

# ANT4525/ANG5525 - Human Osteology

**Classroom Location:** Turlington Hall, 1208J (Osteology Laboratory)

**Class Meeting Time:** Tuesday, Period 3 (9:35-10:25)

Thursday, Period 3-4 (9:35-11:30)

**Instructor:** Dr. Valerie Burke DeLeon

**Email:** vdeleon@ufl.edu

**Lab Office Hours:** TBD (held in Osteology Lab) and by appointment

**Office Location:** Turlington B374

## Course Description:

This course introduces the concepts and methods used in the analysis of human skeletal remains from forensic and archaeological contexts. The skills learned and practiced in this course provide a strong foundation for more advanced studies in comparative anatomy, bioarchaeology, forensic anthropology, paleoanthropology, and paleopathology. This course includes lectures, in-class activities, online resources, and significant independent laboratory study time.

## Student Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) identify whole and fragmentary human skeletal elements;
- 2) relate bone features to associated soft tissue structures;
- 3) distinguish between human and non-human bone;
- 4) estimate age, sex, ancestry, and stature of an individual;
- 5) discuss and evaluate osteological applications in fields such as comparative anatomy, bioarchaeology, forensic anthropology, paleoanthropology, and paleopathology.

## Expectations of Time Required Weekly:

- PREPARATION (reading and notes) likely requires 3 hours
- IN-CLASS lecture and lab activities require 3 hours
- REVIEW activities require a minimum of 4 hours, and more is often required
- SPECIAL PROJECTS (notebook and final project) will add additional time requirements
- **SUCCESS in this course requires a minimum of 10 hours of effort every week!**

## Texts:

### Required:

White TD, Folkens PA (2005) *The Human Bone Manual*. Academic Press.

### Recommended Alternative:

White TD, Black MT, Folkens PA (2011) *Human Osteology*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Academic Press.  
(This is a recommended but more expensive *alternative* to *The Human Bone Manual*.)

**Other Recommended:**

Bass WM (1995 or 2005) *Human Osteology: A Laboratory and Field Manual*. Missouri Archaeological Society.

Buikstra JE, and Ubelaker D (1994) *Standards for the Data Collection from Human Skeletal Remains*. Fayetteville, AR: Arkansas Archeological Survey.

Additional materials will be posted online (Canvas). The course website contains all pertinent information for the course, including the syllabus, handouts, and grades.

**Graded Work:**

Percent of Total Grade	Assignment
50%	Thirteen (13) weekly Practical Quizzes <i>100 points each; lowest grade is dropped</i>
20%	Osteology Notebook
15%	Final Project
15%	Final Practical Exam

**Practical Quizzes and Final Exam**

Quizzes and the final exam will involve the identification of fragmentary skeletal remains and anatomical features, and short-answer questions. Quizzes and the final exam are cumulative; quizzes will be held in class each week and include material covered from the weeks prior. These assessments are timed; students will have **one minute per question/station**. Your goal is to develop the ability to quickly recognize diagnostic features and make an immediate determination of element(s), side, and feature. This is a valuable skill for anyone who will be working with skeletal remains in their future professional career. I will offer plenty of practice quizzes and study material, so you'll get the hang of it quickly!

Students are not permitted to discuss the practical quizzes or final exam with any other student who has not already completed their quiz or exam. Quizzes may not be retaken, but the **lowest quiz score will be dropped at the end of the term**. The grade for the final practical exam **cannot** be dropped.

**Osteology Notebook Guidelines**

Each student is responsible for compiling a notebook of their own labeled drawings of skeletal elements, activities, and notes to be submitted near the end of the semester.

**Artistic skill is not important**; you won't be graded on how nice your drawings are, but you will be expected to illustrate a high level of detail. The main purpose of drawing all skeletal elements is to encourage you to observe every little curve, crease, and bump on each bone. Midway through the semester we'll have a check-in day during class to make sure everyone is on track with their notebook. You'll have an opportunity to see what other people are doing, get ideas, and provide useful feedback on study techniques to your student colleagues. *We will discuss expectations for the notebook in class and on Canvas.*

## Final Project

Students will complete a final project to share with the class in the week before final exams. This is intended to be a fun opportunity for you to create something that builds on all the knowledge that you have gained throughout the class. Acceptable formats for the final project include detailed infographics, learning modules, or original research proposals. We'll discuss possible options throughout the course. Your plan for the final project will be submitted for approval in October, so you'll have plenty of time to work on it.

## Grading

Graded requirements for this course are listed above under “Graded Work.” Grading is based on a percentage earned of a total of points. Grading in this class is consistent with UF policies available at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>.

Letter Grade	Range:	
A	100 %	to 93.0%
A-	< 93.0 %	to 90.0%
B+	< 90.0 %	to 87.0%
B	< 87.0 %	to 83.0%
B-	< 83.0 %	to 80.0%
C+	< 80.0 %	to 77.0%
C	< 77.0 %	to 73.0%
C-	< 73.0 %	to 70.0%
D+	< 70.0 %	to 67.0%
D	< 67.0 %	to 63.0%
D-	< 63.0 %	to 60.0%
F	< 60.0 %	to 0.0%

## Policy on Late and Make-up Work

Please communicate with me if you will miss class or any assignments! Graded requirements that are submitted late due to a documented illness or emergency may be rescheduled; however, 48 hours prior notice should be given to the Instructor, and documentation should be supplied. In the case of unexpected emergencies, the Instructor must be notified in advance, or as soon as possible thereafter, and the student should provide documentation immediately following the occurrence. If you are ill, please stay home.

## Policy on Respectful Use of Human Remains

We are privileged in this course to study the skeletal remains of individual humans. Lab policies are strictly enforced in both the virtual and face-to-face lab environment. We will adhere to a strict policy of dignity and respect for the human remains that we study in both the face-to-face and virtual Osteology Labs.

