

ANT 3520: Section 4C54
Skeleton Keys: Introduction to Forensic Anthropology
Fall 2017

Instructor: Amanda Friend, M.A.
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Office: B325

Class Times: T Periods 3:00-4:55pm
R Period 4:05-4:55pm
Location: TUR L011
Office Hours: T 12-3pm
Or by appointment

Instructor: Kevin McDaniel, M.A.
Email: kmcdaniel@ufl.edu
Office: B325

Office Hours: W 12-3pm
Or by appointment

Course Objectives:

This course provides an introduction to the field of forensic anthropology. Forensic anthropology is an applied area of biological anthropology that focuses on the identification of human skeletal remains in a medicolegal context. This course will introduce you to basic terms and principles of forensic anthropology, focus on concepts and their applications, and present case histories. This is not intended to be a “how-to” course but a general overview of the discipline. Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Define the field of forensic anthropology and its purview
- Have a general understanding of human osteology
- Understand the basic concepts underlying determination of the biological profile, including sex, age, ancestry, and stature
- Describe different types of skeletal trauma, and differentiate between antemortem and postmortem trauma

*****Some lectures will include disturbing and graphic images. Consider your reaction to this material before taking this course. You will be responsible for all course material.*****

Course Materials:

Required: Warren MW *et al.* 2011 *Bare Bones: A Survey of Forensic Anthropology*. 2nd edition. Kendall-Hunt Publishing.

Additional readings will be provided by the instructor and posted on Canvas. Advance warning will be given in class and via Canvas when these readings will be needed for class.

Course Policies:

Attendance:

You are expected to attend class at all scheduled lecture times with all assigned readings completed *before* each lecture in order to facilitate discussion and understanding of the material. ***Lectures will not be distributed by the instructor outside of class; PowerPoint presentations will NOT be posted to Canvas.*** If you are unable to attend class, you should get the information covered that day from another student.

Electronics:

Cell phones, iPods, MP3 players, and any other mobile devices are allowed during class time. Recordings or photographing of the slides, presentations or lectures are not allowed unless permission is given by the instructor. If the use of these devices is disruptive to the class, and you do not comply when asked to stop the disruptive behavior, your device will be confiscated for the duration of class and returned to you at the end.

Grading:

There will be three (3) in-class exams worth 100 points each (300pts total). The exams are not cumulative and contribute equally to your final grade. Participation will be given based on in-class quizzes worth 5 points each (100pts total). Reading assignments worth 5 points each will be due via Canvas (60 pts total). A final paper will be worth 50 points. Final grades will be calculated as a percentage of the total available points (510) and graded using the following scale:

Grade	%	Grade	%
A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	E	≤ 59

Final grades will be rounded following conventional math standards; grades ending with a decimal of .5 or greater will be rounded up to the next integer.

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Exams:

Exams are to be taken on the scheduled day (see below). Exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer. Exam material includes lectures, the textbook, videos shown in-class, and guest speakers.

Written Assignments:

A short statement detailing a comment or question pertaining to the reading(s) will be due at the start of class on select Tuesdays via Canvas. The assignment should discuss the

reading that was assigned to be completed on that Tuesday and is stated in the assignment instructions on Canvas. If there is an error with submitting to Canvas, students should email the assignment to the instructor or grader before the deadline.

Class Quizzes

Twenty in-class quizzes will occur throughout the semester, not advertised beforehand. These will be written in-class quizzes. Students will receive zero points if their answer is illegible to the grader and/or their name is not present.

Final Paper:

Students must watch an episode of a television show that depicts a forensic anthropologist or forensic anthropology. Documentaries do not count. The selected show must be approved by the instructor and the show and episode should be clearly listed on the turned in document. After watching the episode, students are to write two pages (Times New Roman, double spaced, 1 inch margins) addressing the elements of forensic anthropology that the show portrayed correctly and elements that were portrayed incorrectly. In instances where there was incorrect information or analyses, students should discuss how a real world forensic anthropologist would handle a similar situation. At least two elements from the recovery setting and two elements from the laboratory setting should be addressed. This document is due on Canvas no later than December 11th at 5:00pm. This is worth up to fifty (50) points. See Canvas for rubric with additional details.

