

Zooarchaeology  
Anthropology ANG 5126  
Fall 2012  
Section 6846  
[www.clas.ufl.edu/users/sdef/](http://www.clas.ufl.edu/users/sdef/)

Dr. Susan D. deFrance  
1350-B Turlington  
Office Hours: T and Th 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.  
and by appointment

## ZOOARCHAEOLOGY

### Required Texts

*Zooarchaeology* by Elizabeth J. Reitz and Elizabeth S. Wing, Cambridge University Press, Second Edition, 2008.

A packet of readings and lab materials is available at Orange and Blue Textbooks

Additional materials will be posted on the class elearning site

### Course Objectives

The goal of the class is to provide an understanding of zooarchaeological methods and analysis. We will also cover a variety of theoretical issues related to zooarchaeological research; however, the primary goal of the class is develop skills in the identification and analysis of zooarchaeological materials. You will be expected to master a range of biological information related to skeletal biology and taxonomy. You will then apply that knowledge to a sample of archaeologically recovered faunal remains. The class will also provide you with the skills to make decisions regarding recovery methods in field situations.

### Course Requirements

The first third of the class will provide the biological foundation for zooarchaeological research. You will then conduct an analysis of zooarchaeological material. The analysis will consist of the sorting of the material, identification, quantification, and preparation of a report describing your findings. In your report you will contextualize the sample in terms of location and chronological placement, problematize your sample, and compare your findings to other faunal studies. An additional handout on the format of your report will be provided (see also Reitz and Wing Appendix A3-2, Pg. 374). You will also present an oral presentation on your findings to the class.

### Grading

Attendance and Participation (CEL phones OFF)	10 %
Lab Practicals (5 – drop one score, must take all 5)	20
Assignments (3) 5% each	15
Midterm take-home exam	20
Research Project and Paper	25
15 minute Oral Presentation	10

**Please do not email me your assignments to me.**

### Honor Code:

**The UF Honor Pledge: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.** For all work submitted for credit by UF students, the following pledge is either required or implied: **"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."**

**Students with Disabilities:**

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. Please register with the Dean of Student's office if you require assistance. They will provide you with documentation to present to your professor. [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)

**Use of the Archaeology Lab – B357**

The archaeology lab is used for teaching and student lab projects. You may use the lab anytime that a class is not in session including nights and weekends. You **MUST** return the key to the lock box on the door. Do not leave the lab door open and unlocked. Always close the door and make sure that it is locked.

Food and drinks are not allowed in the lab. You must clean the table tops of dirt and return all items to the storage shelves along the walls of the room before you leave.

Your respect and consideration of other individuals is essential. Please keep your voices to a minimum. Please be considerate of your use of space and your belongings (bookbags).

There are some comparative skeletal specimens specifically for teaching. However, the majority of the specimens will be from the zooarchaeology comparative collection. These are modern complete skeletal specimens. Countless hours have been spent in their collection and curation. Please be extremely careful when using them. They are in black boxes. Many of the specimens have been sorted (i.e., the black box will contain several smaller boxes and or vials with various elements).


Once your samples are selected, comparative specimens appropriate to your geographic region will be stored on shelves in the lab.

When using a comparative specimen, place the elements in a tan sorting box or on a plastic tray. Do not place specimens on bare table tops. Be careful to keep comparative specimens separate when you are comparing two or more taxa. Be careful to return all vials and smaller boxes to the original box. Return all specimens to the shelf in the lab from which it was removed so that your classmates have access to the material. Do not leave specimens with your sample. **DO NOT** remove skeletal specimens from the lab B357.

The archaeological faunal sample for your project will be housed in boxes on a metal tray. You can use tan trays for the sorting and storage of your specimens. Do not write on the tan boxes. Place temporary identification labels in the boxes. These will contain both provenience information and taxonomic information. You will be responsible for returning your project assemblage to the metal cabinet or storage area assigned after each lab session.

You will be responsible for labelling your assemblage with proper information for curation purposes. Once your preliminary identifications are complete, you will prepare species cards with detailed identification information. Once I have checked your identifications, you will be able to prepare permanent labels for your assemblage and transfer your assemblage to ziploc plastic bags for curation.

