



Program Goals: To provide you with the foundations in the methods and theories of medical anthropological and qualitative research, and to develop your own area of concentration.

Eligibility for Admission: The MACCP Program has rolling admissions. All applicants must have completed a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college with at least a 3.0 average and submit results of their GREs. Applicants may come from undergraduate majors in social sciences, humanities, or health fields like medicine, nursing, public health, social work, or counseling.

Student Support Services: The Division of Graduate Medical Sciences has an advising program to assist in thesis research, career guidance and planning. Students also receive in-depth mentoring from their program advisor.

Student Loans: Financial assistance programs available.

Degree Requirements: A 2-year full-time program requiring 60 semester hours, a summer fieldwork or field practicum requirement, 5 day-long professional development workshops, and a thesis.



For Further Information:

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 Boston University School of Medicine
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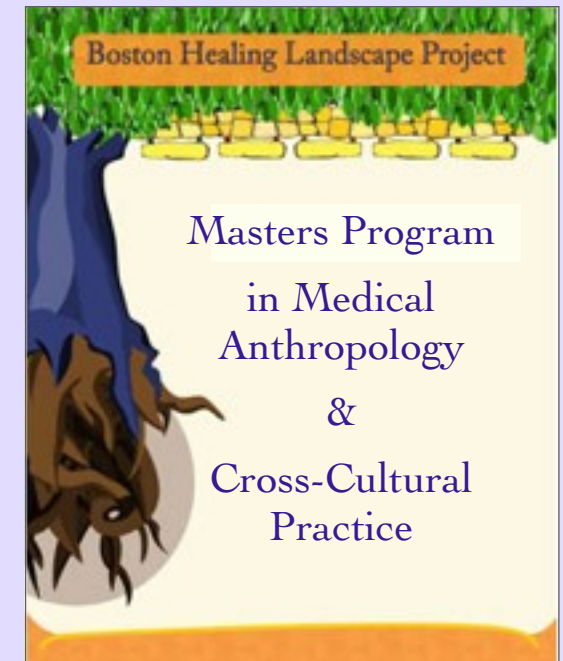
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Boston University School of Medicine



Division of Graduate Medical Sciences
 Department of Family Medicine



FAQs about the MA in Medical Anthropology & Cross-Cultural Practice



What will the program prepare me to do?

The MACCP program prepares students for three broad kinds of work and study:

- To apply to a doctoral program, particularly if you don't have previous training in Medical Anthropology (or even in Anthropology).
- To enter clinical training or practice with strong cross-cultural research and competency-based skills;
- To work in government, social service or regulatory agencies, advocacy organizations, or similar programs;

What have your graduates gone on to do?

As a new program, we don't yet have graduates. However, students we have mentored over the years have gone on to do the following:

Leadership in Health Services: Director of Research and Client Services, Manhattan Research, New York; Program Manager, Multicultural AIDS Coalition, Inc., Boston; Program Coordinator, A Balm in Gilead;

Medical School and Residency Programs: Johns Hopkins; The College of Physicians & Surgeons of Columbia University; Stony Brook, SUNY; Brown University School of Medicine; Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine;

Doctoral Programs in Anthropology: Harvard, U. of Chicago, UC Santa Cruz, McGill, Emory;

Graduate Study in Other Fields: B.U. School of Public Health;

in Psychology; Neag School of Education, U. of Connecticut; Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University; School of Social Work, Salem State College.

What is special about your program?

One of the program's greatest strengths is its interdisciplinary curriculum. On the one hand, we provide a core set of required seminars (two per semester) in medical anthropology research methods and theory. On the other, we help you customize the rest of your program according to your own career aspirations. These other courses can be selected not only from the MACCP electives, but also from courses throughout B.U.

What kinds of applicants are you looking for?

We do not assume any background in anthropology. But, besides reviewing your transcripts, GRE scores, and support letters, we also look at what you say about your engagement in interdisciplinary work. What experience have you built up with the topic or group you want to work with? Have you volunteered, interned, and/or worked in settings with cultural groups other than your own? And last, but not least, do you like to color outside the lines?

Can I do fieldwork abroad or in other parts of the U.S.?

Our program is designed around engaging in local fieldwork, in the Boston region. This approach focuses on global health within our own borders. We both explore the transnational presence in the Boston region, and define Boston as a part of global health. Therefore, the curricular sequence is organized to maximize the fruitfulness of local fieldwork, over a two-year period.

During that time, you'll have the opportunity to build relationships within and with the community in which you'll be focusing your work. There is also a related summer seminar, to provide a forum within which to discuss and reflect on your experiences in a workshop setting.

How many students do you accept into your program?

We expect the program to grow, but will always keep it relatively small, accepting no more than fifteen students or so in any given class year, to be able to provide in-depth, individual mentoring.

Are there any funding sources for tuition costs?

At the masters level, the only aid available usually comes through student loans. The exception may be a local or regional scholarship in your home town or state, for which you may be eligible.

This is why we feel so strongly about planning your program in direct connection with your career visions and goals. We feel a deep responsibility to maximize the likelihood that the effort, time, and money you put into the program will make you the strongest candidates possible for your next steps, whatever those might be.

Do you have any TA positions?

At the Masters level, there are no TA positions. Because our courses are graduate level, TAs have to be at least a program ahead of students in the courses. However, BU has links for student job postings. Some of our students have part-time jobs outside of the university. The only concern we have is that your academic work not suffer.

Can I do the program part-time?

Our half-time option involves completing all of the Year One required seminars (two in History of Theory, and two in Methods) during the first year; then taking your elective courses and doing your fieldwork over the following two years (Years Two and Three), and finally, during the fourth year, completing the three required second-year seminars (two in methods and one in theory), and your thesis. Some students may opt to extend their thesis writing into a fifth year.

Full completion of the degree may take from two to five years, depending on the number of courses you choose to take each year. All the degree requirements must be completed within five calendar years after initial registration for the School. A degree candidate in good standing may also request up to a one-year leave of absence from the School. Leaves of absence will be included in this five-year period.

Is there a joint degree with the School of Public Health?

At this point, there is no dual degree, nor any plan to develop one. However, enrollees in either program can take courses in the other program as electives.