The Department of Integrative Anatomical Sciences at the Keck School of Medicine offers a unique one-year Master of Science program, which provides comprehensive training in human anatomy, and the skills necessary to teach it. The course of study encompasses the core disciplines of anatomy: gross anatomy, histology, and neuroanatomy. Courses are taught by Keck Medical School faculty on the Health Sciences Campus of USC.

The year commences with an intensive, hands-on summer course in gross anatomy, which provides a laboratory-based experience with direct supervision in small groups by our faculty. This foundational knowledge of the structures and systems of the human body is a necessary skill set for the subsequent course work in osteology, microscopic anatomy and neuroanatomy. Participants in the program have opportunities to focus on areas of interest including human anatomic variation, clinical anatomical correlations, and functional and evolutionary morphology. Interested students can acquire teaching experience in medical school gross anatomy.

Completing the Master of Science in Integrative Anatomical Sciences can prepare students for 1) teaching positions in the core anatomical sciences (gross anatomy, histology, and neuroanatomy) in pre-health and allied health programs; 2) research positions and further doctoral level training in functional and evolutionary morphology and 3) further studies in the health sciences including medicine, dentistry and other clinical disciplines. We invite you to connect with us to explore the possibilities of this program.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

The Department of Integrative Anatomical Sciences selects highly-qualified students for admission into its Master of Science program in Integrative Anatomical Sciences.

The prerequisite for applicants to the MS program is a bachelor’s degree with a science major or equivalent. Applicants should have a superior undergraduate record at an accredited college or university, with a minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0. Generally required courses include at least one year of college-level biology, one year of college-level physics, and mathematics through calculus. College-level courses in cell biology, developmental biology, organismal biology, and physiology are recommended.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Learn more about our Master’s program (https://keck.usc.edu/integrative-anatomical-sciences-program/) and the Program Requirements (https://keck.usc.edu/integrative-anatomical-sciences/). Submit applications for USC graduate admissions at https://usc.grad.ucla.edu/admissions/apply/

APPLICANTS WILL NEED TO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING FOR Consideration:

1. Three letters of recommendation from faculty members who can evaluate the applicant’s potential for graduate work, teaching and/or independent research.
2. Official transcripts from all institutions attended.
3. Official copies of GRE or MCAT scores. The department does not use a formula or have minimum test score requirements for admission into the M.S. program.
4. Foreign applicants are expected to provide results from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Results from Internet-based, computer-based, or paper-based tests are acceptable.
5. Statement of Purpose. This should describe your reasons for seeking a MS degree in the anatomical sciences and describe your career goals.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** FEBRUARY 1

**FAQs**

What can a person do with a Master’s Degree in Anatomical Sciences?

This degree qualifies a person to teach human anatomy, histology and/or neuroanatomy at the college level. Thus, the emphasis of this program is to teach students how to teach. Moreover, since all bodies are donated to the Keck School (of Medicine of USC, it is excellent preparation for those who plan to attend any health degree program, including medicine, dentistry, nursing, physical therapy or physician assistant.

Does the gross anatomy course involve dissection of a cadaver, and if so, will there be practical examinations? Yes, students are assigned to one donor (we refer to them as donors since all bodies are donated to the Keck School). Students undertake a full-body dissection. Examinations include written and practical examinations.

Do faculty teaching in the Master’s degree program also teach in the medical degree program? Yes, all faculty teach in both degree programs. Many of them are award-winning instructors, and are among the best teachers at the Keck School.

Are the classes for the Master’s degree taught with medical students? The summer gross anatomy course is taught only to the Master’s degree students. The microanatomy and neuroanatomy courses are taught alongside the medical students. Other courses will be taught only to Master’s students.

Does the program require a thesis? No, this is required for this Master’s degree since all requirements can be met through coursework. Doing research is an option but not a requirement.

Is a comprehensive exam included at the end of the year? No, there is no year-end comprehensive examination for this program.

What is the deadline to submit an application? The deadline to apply is February 1.

What is the length of the program? The program is twelve months long from June to May of the following year.

What sort of letters of recommendation are required? A minimum of three letters are required. At least two letters should be from science faculty who know you well and can comment on your likelihood for success in this program. One letter can be from a non-science, non-research person who knows you well.

What is the cost of tuition for the program? For current information on USC tuition and fees, please see https://gradadm.usc.edu/faqs/general-faqs/preparing-to-apply/
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