

# Zooarchaeology

Zooarchaeology, ANG5126  
Fall 2022  
Class #26948  
[www.clas.ufl.edu/users/sdef/](http://www.clas.ufl.edu/users/sdef/)

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Office: 1350B Turlington  
Office Hours -  
Monday 1:30-3:30 pm  
Wednesday 1:30-3:00 pm  
and by appointment

## Required Texts

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

Required lab documents and illustrations are available on the class Canvas elearning site. Additional materials/readings will be posted on the elearning site

## Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

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 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	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

Various portions of the project are graded separately to reach 25% - details to follow  
Powerpoint Presentation (~10 slides on your project) 10

**Please submit written assignment via Canvas.**

**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**

Students will have access to B357, the archaeology teaching lab 24/7 with access through the keypad on the door using your UF ID.

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. 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 (backpacks).

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 labeling your assemblage with proper information for curation purposes. Once your preliminary identifications are complete, you will prepare analysis forms 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. Curation is a part of the final project and must be properly completed to receive a grade for the class.

**You are not to remove specimens, samples, or work materials (scales, microscopes) 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>		
August 24	Introduction	Reitz and Wing Ch. 1 and 2
<b>Week 2</b>		
Aug 29	History and Theory of Zooarchaeology	SKIM pre-1970 readings Lyman; Albarella; Thomas; Corona; Wing
Aug 31	Taxonomy, field guides, basic sources fish and mollusk guides	field guides, web sites, ITIS
<b>Assignment 1 assigned-taxonomy and habitat</b>		
<b>Week 3</b>		
Sept 5	Labor Day Holiday	
Sept 7	Skeletal and Basic Biology and appendices illustrations	Reitz and Wing Ch. 1 and 2 Sisson and Grossman
<b>Week 4</b>		
Sept 12	Basic Ecology	Reitz and Wing Ch. 4
Sept 14	Mammalian biology and skeleton Lab: Mammals	Reitz and Wing Ch. 3 Sisson and Grossman; Gilbert in lab
<b>Assignment 1 due</b>		
<b>Week 5</b>		
Sept 19	Site Context and Recovery Tacahuay Birds Case Study	Reitz and Wing Ch. 5
Sept 21	Lab: Birds <b>Quiz: Mammals</b>	Howard 1929 Reitz and Wing A2-4-A2-10 Olsen 1972 (part 4), Gilbert et al. 1981 Canvas lab materials
<b>Week 6</b>		
Sept 26	Primary Zooarchaeological Data	LeFebvre and Sharpe 2018 Driver 1991
Sept 28	Lab: Reptiles and Amphibians <b>Quiz: Birds</b>	Romer 1956, Olsen 1968 Reitz and Wing A2-11-A2-13 Canvas lab materials

**Week 7**

Oct 3	Secondary Zooarchaeological Data <b>Assignment 2 assigned</b>	Reitz and Wing Ch. 7, 8 elearning readings
Oct 5	Lab: Fish <b>Quiz: Reptiles and Amphibians</b>	Gregory 1933 Reitz and Wing A2-14-A2-20 Wheeler and Jones 1989 Canvas lab materials

**Week 8**

Oct 10	Domestication  <b>Assignment 2 due</b>	Manin et al. 2017 Bogaard et al. 2021
Oct 12	<b>Quiz: Fish</b> Lab - Taphonomy Taphonomy exercise <b>Assignment 3 assigned</b>	Reitz and Wing Ch. 10 and 11 Fisher; Seetah

**Week 9**

Oct 17	aDNA and Isotopic analyses	Reitz and Wing Ch. 9
Oct 19	<b>Quiz: All vertebrates</b> Lab: receive samples, begin sorting samples	Lord et al. 2020 Delsol et al. 2022

**Distribute Midterm Exam**

**Week 10**

Oct 24	Andean Case Study – Middle Horizon sites	Nash and deFrance
Oct 26	MIDTERM EXAM due start of class – submit to Canvas <b>Assignment 3 due</b> Work on samples	

**Week 11**

Oct 31	New Orleans Historical Case Study	deFrance and Kennedy
Nov 2	work on samples	read project literature

**Week 12**

Nov 7	Translocating Fauna	Lefebvre et al. 2019
Nov 9	Work on samples	read project literature

**Week 13**

Nov 14                      Ritual and Symbolic Uses of Animals                      Flores-Blanco et al. 2022

**I will begin to check identifications**                      read project literature

Nov 16                      Work on samples

**Week 14**

Nov 21                      Work on samples                      read project literature

Nov 23                      Thanksgiving Holiday

**Week 15**

Nov 28                      Work on samples

Nov 30                      Work on samples  
**All identifications must be completed for me to verify**  
Begin quantification of data, NISP, MNI, and Percentage

**Week 16**

Dec 5                      Student share details of samples, interesting specimens

Dec 7                      Student Presentations - Powerpoint  
**all curation of identified samples must be complete by midnight.**

**REPORTS DUE Tuesday, Dec 13 by midnight**  
**Submit via Canvas**