

**ANT 3520 (Online) Summer A 2015 [Sections 0260 & 0458]**  
**Skeleton Keys: Introduction to Forensic Anthropology**

**Instructor:** Ms. Carrie A. Brown, MA      **Office:** Online  
**Email:**      cbrown311@ufl.edu      **“Office” Hours:** T/R 6-8 PM (online) & by  
**Class Time/Location:** Online      appointment (via telephone or online)

Please note: When e-mailing, include “ANT 3520” in the subject line.

**COURSE GOALS**

- *Introduction to principles of the recovery and analysis of human skeletal remains*  
This course provides a broad overview of forensic anthropology – an applied field of biological anthropology. Forensic anthropology focuses the wider scope of human skeletal biology on problems of medico-legal significance, primarily in the determination of personal identity and cause of death from skeletonized human remains.
  
- *Theoretical and methodological approaches to determination of the biological profile and postmortem interval, and the interpretation of trauma and pathology*  
This course does not teach proficiency in forensic anthropology techniques; however, students will complete the course with an appreciation for the role of the forensic anthropologist in a range of laboratory and field settings.
  
- *Applications/implications of forensic anthropology in broad scientific and social contexts*  
This course discusses the full range of problems associated with human skeletal identification and trauma analysis. These problems will serve as a model for understanding the broader aspects of this field of applied anthropology.

\*\*\*Disclaimer: Some Lectures Will Include Disturbing and Graphic Images - Consider Your Reaction Before Taking This Course. You Will Be Responsible for All Course Material.\*\*\*

**REQUIRED TEXT**

**Warren *et al.* (2011) *Bare Bones: A Survey of Forensic Anthropology, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.*  
Kendall-Hunt Publishing Co.**

Please note: The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition is the required text for the course, but a 1<sup>st</sup> edition textbook is acceptable. Additional materials (in the form of handouts and supplemental readings, etc.) will be provided by the instructor and posted on the course website.

**OPTIONAL TEXT**

Maples and Browning (1995) *Dead Men Do Tell Tales: The Strange and Fascinating Cases of a Forensic Anthropologist.* Broadway Books.

## GRADING

Final grades will be calculated as a percentage of the total available points as follows:

		<b>B+</b>	87-89	<b>C+</b>	77-79	<b>D+</b>	67-69		
<b>A</b>	93-100	<b>B</b>	83-86	<b>C</b>	73-76	<b>D</b>	63-66	<b>E</b>	$\leq 59$
<b>A-</b>	90-92	<b>B-</b>	80-82	<b>C-</b>	70-72	<b>D-</b>	60-62		

Note: After summing all unrounded scores, final grades that include any fraction of a point will be rounded up to the next whole percentage point (*e.g.*, a 92.7  $\rightarrow$  93; 89.1  $\rightarrow$  90, but 90.0  $\rightarrow$  90). No other adjustments are made.

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

## COURSE MECHANICS

To facilitate self-motivated distance learning, this six-week online course is arranged in sixteen (16) modules; two to three modules are covered each week. **ALL** work for **each week MUST** be completed during the **given window** for that week. Assignments will open at 8:00 am on Saturday and close at 11:55 pm on Friday except for Week 1 assignments, which open at 8:00 am Monday on the first day of class (11 May). The specific learning objectives and materials associated with each module are posted on the course website. The due dates are given below.

Comprehension of the syllabus and class policies is essential. An online syllabus/course policies quiz will be **taken during Week 1**; this represents the only opportunity for **extra credit** in this course. If failed, it must be re-taken until the student has passed.

There will be sixteen (16) non-cumulative, online multiple-choice **quizzes** (*i.e.*, one quiz per module, two to three quizzes per week). Each quiz is worth ten (10) points. Combined, these sixteen quizzes constitute **50%** of the final grade.

Each student will complete fourteen (14) **online activities** (*e.g.*, decision tree, short essay, matching). One activity will be assigned per module (exception: Modules 1 and 16, no assigned activity). Together, these online activities constitute approximately **30%** of the final grade (5 - 10 points/activity).

**Group discussion** and online participation constitute approximately **20%** of the final grade (10 points/week). Each student must post to the course's online discussion boards a minimum of one (1) original comment/relevant link and two (2) responses to others' threads and discussions **each week**, for a total of six (6) original comments/links and twelve (12) responses. Online discussion groups will be assigned by the instructor once the Add/Drop period has closed.

## **ONLINE “ATTENDANCE”**

Students who will be missing quizzes, activities, or discussions due to **documented**, excused absences must notify the instructor of the planned absence **no less than 48 hours** before the absence. No arrangements for make-up work will be offered after the Friday deadline, except for illness/family emergency (documentation must be procured through Dean of Students Office). Excused absences include: illness, family emergencies, special curricular requirements, military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays, and participation in official university activities.

Although this is an online course, students are expected to view ***all links*** posted on the course’s website (*e.g.*, lecture videos, films, articles) and are responsible for all material covered therein. Attention to these materials is essential for success in this course, as material for quizzes, activities, and discussion topics may be drawn from any of them.

## **OTHER POLICIES**

Plagiarism and cheating in any form are subject to university policy as outlined by the Dean of Students (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>).

