The Department of Anthropology and Sociology of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva is a young department, founded in 2011, with a dynamic and engaged faculty who actively seek the best students from all over the world. Our programmes provide solid grounding in classical and contemporary social theory, as well as training students in a variety of anthropological and sociological methods.

Research and teaching at the department address in a critical and comparative perspective issues of globalisation and development, law and state, violence and conflict, migration and democracy, environment and natural resources, markets and inequality, gender, health and biomedicine, media culture, while developing a constructive and vigorous dialogue with the international community in Geneva. ANSO faculty members have regional expertise and strong academic networks in Latin America, North America and Europe, Africa, the Middle East, South and Southeast Asia.

We offer unique opportunities for students interested in conducting social research on issues of transnational and global concern.

Our MA and PhD Programmes

ANSO offers a two-year MA programme and a four-year PhD programme. Master’s cohorts are typically around 20 students per year, and our PhD cohorts 10 students per year. Teaching is in English, with some optional courses offered in French.

Our MA programme combines strong theoretical training with an emphasis on original empirical research. It typically attracts students with degrees in various social sciences. Our PhD programme is tailored for people with a background in anthropology/sociology, whose research interests correspond to the thematic profile of the department. The programme involves a year of coursework and preparation. Upon approval of the dissertation proposal, students go on to conduct fieldwork and then write their dissertation.
CAREERS
90% of our students find work within four months of graduation in a wide range of academic institutions, international and non-governmental organisations, public administrations and the private sector. In recent years former ANSO students have secured employment with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Labour Organization, the International Committee of the Red Cross, Médecins Sans Frontières... Others have taken up doctoral, post-doctoral or faculty positions at the University of Geneva, the Max Planck Institute, the University of Oxford, University College London, to mention just a few.

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Read the testimonials of our former and current students!