

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

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Class Times: MTWRF Period 3
Location: TUR L005
Office Hours: TBA
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 may 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; this includes***

posting Power Point presentations 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 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. The exams are not cumulative and contribute equally to your final grade. Participation will be given based on a short written assignment due on Wednesdays via Canvas worth 5 points each. Final grades will be calculated as a percentage of the total available points (330) 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>

Cheating during exams will not be tolerated. Students found cheating will receive a score of zero (0) points for the exam. Disciplinary action will follow university policy as outlined by the Dean of Students. See <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php> for more information on student academic honesty, rights, responsibilities, and behavior consequences.

Exams:

Exams are to be taken on the scheduled day (see below). If the student is unable to take the 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. Exams 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 will not be arranged for students who are simply unhappy with their test scores or for students who missed the exam for any reason other than a documented emergency. If you miss a test without making the appropriate arrangements, you will be assigned a grade of E (0 points) for that exam.

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).

Extra Credit:

One extra credit opportunity is available. 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 a one page (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 anthropologist would handle a similar situation. This document is due on Canvas no later than August 3rd at 11:00am. This is worth ten extra credit points.

Miscellaneous:

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

Summer 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.

Date	Day	Topic	Assigned Reading
26 Jun	M	Introduction: What is forensic anthropology?	Syllabus
27 Jun	T	The history of forensic anthropology	Chapter 2
28 Jun	W*	Medicolegal aspects of death	Chapter 1
29 Jun	R	In the field: Recovery of human remains	Chapter 3
30 Jun	F	In the lab: Evidence processing	
3 Jul	M	Postmortem interval	
4 Jul	T	NO CLASS	Chapter 4
5 Jul	W*	Taphonomy	Canvas Reading
6 Jul	R	Skeletal biology, terminology, and tools	Chapter 5
7 Jul	F	Osteology	Handout (bring to class)
10 Jul	M	Human vs. non-human remains	Canvas Reading
11 Jul	T	EXAM #1	
12 Jul	W*	Biological profile I: Biological sex	Chapter 6
13 Jul	R	Biological profile II: Age at death	Chapter 8
14 Jul	F	Race	Canvas Reading
17 Jul	M	Biological profile III: Ancestry	Chapter 7
18 Jul	T	Biological profile IV: Stature	Chapter 9
19 Jul	W*	Individualizing characteristics & Forensic Art	Chapter 10 & 11
20 Jul	R	Pathology	Canvas Reading
21 Jul	F	EXAM #2	
24 Jul	M	Fracture mechanics and antemortem trauma	Chapter 12
25 Jul	T	Blunt force trauma & Sharp force trauma	Canvas Reading
26 Jul	W*	Ballistics and gunshot wounds	Canvas Reading
27 Jul	R	Burned bodies	Chapter 13 (p. 235-239)
28 Jul	F	Mass fatalities and human rights missions	Chapters 14 and 15
31 Jul	M	Historic cases	
1 Aug	T	Forensic Entomology	
2 Aug	W*	The other forensic sciences & profession	Chapter 16
3 Aug	R	Film	
4 Aug	F	EXAM #3	

*Indicates due dates of short written assignment.