

ANT 3126 Introduction to Zooarchaeology
Spring 2011
www.clas.ufl.edu/users/sdef/

Dr. Susan D. deFrance
1350-B Turlington
Office Hours: Tuesday 2-3:30 pm
Thurs 10:30 a.m.- noon
and by appt.

INTRODUCTION TO ZOOARCHAEOLOGY

Required Texts

Zooarchaeology by Elizabeth J. Reitz and Elizabeth S. Wing, Cambridge University Press, 2008, Second Edition available at OBT on NW 13th St.

Lab Manual and Course Packet – available at Orange and Blue Textbooks – OBT

Course Objectives

Zooarchaeology is the study of faunal remains (bone and shell) from archaeological contexts to understand human use of animals for both food and other purposes. This class provides an introduction to the method, theory, and practice of zooarchaeology. We examine the application of zooarchaeology to different types of research questions and archaeological assemblages. We also examine the factors related to both natural and human modification of bone and shell (e.g., taphonomy, butchering practices, tool production).

You are required to master a variety of biological data related to vertebrate skeletal structure using modern animal skeletons. Once you have mastered skeletal biology and systematics (taxonomy for different vertebrates), you will identify a sample of vertebrate faunal material from an archaeological assemblage and prepare a report on that material.

Course Requirements

You are required to attend all class lectures and labs. It will not be possible to make up missed labs, quizzes, or exams without a medical excuse (doctors signed notice) or permission in advance if related to university business (documentation is required). You must be present at the start of class; excess tardiness will count as absence. You are expected to be in class for the entire class period. On those days that we have lab activities, early departure from lab counts as an absence.

CEL PHONES TO OFF/SILENT. No in-class texting.

Grading

Attendance and Participation 10 %

Lab Practicals = 5 in-class quizzes

4 count for 5% each; lowest grade is dropped 20

You must take ALL five to drop 1 quiz

Lab Assignments (5 @ 5% each) 25

Midterm Exam (in class and take home essay) 20

Research Project and Paper (see next page) 25

(No Incomplete grades will be assigned)

Extra Credit assignments – 4 optional extra credit written assignments will be available for you to complete (each will count as 2.5% of total grade) Due dates TBA

Grading scale:

A = 92-100 C = 72-77.00

A- = 90-91.99 C- = 70-71.99

B+ = 88-89.99 D+ = 68-69.99

B = 82-87.99 D = 62-67.99

B- = 80-81.99 D- = 60-61.99

C+ = 78-79.99 E = <60

Note: A C- grade will not count for major, minor, or general education credit. Please see <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html> for more information on grading policy.

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The DSO will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

www.dso.ufl.edu

PLAGARISIM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Your final report and some of the lab assignments will require you to review and cite published literature. If you plagiarize sources, I will file a formal grievance with the Dean of Students Office for judicial affairs and it will become part of your permanent record. You will receive a zero on the assignment.

Zooarchaeology Lab Procedures

We will be having class in the archaeology lab (B357 Turlington). Several other classes meet in this room. You cannot work in the lab when other classes are in session. There is a lock box with a key on the door. If you open the door with this key, please return the key and make sure the lock box is properly closed. Do not remove the key.

We use comparative collections (modern animal specimens) specifically for teaching. These are modern skeletal specimens that are complete; some are articulated. Countless hours have been spent in their collection and curation. Please be extremely careful when using them. Many of the specimens have been sorted (i.e., the black box will contain several smaller boxes and or vials with various elements). **DO NOT MIX SPECIMENS FROM DIFFERENT BOXES.**

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 any material (skeletal collections, books, tools, archaeological samples) from the lab, with the exception of illustrations that I have indicated can be removed for photocopying.

DO NOT REMOVE EITHER YOUR SAMPLE OR MODERN COMPARATIVE MATERIAL FROM THE LAB. REMOVAL OF MATERIAL IS CONSIDERED THEFT OF UNIVERSITY PROPERTY. You are under student honor code to comply with this policy. If you violate this policy, I will contact Campus Police and file a judicial grievance with the Dean of Students office. You will also fail the course.

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 (printed computer labels that you generate in MS. word or Excel). 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 working with your sample. All tables must be clean and specimens returned to their storage location at the end of class or work sessions. Please use dust pan and tray in wooden drawers below articulated specimens.

