

ANT 3520: Section 8005 Skeleton Keys: Introduction to Forensic Anthropology

Fall 2015

Instructor: Samantha Coberly

Class Time: MWF period 7(1:55-2:45)

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Location: LIT 0101

Office: Turlington B 325

Office Hours: Friday 10:30 to 1:30

TA: Katie Rubin

Office Hours: Wednesday 3:15 to 6:15

Course Objectives:

This course provides an introduction to the field of forensic anthropology. Forensic anthropology is an applied area of biological anthropology that focuses on the identification of human skeletal remains in a medicolegal context. This course will introduce you to basic terms and principles of forensic anthropology, focus on concepts and their applications, and present case histories. This is not intended to be a “how-to” course but a general overview of the discipline. Upon completion of this course, you 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

Some lectures will include disturbing and graphic images. Consider your reaction to this material before taking this course. You will be responsible for all course material.

Course Materials:

Required:

Warren MW et al. 2011 Bare Bones: A Survey of Forensic Anthropology. 2nd edition. Kendall-Hunt Publishing.

Additional readings may be provided by the instructor and posted on Canvas. Advance warning will be given in class and via Canvas when these readings will be needed for class.

Course Policies:**Attendance:**

You are expected to attend class at all scheduled lecture times with all assigned readings completed before each lecture in order to facilitate discussion and understanding of the material. Lectures will not be distributed by the instructor outside of class; this includes posting Power Point presentations to Canvas.

If you are unable to attend class, you should get the information covered that day from another student.

Electronics:

Cell phones, iPods, MP3 players, and any other mobile devices are not allowed during class time. Recordings of the slides, presentations or lectures are not allowed unless permission is given by the instructor. If the use of these devices is disruptive to the class, and you do not comply when asked to stop the disruptive behavior, you will be dismissed from the classroom.

Grading:

There will be three (3) in-class exams worth 100 points each along with a cumulative final exam that will be worth 150 points. There will be five short writing assignments each worth 10 points. Late work will be a zero. Final grades will be calculated as a percentage of the total available points (500) and graded using the following scale:

Grade%	Grade%
A 93-100	C 73-76
A- 90-92	C-70-72
B+ 87-89	D+ 67-69
B 83-86	D 63-66
B- 80-82	D- 60-62
C+ 77-79	E < 59

Final grades will be rounded following conventional math standards: grades ending with a decimal of .5 or greater will be rounded up to the next integer.

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

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.

Exams:

Exams are to be taken on the scheduled day (see below). 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 2 business days 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. If you miss a test without making the appropriate arrangements, you will be assigned a grade of E (0 points) for that exam.

Note that the format of the make-up exam(s) may differ from that of regularly scheduled exams (e.g., primarily composed of essay questions).

Extra Credit:

At the discretion of the instructor, extra credit opportunities may be provided and, if provided, will be available to all students.

Miscellaneous:

Students requesting classroom accommodation should first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>), who will then provide the necessary documentation for the course instructor. Please do this no later than two (2) weeks after the first day of class.

If you are experiencing personal problems that are interfering with your studies, you are encouraged to take advantage of the available university resources:

UF Counseling and Wellness Center: 3190 Radio Road, (352) 392-1575

Student Mental Health: Student Health Care Center, (352) 392-1171

Sexual Assault Recovery Services: Student Health Care Center, (352) 392-1161

Thank you for Amanda and Katie for letting me use their wording on this Syllabus.

Schedule of Readings

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Readings</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
8/24	Overview of Syllabus		
8/26	History of Forensic Anthropology	Ch 2	
8/28	Medio-Legal Investigation	Ch 1	
8/31	Recovery part 1	Ch 3	
9/2	Recovery Part 2	Ch 3	
9/4	Processing Human remains		Assignment 1
9/7	No Class		
9/9	Postmortem Interval/Taphonomy	Hagland and Sorg 2002 Ch 2	
9/11	Taphonomy	Hagland and Sorg 2002 Ch 3	
9/14	Exam 1		
9/16	Skeleton biology	Ch 5	
9/18	Human vs non- human	Byers 2005 Ch 3	Assignment 2
9/21	Osteology	Handouts	
9/23	Osteology	Handouts	
9/25	Osteology	Handouts	
9/28	Osteometrics	Smith and Boaks 2014	
9/30	Sex of Individual	Ch 6	
10/2	Age Juvenile Individuals	Ch 7	Assignment 3
10/5	Age Adults	Ch 7	
10/7	The Race Issue	Brown 2010 ch 6	
10/9	Ancestry	Ch 8	
10/12	Stature	Ch 9	
10/14	Individual Characteristics	Ch 10	

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Readings</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
10/16	Exam 2		
10/19	Pathology	Ch 11	
10/21	Identification through records	Byers 2005 Ch 18	
10/23	Forensic Reconstruction		Assignment 4
10/26	Anti-mortem vs postmortem	Ch 12	
10/28	Blunt Force Trauma	Ch 12	
10/30	Sharp Force Trauma	Ch 12	
11/2	Ballistics	Ch 12	
11/4	Bomb Blast Trauma	Christasen et al 2012 Dussault et al 2014	
11/6	No Class		
11/9	Fire Trauma	Ch 13	
11/11	No Class		
11/13	Chemical Trauma	Cope and Dupras 2009	Assignment 5
11/16	Mass fatalities	Ch 14	
11/18	Mass Fatalities	Ch 15	
11/20	Exam 3		
11/23	To Be Decided		
11/25	No Class		
11/27	No Class		
11/30	Body Farm		
12/2	Case Studies	Brickley and Ferllini 2007 ch 7	
12/4	Other Forensic Science		
12/7	Forensic Anthropology as a Profession	Ch 16	

12/9 Review

12/16 **3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Final Comprehensive Exam**