Extra Credit:

One extra credit opportunity is available. Students may on his or her own or in groups create a video with a mnemonic device or fun, easy way to learn information from the course (i.e., song and/or dance). The video can be on any topic covered in the course provided it is done in an appropriate manner. Students should run their plan for this video by the instructor in email form. This video may be used as a teaching tool for future classes. It is worth 10 points. This video is due on Canvas no later than December 11th at 5:00pm. File formats that cannot be viewed by the grader and/or the instructor will not receive credit. The file should be labeled with all students involved or it should be included as a comment with the submission.

Miscellaneous:

Accommodations

Students requesting classroom accommodation should first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>), who will then provide the necessary documentation for the course instructor. Please do this no later than two (2) weeks after the first day of class.

If you are experiencing personal problems that are interfering with your studies, you are encouraged to take advantage of the available university resources:

UF Counseling and Wellness Center: 3190 Radio Road, (352) 392-1575

Student Mental Health: Student Health Care Center, (352) 392-1171

Sexual Assault Recovery Services: Student Health Care Center, (352) 392-1161

Honor Code

Students are expected to uphold the UF student Honor Code. Plagiarism and/ or cheating on any exam, assignment, or quiz will not be tolerated. Students found to be engaging in these behaviors will receive zero (0) points for that exam, assignment, or quiz.

Disciplinary action will follow university policy outlined by the Dean of Students. See <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

Late or Missed Work

Late work will not be accepted without official documentation. In these cases, it is the student's responsibility to provide the instructor with the appropriate documentation and meet with the instructor to devise a schedule for completing the missed work. If a student is unable to take an exam at its scheduled time, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor at least 2 business days *before* the exam so that the necessary arrangements can be made. These arrangements will only be made for students with university approved absences with appropriate documentation. Exams, assignments and/or quizzes that are missed due to medical or family emergencies may only be made up after presenting the instructor with documented evidence of the emergency. Make-up exams, assignments, and/or quizzes will not be arranged for students who are simply unhappy with their scores or for students who missed the exam, assignment, and/or quiz for any reason other than a documented emergency. If a student misses an exam, quiz or assignment without making the appropriate arrangements, they will be assigned a grade of E (0 points). Note that the format of the make-up exam(s) may differ from that of regularly scheduled exams (*e.g.*, primarily composed of essay questions).

Fall 2017 Topics and Readings Schedule:

Below is a tentative schedule of topics to be discussed over the course of the semester. Dates and topics are subject to change, however, the instructor will make all attempts to notify the class of any changes as they arise. Due dates for assignments and exams will not change except for university wide cancellation of courses.

Date	Day	Topic	Assigned Reading
22 Aug	T	Introduction: What is forensic anthropology?	Syllabus
24 Aug	R	The history of forensic anthropology	Ch 2
29 Aug	T	Medicolegal aspects of death & In the field	Chs 1&3
31 Aug	R	In the lab: Evidence processing	
5 Sept	T	Forensic Entomology (Guest Speakers)*	
7 Sept	R	Postmortem interval	Canvas Reading & Ch 4
12 Sept	T	Taphonomy & Human vs. Nonhuman	Ch 4 & Canvas Readings
14 Sept	R	Skeletal biology, terminology, and tools	Ch 5
19 Sept	T	Osteology	Ch 5 & Handout
21 Sept	R	EXAM #1	
26 Sept	T	Biological profile: Age at death	Ch 8
28 Sept	R	Biological profile: Biological sex	Ch 6
3 Oct	T	Biological profile: Ancestry	Ch 7
5 Oct	R	Race	Canvas Reading
10 Oct	T	Biological profile: Stature & Individualizing Traits	Ch 9 & 10
12 Oct	R	Forensic Art	Ch 11
17 Oct	T	Pathology	Canvas Reading
19 Oct	R	EXAM #2	
24 Oct	T	Fracture mechanics and antemortem trauma	Ch 12
26 Oct	R	Blunt force trauma	Ch 12 & Canvas Reading
31 Oct	T	Ballistics & Bomb Blasts (SWC)*	Canvas Reading
2 Nov	R	Sharp force trauma	Ch 12 & Canvas Reading
7 Nov	T	Burned bones & Chemical damage	Ch 13 (p. 235-239)
9 Nov	R	District 8 MEO*	
14 Nov	T	Mass fatalities and human rights missions*	Chapters 14 and 15
16 Nov	R	Historic cases	
21 Nov	T	Anastasia Film	
28 Nov	T	The other forensic sciences & Profession & Ethics	Chapter 16
30 Nov	R	Film on Dr. Maples	
5 Dec	T	EXAM #3	

*Indicates a guest speaker will be conducting the lecture.