



# LEAD SCHOLARS SKILL BUILDING

November 10, 2021

# What can you do with a degree in Anthropology? (Examples from LEAD Mentors)

- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Museum- docent, technician, etc (curation and collections typically requires a MA)
- Design consultant for UX/UI
- Cultural Resource Management
- GIS technician
- Nonprofit or community-based work
- Human Resources
- Writing (magazines, publishing, journalism, etc)
- Education & Information Technology
- Biomedical Research

# Beneficial Minors/Certificates

- GIS Certificate- GIS for Health, Programming for GIS, GIS for Business, and Introduction to Remote Sensing
- Coding - python, R, SQL
- Foreign language- Spanish, Mandarin, Arabic, French, and Urdu/Hindu all listed as Critical Languages
- Informatics
- Education - especially secondary level
- Public Health
- Global Studies/International Relations/International Business

# Resume Skills

- Statistics -> statistical analysis, proficiency with SAS/SPSS/R
- Ethnographic methods -> interview and observation skills
- Results analysis -> qualitative data analysis
- Language proficiency -> communication, translation, etc. Skills
- Writing -> grants, applications
- Understanding theory -> Critical thinking/problem solving
- Anthro Club -> Leadership & Teamwork
- Laboratory -> protocol driven, detail oriented, problem solving

# Working in CRM

- Most firms expect both field skills and analytic/writing skills, though some will split up the tasks into distinct jobs
  - Field skills like GPS, note-taking, Munsell color chart
  - Analytical skills like lithic and pottery analysis
- Archaeology is inherently destructive, but CRM serves to manage/preserve cultural resources
- You can move up in CRM with a BA but will start to hit walls without an MA
  - It's possible a firm will pay for you to get an MA

# Applying to CRM Jobs

- Join listservs (shovelbums) and keep an eye on [usajobs.gov](http://usajobs.gov)
- Private CRM can be a CV/resume hybrid, so don't stress if it doesn't look like a CV!
- Government jobs are very different
  - Scan application for keywords, will post a job because legally required even if they have someone already
  - CV/resume looks VERY different - much more descriptive and need to follow instructions
- **STAY ORGANIZED**
  - Title documents carefully, keep a transcript handy, save your certificates, don't put the wrong company in your cover letter!
  - Firms may ask for writing samples so save your proudest papers and projects
- Don't be afraid to network and "cold email" - even if you don't get the job

# Private vs. Government CV/Resume

## BIOARCHAEOLOGY RESEARCH ASSISTANT

July 2017 – December 2018

Department of Anthropology ♦ Tulane University, New Orleans, LA ♦ Supervisor: Dr. John Verano

- ♦ Invented and catalogued skeletonized, burnt, and mummified human remains
- ♦ Assisted in case study research to determine the mechanics of a death caused by a woodchipper, including inventorying highly fragmented remains

Tulane University ♦ New Orleans, LA 70118

Dates: July 2017–December 2018

Hours per week: 20

Research Assistant

### Duties, Accomplishments, and Related Skills:

I served as a Research Assistant at the Tulane University Human Osteology Laboratory. My duties included inventorying and cataloging skeletonized, burnt, and mummified human remains from closed forensic cases. This involved case study research to determine the mechanics of a death caused by a wood chipper, including inventorying highly fragmented remains. Additionally, I organized the entire osteological collection housed at the Human Osteology Laboratory, including identifying and siding remains from large assemblages. Due to my ability to adapt to different audiences, including communicating and explaining scientific information in non-technical terms, I was charged with supervising and assisting undergraduates while they utilized the human osteology laboratory.

Supervisor: Dr. John Verano ♦ Phone: [REDACTED] ♦ Email: [REDACTED]

Okay to contact this supervisor: Yes

# Gaining that Experience

- There are some meanies out there, but most people want to help!
  - And don't let the meanies scare you!
- Do what makes you happy
  - People can tell when you're just there to build your resume
  - Your 20s is a time to figure yourself out - find your puzzle pieces before trying to put your picture together (sorry for the corniness)
- The internship doesn't end when you leave
  - Keep that relationship, who knows when you'll need a letter of rec
  - Send thank you cards!
    - "Bat Mitzvah Rule" - don't wait too long and make sure to personalize
  - Having the "go-ahead" to use them for all future applications will make your life SO much easier
- Learning how to network/communicate is possibly just as important as the anthropological skills (sometimes even more)

# Laboratory Research Skills

- You can translate any laboratory skill to any job field.
  - Follow protocol/detailed instructions with little assistance
  - Fine-tuned motor skills/steady hands
  - Advanced record keeping
  - Concise, data-driven writing
- A lot of laboratory skills translate well into museum studies and art/culture conservation
  - Many art restorationists have degrees in biology or chemistry and come from lab science backgrounds. Having a degree in anthropology makes you stand out as we bring a particular expertise in human culture.
  - Art Institute of Chicago has a fabulous restoration MFA and certificate program <https://www.saic.edu/academics/departments/hpres>