

Department of Anthropology | Stanford University
Graduate Report of Degree Progress and Research Proposal Form

Please complete this form to notify the department of both time to degree in the ANTHRO MA or PhD degree programs and to provide the department with the (pre) dissertation research proposal (required of First, Second and Fourth-year PhD cohorts). Please attach the (pre)dissertation (summer) field research proposal and citations.

For the MA Cohort and the PhD First and Second-year Cohorts, please confirm the GRDP Committee advisor as well as a second academic council committee member and time to degree using the format provided below. Once approved by the Faculty Advisors, this form should be submitted to the Student Services Officer (selleck@stanford.edu) by the 15th of May (during spring quarter).

For the PhD Fourth-year Cohort, please attach an updated CV as well as a revised Dissertation Proposal (may include a proposal chapter outline, if available).

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name	SUID#
Email	Telephone
First Faculty Advisor (GRDP Committee Advisor required for all Tracks)	Graduation Quarter/Year
Second Faculty Advisor (GRDP Committee Member required for all tracks, only)	Third Faculty Advisor (GRDP Committee Member required for the EE Track, only)
PhD Minor (if any)	Department/Program
Other MA Degree Program	Department/Program

Track and Program (Check one box)

- Archaeology Track MA in Anthropology
 Archaeology Track PhD in Anthropology
 Culture and Society Track MA in Anthropology
 Culture and Society Track PhD in Anthropology
 Ecology and Environment Track MA in Anthropology
 Ecology and Environment Track PhD in Anthropology

Proposal Title

Proposal Presentation Date (required for EE Track, only) Proposal Presentation Time (required for EE Track, only) Proposal Presentation Location (required for EE Track, only)

Please confirm timely degree progress including successful completion of University Milestones and Department Requirements (see Degree Progress Reference for MA cohort one and PhD cohort years one, two and four below):

Please detail any **exceptions** to timely degree progress using the *Graduate Petition form* (see below)

FACULTY ADVISORS:

First Faculty Advisor Signature & Date Second Faculty Advisor Signature & Date Third Faculty Advisor Signature & Date

Detail for Advisor support (to be provided by the Advisor):

Submit completed form and all supporting statements/documentation to the Student Services Officer (selleck@stanford.edu) via scanned email file attachment (.pdf).

Supplemental Guidelines For the ANTHRO First-year PhD Cohort, only:

Archaeology Track:

-A research proposal that is one to two pages in length, detailing the general direction of the planned research project in light of the first year of the Ph.D. degree program. The proposal should include two or three research questions, information describing the proposed field site(s), a statement of how this summer project will lead to a dissertation proposal, and a reference to two to three bodies of scholarly literature pertaining to the proposed research.

-The proposal should include a faculty advisor with a tenure or tenure-track appointment in the Department of Anthropology as well as a second faculty member who is a member of University Academic Council.

Culture and Society Track:

-A research proposal that is one to two pages in length, detailing the general direction of the planned research project in light of the first year of the Ph.D. degree program. The proposal should specify two or three research questions, briefly describe the proposed field site(s), explain how this summer project will lead to a dissertation project, and identify two to three bodies of scholarly literature pertinent to the proposed research.

-The proposal should include a faculty advisor with a tenure or tenure-track appointment in the Department of Anthropology as well as a second faculty member who is a member of University Academic Council.

*Ecology and Environment Track:

-A research proposal that is one to two pages in length, detailing the general direction of the planned research project in light of the first year of the Ph.D. degree program. The proposal should contain the following sections*: *intellectual aims, methods, preparation, schedule, and potential problems*.

-The first two sections, intellectual aims and preparation, must be presented in the style of a professional review paper or grant proposal with literature citations.

-The proposal should include a committee of three faculty members, two of which must have appointments in the Department of Anthropology and who are members of University Academic Council.

-Finally, the proposal should include a 15 minute presentation that is presented to the (three person) committee on or before 15 May.

*Guidelines for a Proposal, for Ecology and Environment track, First-year PhD Cohort, only.

Intellectual Aims: What intellectual issues do you want to focus on in your graduate studies and research? Why are they important? In your opinion, what are the most productive/promising intellectual directions in this area(s)? These questions should be addressed in the general style of a professional review with appropriate literature citations. The specificity of this section will vary depending on how well-defined your interests are by this stage of your graduate career. If you are weighing which of several general areas to pursue, it is completely acceptable to include multiple possibilities (explicitly identified as such) and discuss how you intend to cull and refine these interests. Alternatively, if you have already settled on a dissertation topic, you could use this section as an initial draft of the introduction to your thesis prospectus. Regardless of specificity, it is appropriate to include discussion of your secondary research interests (again identified as such).

Methods: How are you going to address the intellectual issue(s) you are interested in? Why is your approach (or multiple approaches) the best one(s) to take? What methods/approaches are you not going to use, and why? Again, these questions should be addressed in the general style of a professional review, with appropriate literature citations. The specificity of this section will again vary depending on how well-defined your interests are. It should consider broad approaches to the intellectual issues you are interested in, rather than being limited to specifics. For example, if you wanted to investigate the peopling of the New World via genetic analysis, you should discuss why you are taking a genetic approach rather than, say, a linguistic or skeletal morphology approach. More detailed aspects of the method(s) to be used can certainly be included if you have settled on them, but the focus here is not on data-gathering protocols, but rather on the overall approach. If you have not yet settled on a particular approach, simply discuss the options you are considering and the “pros and cons” of each one.

Preliminary Results: Results arising from ongoing work, if available, can be presented in this section. Here you discuss prior work (e.g., done before arriving at Stanford or in the first year of graduate school) that is pertinent to your proposed plan of research. Reporting preliminary results can be an important litmus test for establishing the feasibility of a proposed research trajectory.

Preparation: What additional preparation do you need in order to pursue the above identified intellectual issues using the above-identified methods? What areas do you need more training in? How are you going to get the training and skills you need? This section may be less formal than the preceding two, but no less important. In essence, you lay out here what you feel you need to learn in graduate school.

Year-By-Year Schedule: Please provide an approximate year-by-year schedule of what you hope to accomplish in your remaining years in the program. Again, depending on how refined your interests are, this section will be more general or more specific. Even at the most general, though, it should still indicate major benchmarks, such as when you expect to finalize your dissertation topic and take the University Oral exams. Be sure to include any substantial periods of time that you expect to be in fieldwork or otherwise away from campus.

Potential Problems: The final section is one of the most important. What are the potential problems with your described course of research and study? What do you see as the biggest challenges? This need not be a long section, but the idea is to get you thinking about the potential pitfalls in what you have proposed. These issues could be any of the following: intellectual (e.g., you are interested in diffusion of cultural traits, but worry that this seems an out-dated area of study); methodological (e.g., extraction of DNA from skeletal remains often fails); logistical (e.g., planned fieldwork is in a politically volatile region); linguistic (e.g., obtaining necessary language fluency in time to allow inspection of field site before finalizing thesis prospectus in third year); and so on. The key here is to think in advance about the problems your research plan may pose, and discuss some of the ways you expect to deal with those problems.

Department of Anthropology, Degree Progress Current Year Reference

Cohort Year One Masters Degree Program

<http://www.stanford.edu/dept/registrar/bulletin/5653.htm>

Cohort Year One Doctoral Degree Program

<http://www.stanford.edu/dept/registrar/bulletin/5654.htm>

Cohort Year Two Doctoral Degree Program

<http://www.stanford.edu/dept/registrar/bulletin/5654.htm>

Cohort Year Four Doctoral Degree Program

<http://www.stanford.edu/dept/registrar/bulletin/5654.htm>