. Assistantships are often available outside the department, and our students have found work at SCIAA, the McKissick Museum, Women's & Gender Studies and other venues around campus. The university will not fund students beyond their sixth year in their programs.

A typical assistantship, for an M.A. student pays \$6750 per semester and students work 15 hours per week. Assistantships for Ph.D. students pay \$7750 per semester and require 20 hours of work per week. Assistantships qualify students for in-state tuition and for tuition fee abatement to help cover tuition for 9 hours for M.A. students and 6 hours for Ph.D. students per semester.

Please note that health insurance coverage is mandatory for all graduate students. The University provides graduate assistants with an insurance subsidy of \$1,000.00/year toward the University-sponsored student health insurance plan. This subsidy generally amounts to about 50% of the cost of the premium; graduate students are responsible for the remaining balance for their health insurance. You may also choose another insurance plan; however, you will not be eligible for the insurance subsidy. Should you choose not to use the student health insurance, you must complete an insurance waiver application.

### **International Students**

The office of International Student Services states that “[a]s an international student at USC, you are required to submit documentation proving that you have enough funding to support your first two semesters of study. You will need to provide financial documentation to cover the estimated tuition and fees for your academic program, as well as the estimated living expenses for two semesters of study. If you are unsure about the amount you [will be] required to provide [please] contact International Student Services at [iss@sc.edu](mailto:iss@sc.edu) “ or visit them online at [https://www.sc.edu/about/offices\\_and\\_divisions/international\\_student\\_services/before\\_you\\_arrive/understand\\_tuition\\_and\\_fees/index.php](https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/international_student_services/before_you_arrive/understand_tuition_and_fees/index.php)

## **FACILITIES**

Graduate students will have office space only if they receive funding from the department as a teaching assistant. All Graduate students have access to the Student Computer Lab, the Biological Anthropology Lab, and several Archaeology Labs. Other computer facilities, including laptop rentals, are available in the College of Arts & Sciences Computing Lab.