RESEARCH PAPER GRADING

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Identifications and Primary data | 5 % |
| Secondary data | 5 |
| Paper write-up (including references) | 10 |
| Lab and research conduct | 5 |

| Date | Topic | Readings |
|---------------|---|----------------------------|
| Week 1 | | |
| Jan. 6 | Introduction | Reitz and Wing Ch. 1 and 2 |
| Week 2 | | |
| Jan. 11 | History and Role of Zooarchaeology Basic Biological Data | Reitz and Wing Ch. 1 and 2 |
| Jan. 13 | Taxonomy (www.itis.gov) Geographic Habitats Lab Assignment 1 distributed-taxonomy and animal habitats | Reitz and Wing Ch. 3 |
| Week 3 | | |
| Jan. 18 | Site Context Recovery Methods Lab Assignment 2 distributed- recovery methods | Reitz and Wing Ch. 5 |
| Jan. 20 | Coastal Adaptations Lab Assignment 1 due | |
| Week 4 | | |
| Jan. 25 | Skeletal Structure, Secondary Products from Animals Lab-types of bone modifications, Taphonomy Lab Assignment 3 distributed - Taphonomy Lab Assignment 2 due | Reitz and Wing Ch. 4 |
| Jan. 27 | Basic Ecology | |
| Week 5 | | |
| Feb. 1 | Subsistence Strategies: the Range of Human Behavior Primary Data- first hour Lab Assignment 3 due (First submission) | Reitz and Wing Ch. 8 |
| Feb. 3 | MIDTERM EXAM – in class | Reitz and Wing Ch. 6 |

Week 6

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| Feb. 8 | Skeletal Biology: Class Mammalia Lab- examine mammalian specimens Complete lab worksheet | Reitz and Wing Ch. 9; Packet |
| Feb. 10 | Guest lecture | |

Week 7

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|---------|---|--|
| Feb. 15 | Quiz 1 - Mammals (skeletal elements, taxonomy) Lecture: Domestication and pathologies Lab – mammal skeletal parts worksheet (counts as part of quiz) | |
| Feb. 17 | Historical Zooarch. and Mammal Use: French Colonial Shipwreck Example Mammal skeletal parts worksheet due | |

Week 8

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|---------|--|------------------------------|
| Feb. 22 | Skeletal Biology: Class Aves Lab – examine avian specimens | packet various |
| Feb. 24 | Avian Exploitation in the Prehistoric Past Example from Southern Peru | SdeF will provide reading |

Week 9

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|---------|---|----------------|
| March 1 | Quiz 2 – Aves Lab: Reptiles and Amphibians Skeletal Biology: Reptiles and Amphibians | packet various |
| March 3 | Florida Sites in Freshwater Habitats and Turtle Use | |

Week 10

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| March 8-10 | SPRING BREAK | |
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Week 11

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|----------|---|----------------------|
| March 15 | Quiz 3 - Reptiles and Amphibians Skeletal Biology: Fish | packet various |
| March 17 | Secondary Data Lab Assignment 4 Distributed- Secondary measures | Reitz and Wing Ch. 7 |

Week 12

March 22

Quiz 4 – Bony and Cartilaginous Fishes

Lab Assignment 4 due

Lab- Archaeological Project samples distributed

Begin sorting samples

March 24

Fishing in Different Geographic Regions:

Zooarchaeology, Human Behavior, Technology

Week 13

March 29

Quiz 5 - All Vertebrates

Lab- work on project samples

**Lab Assignment 5 distributed -
archaeological background bibliography**

March 31

Integrating zooarchaeological data
with other archaeological material

Reitz and Wing Ch. 11

Week 14

April 5

Work on project samples

April 7

Ritual/Symbolic Uses of Animals

Lab Assignment 5 due

Week 15

April 12

Work on project samples

April 14

Work on project samples

*** taxonomic identifications must be completed by Thurs., April 14, 4 pm
For me to check and confirm your identifications

Week 16

April 19

Revise identifications after my confirmation of
your taxonomic identifications

April 21

Lecture - Course Summary

Monday APRIL 25, REPORTS DUE by 4 pm

Please bring to my office- 1350-B Turlington (you can put your paper under my door if I am not there); do not leave your paper in B357- the lab.

I will not accept LATE papers without a written medical excuse. Do not email papers to me.