

---

Minimum Grade Point Average of 3.30 in the Anthropology credits, with grades of B or higher in at least 48 credit hours, and no grade lower than C

If you have any questions about these requirements, consult with your academic advisor. If you fail to meet the requirements for an honours degree but otherwise meet the requirements for a general degree, on formal application to graduate you will be awarded a general degree.

It is possible to earn double honours in Anthropology and another of the Arts subjects listed in the Academic Calendar. It is also possible to earn double honours in Anthropology and another subject in the Faculty of Science; if you wish to pursue this option, you should first consult with advisors in both Arts and Science.

A core requirement of the Anthropology honours program is production of an honours thesis within the framework of the two Honours Seminar courses: ANTH 4501 – Honours Thesis Research and ANTH 4502 – Honours Thesis Writing. Normally ANTH 4501 and 4502 are completed consecutively within a single academic year. These courses are taught by the Honours Program Coordinator who supervises the program, including submitting grades, scheduling presentations, etc. Enrolment in these courses is restricted to students who have been accepted into the honours program. Once your registration status has been updated by the Registrar, you can add the classes.

---

The Department has adopted the following schedule and deadlines. Petitions for changes to these deadlines, or for other major changes in procedure, should be made in writing to the Honours Program Coordinator. Committee members alone cannot grant permission for major changes.

Spring Semester

June 1, 2024

Application to Honours Program

Fall Semester

September 25, 2024

Draft Proposal

October 2, 2024

Final Proposal

October 4, 2024

Proposal Presentation

December 31, 2024

Research Complete

Winter Semester

January/Lang (en-CA) BDC q

April 4, 2025  
April 17, 2025

Draft Thesis Returned with Comments  
Final Thesis

Your thesis committee will be composed of three members – one chairperson and two additional members – that you select to provide advice and guidance on your research. Two of these three members, including the chair, must be full-time faculty members of the Department of Anthropology; the third member can be based elsewhere. The Honours Program Coordinator must approve your choices before admission.

You should begin approaching potential committee members well before the deadline to discuss your project and their own individual expectations. Please note that while committee members will be commenting on drafts of the work you complete in the Honours Seminar, they are not proofreaders and are not responsible for correcting errors of grammar or spelling.

As part of your committee participation grade (see below), you are required to set up a meeting at least once a semester with all of your committee members present, either in person or online. The

2. Research Question

Your thesis should be organized around a clear and viable research question, one that can be answered within the scope of your thesis.

3. Data and Methods

Describe the source, nature and extent of the data you will collect. These can take many different forms in anthropology but could be both quantitative and qualitative, including such possibilities as bone measurements, archaeological artifacts, site reports, historical documents, ethnographic interviews, dialect surveys, maps, etc. Discuss what methods you will employ to collect and organize your data.

4. Tradition of Scholarship

Discuss the overall theoretical framework that will guide your interpretations. What work has been done on this topic or in this area by other scholars? Note any differences between your own approach and what has been done in the past.

5. Statement of Significance

Explain the merits of your research and its relevance to the field of anthropology.

Your proposal should be prepared in accord with the guidelines above and in the Honours Thesis Style Guide. Include a list of references and attach any appendixes to the end of your proposal.

Submit your draft by email to each of your committee members and the Honours Program Coordinator by the deadline noted above. Committee members will provide comments and direction based on your draft the following week.

Revise your draft with feedback from your committee for your final proposal and send it as a PDF file to the Honours Program Coordinator by the deadline. The coordinator will distribute it to your committee and all other full-time Anthropology faculty.

Prepare a presentation of your proposal, using PowerPoint or other software, to deliver at a public meeting of faculty and students. After your presentation, the Honours Program Coordinator will solicit feedback from the faculty and provide you with an assessment of your presentation and modifications requested to your proposal. The faculty need to approve your proposal before you proceed to the next phase of your thesis.

---

You should aim to complete all of your data collection by the end of December. At the beginning of the winter semester, you will present a progress report detailing the work completed on your thesis to that point and your plans for completing the project. Your progress report should be written and presented using the following sections:

1. Thesis Proposal  
Briefly summarize the thesis proposal you submitted and presented previously.
2. Progress on Research  
Report on your thesis research to date, describing what you have accomplished and what data has been collected.
3. Changes to Proposed Research  
Discuss any additions, deletions, or modifications to your original proposal, and explain why these changes were necessary. Keep in mind that all major changes need to be discussed with and approved by your committee.
4. Research Remaining  
Identify any research that remains to be completed and explain why you were unable to complete it.
5. Proposed Structure of Thesis  
Describe how you intend to structure your thesis, including a provisional table of contents and timeline for writing your chapters.
6. Preliminary Findings  
Present any preliminary research findings, such as major discoveries you made, confirmation (or not) of your hypotheses, and your conclusions to this point.

Prepare a presentation of your progress report, using PowerPoint or other software, to deliver at a public meeting of faculty and students. After your presentation, the Honours Program Coordinator will solicit feedback from the faculty and provide you with an assessment of your presentation and modifications requested. The faculty need to approve your progress report before you proceed to the next phase of your thesis.

A provisional grade of IP (In Progress) will be assigned for ANTH 4501 at the end of the fall semester. After your progress report is completed, the IP will be changed to a letter grade.

---

The winter semester will be dedicated to writing up the results of your research in the form of your honours thesis. There is no prescribed structure to the content of your final thesis, but major

Proposal Presentation	25%
Final Progress Report	25%
Progress Report Presentation	25%

Failure to meet deadlines will result in a penalty of one grade step (3.0) to your final grade for each late submission or presentation.

All full-time Anthropology faculty and committee members are eligible to grade the final version of your thesis. Graders will assign two grades to your thesis as follows:

Intellectual Content – assesses your argument, use of evidence and the organization of your thesis

Style and Presentation – assesses your skills in written expression, composition, and adherence to the conventions of scholarly writing as outlined in the Honours Thesis Style

We also request that you submit a digital copy of your thesis to the Saint Mary's University Institutional Repository (<http://library2.smu.ca/>) which will make your thesis accessible online. To do so:

1. Email a PDF version of your thesis along with your A# to [theses@smu.ca](mailto:theses@smu.ca)
2. Bring the completed signature sheet from the first page of your thesis to the University Archives, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Patrick Power Library, along with any applicable documentation (REB certificate, Restriction letter, Copyright letters etc.)

If your thesis contains confidential or sensitive material, you may apply to have it restricted. This request must be submitted in writing in a letter addressed to the University Librarian, and the letter should be included with your manuscript submission. The request should specify the length of the restriction (up to a maximum of five years). Restricted projects will not be added to the Institutional Repository during the restriction requested.