Human Osteology & Osteometry

ANT 4525 & ANG 5525 / Section 0798 / Fall 2006 / Instructor: Michael Warren ANT 4525 / Section 8944 / Fall 2006 / Instructor: Laurel Freas

Classroom: B-304 Turlington Laboratory: B-342 Turlington

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Human skeletal identification for the physical anthropologist and archaeologist. Identification of human bone and bone fragments. Techniques for estimated age at death, ancestry and sex from human skeletal remains. The measurement of human skeleton for comparative purposes.

Required text: White TD and Folkens P (1991) The Human Bone Manual. Elsevier 2005.

Suggested text: Bass, William (1987) Human Osteology: A laboratory and field manual. Special publication No. 2 of the Missouri Archaeological Society, Inc.

This course provides an intensive introduction to the human skeleton emphasizing the identification of complete and fragmentary skeletal remains. This knowledge forms the underpinning for advanced study in forensic anthropology, paleoanthropology, human osteology and medicine. The course will consist of three hours of lecture per week and independent student laboratory time. Successful students generally require 10 to 20 hours per week of independent laboratory study time. There will be a series of practical quizzes and three mid-term examinations. Students will be required to compile an osteology notebook that contains class notes and drawings.

Course requirements: There will be 8 quizzes; 1 cumulative practical exam; and 1 final exam. The format for quizzes and test will be discussed the first day of class. In addition, each student is required to prepare a course notebook due at the end of the semester. The notebook, comprised of class notes, handouts, and drawings will serve as a future field reference. Additional requirements for the notebook will be discussed in class. No make-up exams will be given. Instead the lowest quiz score for each student will be dropped before computing the final grades for the course. Grades are computed using the raw score of quizzes and midterms. Natural clusters of raw score totals are assigned grades.

Fall 2006

August 23: Syllabus; Class rules; notebook requirements.

August 25: Anatomical terms and orientation/planes; Types of bone

August 28: The Cranium - bones.

August 30: The Cranium - (continued)

September 1: The Mandible

September 4: No Class; Labor Day

September 6: The Skull – foramina and related soft tissue

September 8: Non-metric characters of sex, race and age from the skull

September 11: The Skull – Osteometric pts.

September 13: Measuring the skull; head shape and size.

September 15: QUIZ 1

September 18: Play "Who Wants to be an Osteologist"

September 20: Metric analysis; Fordisc 2.0.

September 22: QUIZ 2

September 25: Dentition.

September 27: Determination of age from dentition; dental pathology.

September 29: Vertebrae

October 2: Vertebrae (continued)

October 4: Os Coxae.

October 6: QUIZ 3

October 9: Determining Sex; locomotion and childbirth.

October 11: Determination of age from the pubic symphysis

October 13: QUIZ 4

October 16: Clavicle and Scapula.

October 18: Thorax – sternum and ribs.

October 20: QUIZ 5 October 23: Humerus

October 25: Radius and Ulna

October 27: The Carpals

October 30: Metacarpals and Phalanges

November 1: Individual meeting with instructors; free laboratory time

November 3: QUIZ 6 November 6: Femur

November 8: Tibia, Fibula and Patella

November 10: No Class; Veteran's Day

November 13: Determining stature (and age) from the long bones

November 15: The immature skeleton; age determination of fetuses and juveniles

November 17: Tarsals

November 20: Metatarsals and Pedal Phalanges

November 22: Play "Who Wants to be an Osteologist"

November 24: QUIZ 7

November 27: Human Identification.

November 29: Forensic case study

December 1: QUIZ 8

December 4: No Class - Independent work on notebooks

December 6: Final Practical Examination

Rules for the Forensic Research Laboratory, B-342 Turlington Hall

- The room is to remain secure at all times. If you leave, even for a few minutes, be sure the door is closed and locked. Access to the classroom and lab is controlled by a card-swipe lock. Students not granted access through their Gator-One card should not be permitted in the classroom. Graduate students with access to the laboratory can admit themselves to the lab. They will be advised to give osteology students priority for lab time unless you are instructed otherwise.
- Permission for visitors to the laboratory must be received from Dr. Warren or another faculty member. No exceptions!
- No specimens are to leave B-342 Turlington Hall.
- All skeletal and other materials are to be treated with the utmost respect.
- The laboratory is not a social center. Please be respectful of other student's study time.

- Osteology students are restricted to specimens in the boxes at the rear of the room. The steelcase cabinets and adjacent wood cabinets are off limits.
- Any transgressions of these rules will lead to point loss and/or dismissal from the course.

Stump The Chump!

Stump the Chump is borrowed from a long-standing tradition at the University of Florida's College of Medicine. Each week I will post a graphic on the web that poses several questions. Students are invited to examine the photo and e-mail their answers. The questions will be easy at first, but will become more difficult as the Osteology course progresses. Good luck . . . and don't be a chump!

Dr. Warren's Home Page