The Master of Arts in Cultural Resources Management (CRM) involves the identification, evaluation and preservation of cultural resources, as mandated by cultural resources legislation and guided by scientific standards within the planning process. The primary objective of the Master's Program in Cultural Resources Management is to produce professionals who are competent in the methods and techniques appropriate for filling cultural resources management and related positions, and who have the theoretical background necessary for research design and data collection and analysis.

Persons with an MA in CRM will be qualified to hold positions within the United States and its territories. Some individuals will also be qualified to serve outside of the United States in an advisory capacity in establishing and managing cultural resources management programs within environmental protection and preservation contexts of other nations.

The CRM program offers its graduates with training and experience in

- developing projects and programs in cultural resources management
- conducting analyses of archaeological, linguistic and sociocultural data for purposes of assisting public and private sectors in the implementation of environmental protection and historic preservation legislation
- the professional traditions of inquiry within anthropology and history to enable the student to assess the research significance of archaeological and ethnohistorical resources
- anthropological techniques of field and laboratory analysis, and archival and museum preparation
- existing cultural resources management data-keeping facilities

Each student in the program, with the assistance and supervision of a primary faculty advisor, develops a plan of study and thesis project that reflects her or his special interest in cultural resources management. In addition, students are encouraged to present the results of their work and research in professional meetings, research publications and public documents.

Facilities and Faculty

The department's Anthropological Studies Center houses archaeology and ethnographic laboratories and a cultural resources management facility. The Studies Center maintains collections of artifacts, archaeological site records and maps, photographs, manuscripts, tapes and a specialized research library. The Center also provides computer services and facilities for specialized processing techniques, such as obsidian hydration. The Northwest Information Center manages historical records, resources, reports and maps; supplies
historical resources information to the private and public sectors; and compiles and provides a referral list of qualified historical resources consultants. In addition to archaeologists and other anthropologists, participating faculty in the CRM program include historians, biologists, geographers, soil scientists and geologists.

Requirements for the M.A. in Cultural Resources Management

The design of the course of study as a 2 1/2-year program presumes that students are full time and not working. Experience with the program so far indicates that working students cannot successfully carry full graduate loads, and, consequently, it takes three years or more for working students to complete our program of study.

- ANTH 500 Proseminar: 4 units
- HIST* 501 Seminar in Culture, Society and Policy Analysis: 4 units
- ANTH 502 Archaeology: History and Theory: 3 units
- ANTH 503 Seminar in Cultural Resources Management: 3 units
- ANTH** 596/597 Internships: 3 units
- ANTH 599A/B Thesis: 4 units
- Supporting Courses: 9 units

Total units in the CRM degree: 30

* Prerequisite: HIST 472 (History of California to 1913).
** Internships are decided upon by discussion between the student and his or her advisor. Students will normally take both on-campus and off-campus internships. On-campus internships are available at the Cultural Resources Facility, Interpretive and Outreach Services Office, the Northwest Information Center, Archaeological Collections Facility and Ethnography Lab. Off-campus agencies include the Office of Historical Preservation, the National Park Service and the Sonoma County Museum.

Admission to the CRM Program

Applications must be submitted separately in the Fall to 1) the Department of Anthropology/Linguistics AND 2) to the University Admissions and Records Office, for possible acceptance into the program the following academic year. The application deadline date to the Department for possible entry Fall 2006 is November 30, 2005. Consult with the program's graduate coordinator for departmental requirements and submissions, as updated in the fact sheet Admission to the Cultural Resources Management Program in Conditionally Classified Status.

Submit Department applications to:
Margaret Purser
Graduate Coordinator
Cultural Resources Management MA Program
Department of Anthropology/Linguistics
Sonoma State University
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
Telephone: 707-664-3164

contact us | (707) 664.2312 | 1801 East Cotati Ave., Rohnert Park, CA 94928
The Anthropological Studies Center has been helping private companies and government agency clients with archaeological sites, Native American concerns, and historic buildings since 1974. Our staff's intimate working knowledge of state and federal regulations coupled with solid scholarly research earned ASC the American Society of Civil Engineers 1999 Award of Merit as well as the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation; In 2003 ASC's director received the Society for California Archaeology's Thomas F. King Award in Cultural Resources Management.

ASC is led by Dr. Adrian Praetzellis, a practicing archaeologist with over 25 years experience. The organization's large staff is managed by Mary Praetzellis, M.A., who is also a Registered Historian. Jan Coulter, C.P.A., manages ASC's business office.

ASC has a core staff of 30 full-time and 25 part-time employees, including 14 Registered Professional Archaeologists, among whom are historical and prehistoric archaeologists, geoarchaeologists, historians, an oral historian, a staff editor, an archaeological laboratory manager, field and lab technicians, as well as report production, computer graphics, and GIS specialists.

ASC specializes in assisting clients in complying with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act and National Historic Preservation Act, having completed hundreds of projects for private firms, cities, and state and federal agencies.

ASC offers the following research services:

- Archaeology: ASC staff have a variety of experience in many areas...(more)
- Geoarchaeology: Researchers at ASC have conducted numerous studies in connection with a variety of cultural resources management projects...(more)
- Architectural History: ASC staff have recorded and researched hundreds of historic buildings...(more)
- Flotation Services: ASC is equipped and experienced to offer flotation services using a Model A Flot-Tech flotation machine, which can quickly and easily processes a large number of soil or sediments samples...(more)
- NAGPRA: ASC continues its compliance with the federally mandated Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)...(more)
- Collections Facilities: ASC's Collections Facility is one of the largest such facilities in northern California...(more)
- Faunal Lab: ASC has had extensive experience in the excavation of prehistoric and historic-period human remains...(more)
- Interpretive & Outreach Services (School Outreach): ASC brings archaeology, history, and the ethnography of the people of California to the general public through presentations to school groups, tours, museum displays, videos, and pamphlets...(more)