You are not to remove specimens, samples, or work materials (scales, microscope) from B357. If you do, I will file a grievance with student honor court for inappropriate use of university material and you will fail the course.



Date	Topic	Readings
<b>Week 1</b>		
Aug. 23	Introduction	Reitz and Wing Ch. 1 and 2
<b>Week 2</b>		
Aug. 28	History and Theory of Zooarchaeology Taxonomy, field guides, basic sources <b>Homework 1 assigned-taxonomy and habitat</b> Skeletal and Basic Biology	Intro to zooarch Bib fish and mollusk guides various field guides in lab Sisson and Grossman Reitz and Wing Ch. 1 and 2 and appendices illustrations
August 30	Skeletal and Basic Biology	
<b>Week 3</b>		
Sept. 4	Mammalian biology and skeleton Lab: Mammals <b>Homework 1 due</b>	Reitz and Wing Ch. 3 Sisson and Grossman; Gilbert Reitz and Wing A2-3
Sept. 6	Lab: Mammals	other lab materials
<b>Week 4</b>		
Sept. 11	Lab: Birds Reitz and Wing A2-4-A2-10 <b>Quiz: Mammals</b>	Howard 1929 Olsen 1972 (part 4) Gilbert et al. 1981
Sept. 13	Basic Ecology	Reitz and Wing Ch. 4
<b>Week 5</b>		
Sept. 18	Lab: Reptiles and Amphibians Reitz and Wing A2-11-A2-13 <b>Quiz: Birds</b>	Romer 1956 Olsen 1968
Sept. 20	Site Context and Recovery	Reitz and Wing Ch. 5
<b>Week 6</b>		
Sept. 25	Lab: Fish Reitz and Wing A2-14-A2-20 <b>Quiz: Reptiles and Amphibians</b>	Gregory 1933 Wheeler and Jones 1989
Sept. 27	Primary Zooarchaeological Data	Reitz and Wing Ch. 6
<b>Week 7</b>		
Oct. 2	Taphonomy Taphonomy exercise- <b>Homework 2 assigned</b> <b>Quiz: Fish</b>	elearning readings

Oct. 4                      Secondary Zooarchaeological Data                      Reitz and Wing Ch. 7, 8  
**Homework 3 assigned**

**Week 8**

Oct. 9                      Lab: receive samples, begin sorting samples  
**Homework 2 due**  
**Quiz: All vertebrates**

Oct. 11                      Ethnoarchaeology                      elearning readings

**Week 9**

Oct. 16                      Lab – sort samples  
Distribute Midterm Exam

Oct. 18                      Domestication                      Reitz and Wing Ch. 9  
**Homework 3 due**

**Week 10**

Oct. 23                      Past Environments                      Reitz and Wing Ch. 10 and 11

Oct. 25                      MIDTERM EXAM due start of class  
**Homework 3 due**  
Work on samples

**Week 11**

Oct. 30                      Work on samples                      read project literature

Nov. 1                      Work on samples

**Week 12**

Nov. 6                      Work on samples                      read project literature

Nov. 8                      Work on samples

**Week 13**

Nov. 13                      Work on samples                      read project literature  
**I will begin to check identifications**

Nov. 15                      Work on samples (Attending AAA conference)

**Week 14**

Nov. 20            Work on samples (sdef in class)            read project literature

Nov. 22            Thanksgiving **Holiday**

***Week 15***

Nov. 27            Work on samples  
                      All identifications must be completed for me to verify  
                      begin quantification of data, NISP, MNI, Biomass and Percentages

Nov. 29            Student Presentations

***Week 16***

Dec. 4             Student Presentations  
                      All corrections to identifications must be completed

Friday, Dec. 7    **all curation of identified samples must be complete by 4 p.m.**

***Week 17***

**REPORTS DUE Monday, December 10, 4:30 pm  
to my office B-1350 Turlington or my mailbox in Turlington 1112  
(please print out a hard copy of your report; do not email them to me)**