

Skeleton Keys
Introduction to Forensic Anthropology
ANT 3520, Section 4853
Fall 2011

Instructor: Kristina Ballard

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Grader: Karen McIlvoy

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Class meeting times and location: Tuesday 3:00-4:55 pm, Thursdays 4:05-4:55 pm
Turlington (TUR) L005

Office hours and location: Monday 12:30-2:30 pm, Thursday 11:00 am-12:00 pm TUR B327

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, the student 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

Please note that, due to the nature of forensic anthropology and the study of human remains, students may find some of the images presented during lecture disturbing or graphic. Students who are unable to view these images objectively may want to consider dropping the course before the university drop/add deadline. Students who choose to remain in the course will be responsible for knowing all lecture materials.

Required Text: Warren MW *et al.* 2010. *Bare Bones: A Survey of Forensic Anthropology*, 2nd Edition*. Kendall-Hunt Publishing.

*The first edition is an acceptable substitute for the required text if the second edition is unavailable, however, page numbers may differ between editions.

Sections of the above text are assigned to prepare students for lecture and stimulate inquiry. Therefore, reading assignments are to be completed *before* corresponding lecture dates.

Classroom policies: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner that facilitates the learning of their peers.

- Cell phones and other communication devices should be *turned off* during lecture
- Video recording devices are not allowed. Audio recording devices may only be used with express consent from the instructor.
- Students should avoid conversation with their classmates during lecture. If a student has a question, the instructor will be more than happy to answer it either in response to a raised hand, an email, or upon being approached immediately after lecture or during office hours.
- Disrespectful comments will not be tolerated

Students who do not abide by these guidelines may be asked to leave the lecture hall by the instructor.

Attendance: Formal attendance will not be taken. However, exams will draw on lecture materials. Therefore, it is in the student's best interest to regularly attend lectures and take notes. Lecture presentations *will not* be made available to students outside regularly scheduled lecture meeting times. Students who miss lectures must obtain lecture notes from a fellow classmate.

Missed exams may not be made up without prior authorization from the instructor. 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 48 hours *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.

Students with disabilities must register with the Disability Resource Center and present the instructor with an accommodation letter as soon as possible to allow enough time for accommodations to be made. Students who fail to make such arrangements by at least 48 hours prior to test time will not be allowed to make up the exam. More information can be found at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/current.php>

Grading: Final grades are determined by three non-cumulative exams, each worth 100 points (see schedule for dates). Exams are multiple-choice and based on material from lectures, assigned readings, and videos shown in class.

The grading scale is as follows:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
93%- 100%	90%- 92%	87%- 89%	83%- 86%	80%- 82%	77%- 79%	73%- 76%	70%- 72%	67%- 69%	63%- 66%	60%- 62%	59% or lower
279- 300 points	270- 278 points	261- 269 points	249- 260 points	240- 248 points	231- 239 points	219- 230 points	210- 218 points	201- 209 points	189- 200 points	180- 188 points	179 or fewer points

Questions about grades are to be addressed to the instructor *before* final grades are posted online.

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.

Course Schedule: Below is a tentative schedule of topics to be discussed over the course of the Fall 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	Lecture Topic	Assigned Reading
8/23	Introduction, “What is Forensic Anthropology?”	Ch. 2
8/25	The modern medicolegal system	Ch. 1
8/30	Video: LA Coroner’s Office, Field recovery	Ch. 3
9/1	Evidence processing	
9/6	Human vs. non-human, Taphonomy	Ch. 4
9/8	Human anatomy, Bone histology	
9/13	Osteology and osteometry	Ch. 5
9/15	Video: Pushing the Limits, Exam review	
9/20	Exam 1	
9/22	Determination of sex	Ch. 6
9/27	Determination of ancestry and age	Ch. 7 & 8
9/29	Determination of stature	Ch. 9
10/4	Pathology, Individualizing traits	
10/6	Video: Unfleshed	
10/11	Statistics and reference populations	
10/13	Bone mechanics	
10/18	Blunt force trauma and fractures, Sharp force trauma	Ch. 12
10/20	Projectiles	
10/25	Burned remains, Exam review	Ch. 13
10/27	Exam 2	
11/1	Positive identification, Superimposition and reconstruction	Ch. 10 & 11
11/3	Video: Skeleton Stories	
11/8	Mass disasters, Human rights	Ch. 14 & 15
11/10	Military identifications	
11/15	Historic cases, NAGPRA	
11/17	Video: TBA	
11/22	Ethics and standards	
11/24	Thanksgiving holiday – no class	
11/29	Evidence and the judicial system	
12/1	Overview of the forensic sciences	
12/6	The profession of forensic anthropology, Exam review	Ch. 16
TBA	Exam 3	

Additional Resources: Students are encouraged to take advantage of the following campus services if they are experiencing personal difficulties which interfere with their studies.

- University Counseling Center – 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575
- Student Mental Health – Student Health Care Center, 392-1171
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services – Student Health Care Center, 392-1161

Academic help may be found through the following campus services.

- Teaching Center – Ground Floor, Broward Hall, 392-2010
- Reading and Writing Center – Mezzanine, Broward Hall,
<http://www.at.ufl.edu/rwcenter/index.html>
- Academic Advising - <http://www.ufadvising.ufl.edu/>