- Your conduct in this class should demonstrate respect for human remains. This includes handling the material gently in the face-to-face lab. Respect for human remains is also

demonstrated by the words that we use to describe the material with which we are working. This applies in both face-to-face and virtual environments.

- **Images of human remains (2D or 3D) provided for this course via Canvas should NOT be downloaded to your personal devices.** Any lecture videos provided are available for streaming only. All other content with images of human remains (2D or 3D) should be accessed only via Canvas and should NOT be included in your personal notes for class. The only exception to this rule is where we have indicated that a specific image is publicly available.
- No photography is permitted in the Osteology Teaching Lab (TUR 1208J).
- No screen shots or photos should be taken of Canvas lecture videos that include images of remains.
- No specimens are to leave the Osteology Teaching Lab (TUR 1208J).
- Food and drink are prohibited in the laboratory.
- Visitors are not allowed in the lab at any time. NO EXCEPTIONS!

#### **Other Policies:**

**Cell phones and all other mobile device must be silenced during class.**

**Audio and video recording.** Although students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures, no images of human remains may be recorded.

**UF Honor Pledge.** UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. If you have any questions or concerns, please ask me!

**Accommodations.** Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. Visit <https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/> to get started with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

**Course Evaluations.** Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

## UF Resources

- University Police: The UF police are together for a safe campus. 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies); <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.
- Career Connections Center: (352-392-1601 | CareerCenterMarketing@ufsa.ufl.edu)  
Connects job seekers with employers and offers guidance to enrich your collegiate experience and prepare you for life after graduation.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: (352-392-1575)  
Provides both crisis and wellness services including a variety of workshops throughout the semester (e.g., Yappy Hour, Relaxation and Resilience).
- Disability Resource Center: (DRCaccessUF@ufsa.ufl.edu | 352-392-8565)  
Helps to provide an accessible learning environment for all by providing support services and facilitating accommodations, which may vary from course to course. Once registered with DRC, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodations. Students should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.
- Multicultural and Diversity Affairs: (352-294-7850)  
Celebrates and empowers diverse communities and advocates for an inclusive campus.
- Office of Student Veteran Services: (352-294-2948 | vacounselor@ufl.edu) assists student military veterans with access to benefits.

## Weekly Schedule

Topics	Graded Work	DUE
Week 1: Intro and Ethics		
Week 2: Skull and Bone biology	<b>Acknowledgement of Lab Policies</b>	Thu Sep 1
Week 3: Skull: Foramina and Nerves	Practical Quiz #1	Tue Sep 6
Week 4: Dentition and Joints	Practical Quiz #2	Tue Sep 13
Week 5: Spine and Thorax	Practical Quiz #3	Tue Sep 20
Week 6: Upper Limb #1	Practical Quiz #4	Tue Sep 27
Week 7: Upper Limb #2	Practical Quiz #5	Tue Oct 4
	<b>Final Project Proposal</b>	Thu Oct 6
Week 8: Upper Limb #3 and Nonhuman	Practical Quiz #6	Tue Oct 11
Week 9: Lower Limb #1	Practical Quiz #7	Tue Oct 18
	<b>Midterm Notebook Review</b>	Thu Oct 13
Week 10: Lower Limb #2	Practical Quiz #8	Tue Oct 25
Week 11: Lower Limb #3 and MNI	Practical Quiz #9	Tue Nov 1
Week 12: Biomechanics, Trauma, Pathology, Taphonomy	Practical Quiz #10	Tue Nov 8
Week 13: Bioprofile – Sex, Age, & Stature	Practical Quiz #11	Tue Nov 15
Week 14: Final Notebooks and Project Presentations	Practical Quiz #12	Tue Nov 22
	<b>Final Notebooks Due</b>	Tue Nov 22
	Thanksgiving NO CLASS	Thu Nov 24
Week 15: Final Project Presentations	Practical Quiz #13	Tue Nov 29
	<b>Final Project Presentations</b>	Tue Nov 29
Week 16: Review	Final Exam Review	Tue Dec 6
<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Fri Dec 16</b>

**The following rules constitute a contract between student and Instructor. Your signature below represents your commitment to upholding this contract, and your understanding that failure to do so will lead to point loss and/or dismissal from the course.**

**Please print, read and sign this page. Turn it in to the Instructor by the date noted on the schedule. Failure to turn in a signed form will result in loss of Osteology Lab privileges.**

**Rules for the Osteology Laboratory (Turlington Hall 1208J):**

- Students must sign in and out of the lab on every visit outside of scheduled class time.
- The room is to remain secure at all times. Access is controlled by a keypad entry lock; students in this course will be granted access (first 6 digits of UF ID, then press the star key). Lock the room if you are the last to leave – even if you only leave briefly. **If the room is found unlocked, the last group listed on the sign in sheet will be penalized.**
- Visitors are not allowed in the lab at any time. NO EXCEPTIONS!
- No specimens are to leave 1208J Turlington Hall (Osteology Laboratory).
- Food and drink are prohibited in the laboratory.
- Photography of course materials or skeletal remains is strictly prohibited.
- The teaching laboratory is not a social center. Be respectful of other students' study time.
- Be respectful of all Anthropology Department staff and other Turlington Hall staff.
- Osteology students are restricted to specimens in the plastic boxes on the back wall of the teaching laboratory, and to additional materials only as provided by the Instructor.
- Above all, please remember that all skeletal remains, laboratory equipment, and other teaching materials are to be treated with the utmost respect.

***Transgression of these rules will lead to point loss and/or dismissal from the class.***

**I \_\_\_\_\_ (print name) certify that I have read the above rules and understand that failure to comply will lead to point loss and/or dismissal from the course.**

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ UFID: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_**