

Writing a Statement of Intent to UGA's Department of Anthropology

We appreciate your interest in graduate study in ecological and environmental anthropology at the University of Georgia (UGA). We thought we would give you a heads up about how to best write your Statement of Intent for our doctoral program.

Think of the Statement of Intent as a mini research proposal: it is your chance to convince us about your research interests and how they connect to our department. From it we can assess your skills as a scholar, your research experiences, and whether UGA will be the best place for you given our expertise and faculty research. This statement will also serve as an example of your professional writing and communication skills. To best write your Statement of Intent, please also contact individual faculty members *beforehand* to assess their availability for doctoral advising in the upcoming years. In sum, a strong statement is about your professional interests and the role the Department can play in your professional development.

Below is a brief summary of suggestions for your State of Intent:

Do:

- Begin your statement with an introductory paragraph that succinctly states your interests and objectives;
- Develop this through subsequent paragraphs, highlighting relevant research, education, laboratory and fieldwork, and other experiences or training that bring you to your current research question;
- Identify one or two faculty members with whom you might work and how your intended topic fits with their research;
- Summarize in a concluding paragraph;
- Limit to 1500 words.

Do not:

- Write a biographical essay;
- Send additional writing samples.

We look forward to your application to UGA!