Students requesting classroom accommodation must 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 one (1) week 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

## Summer A 2015: ANT 3520 Course Outline

WEEK	TOPIC	WHAT TO READ	WHAT TO WATCH
<b><i>INTRODUCTORY MODULE</i></b>			
<b>Week 1: 11-15 May</b>	Introduction and Ground Rules: what to expect from an online course; syllabus review; course policies	Syllabus, “Start Here” module	211-Canvas Overview Video
<b><i>MODULE 1: The history of forensic anthropology</i></b>			
<b>1</b>	What is Forensic Anthropology?	Chapter 2	Lecture: What is Forensic Anthropology?
<b>1</b>	History of Forensic Anthropology at UF (and beyond!)	Chapter 2	Lecture: History of Forensic Anthropology at UF
<b><i>MODULE 2: The medicolegal system</i></b>			
<b>1</b>	Medicolegal Aspects of Death	Chapter 1	Lecture: Medicolegal Aspects of Death
<b><i>MODULE 3: Forensic anthropology in the field</i></b>			
<b>Week 2: 16-22 May</b>	Recovery of Human Remains I: Site Location and Site Survey	Chapter 3, articles on CSI effect (online)	Lecture: Recovery of Human Remains I
<b>2</b>	Recovery of Human Remains II: Mapping, Excavation, and Documentation.	Chapter 3	Lecture: Recovery of Human Remains II
<b><i>MODULE 4: Forensic anthropology in the laboratory</i></b>			
<b>2</b>	Processing Remains into Evidence	Chapter 3	Lecture: Processing Remains into Evidence
<b>2</b>	Laboratory Protocols, Procedures, and Quality Assurance	Supplementary “Lab SOP” (online)	Lecture: Laboratory Protocols...
<b><i>MODULE 5: Taphonomy – from biosphere to lithosphere</i></b>			
<b>2</b>	What Happens After Death? Part I	Chapter 4	Lecture: What Happens After Death I
<b>2</b>	What Happens After Death? Part II	Chapter 4, practice activity (online)	Lecture: What Happens After Death II
<b><i>MODULE 6: Anatomy, osteology, measurement, and statistics</i></b>			
<b>Week 3: 23-29 May</b>	Skeletal Anatomy and Osteology	Chapter 5, practice activity (online)	Lecture: Skeletal Anatomy and Osteology
<b>3</b>	Osteometry	Chapter 5	Lecture: Osteometry
<b><i>MODULE 7: Group Characteristics I: Biological sex</i></b>			
<b>3</b>	Sexual Dimorphism, Birth, and Locomotion	Chapter 6	Lecture: Sexual Dimorphism...
<b>3</b>	Methods of Sex Discrimination	Chapter 6	Lecture: Methods of Sex Discrimination
<b><i>MODULE 8: Group Characteristics II: Age-at-death</i></b>			
<b>3</b>	Estimating Age in Children	Chapter 8	Lecture: Estimating Age in Children
<b>3</b>	Estimating Age in Adults	Chapter 8	Lecture: Estimating Age in Adults
<b>3</b>	Methods of Age Estimation	Chapter 8	Lecture: Methods of Age Estimation

WEEK	TOPIC	WHAT TO READ	WHAT TO WATCH
<b>MODULE 9: Group Characteristics III: Stature</b>			
<b>Week 4: 30 May-5 June</b>	Living vs. Forensic Stature; Methods of Stature Estimation	Chapter 9, Ousley 1995 (online)	Lecture: Stature
<b>MODULE 10: Group Characteristics IV: "Race"...fact or fiction?</b>			
<b>4</b>	Race...Fact or Fiction?	Chapter 7, PBS website, Sauer 1992 (online)	Lecture: "Race" Fact or Fiction?
<b>4</b>	Clinal Variation and Population Affinities	Chapter 7	Lecture: Clinal Variation...
<b>4</b>	Determination of Ancestry: Do anthropologists cheat?	Chapter 7	Lecture: Determination of Ancestry
<b>MODULE 11: Individual characteristics and personal identification</b>			
<b>4</b>	Individuating Skeletal Characteristics	Chapter 10	Lecture: Individuating Skeletal Characteristics
<b>4</b>	Ante- and Post-mortem Radiographic Comparison	Chapter 10, practice activity (online)	Lecture: Antemortem and Postmortem...
<b>4</b>	Personal Identification in Action	Chapter 10	Video: <i>Unfleshed: The Story of Dr. Maples</i>
<b>MODULE 12: Forensic art</b>			
<b>Week 5: 6-12 June</b>	Forensic Reconstructions: Art or science?	Chapter 11	Lecture: Forensic Reconstructions; Video: <i>Skeleton Stories</i> Episode 7
<b>MODULE 13: Trauma and cause of death</b>			
<b>5</b>	Trauma and Cause of Death: Ante- vs. Postmortem	Chapter 12	Lecture: Trauma and Cause of Death I
<b>5</b>	Trauma and Cause of Death: Blunt- vs. Sharp-force	Chapter 12	Lecture: Trauma and Cause of Death II
<b>5</b>	Trauma and Cause of Death: Ballistics and Gunshots	Chapter 12, study activity (online)	Lecture: Trauma and Cause of Death III
<b>MODULE 14: Cremation</b>			
<b>5</b>	Burned Bodies and Cremated Remains	Chapter 13	Lecture: Burned Bodies and Cremated Remains
<b>5</b>	What Survives Cremation?	Chapter 13	Lecture: What Survives Cremation?
<b>MODULE 15: Mass fatalities</b>			
<b>Week 6: 13-19 June</b>	Mass Fatality Case History I: ValuJet Flight 592	Chapter 14	Lecture: Mass Fatality Case History I
<b>6</b>	Mass Fatality Case History II: World Trade Center	Chapter 14	Lecture: Mass Fatality Case History II
<b>6</b>	Mass Fatality Case History III: Hurricane Katrina	Chapter 14	Lecture: Mass Fatality Case History III
<b>MODULE 16: Career paths and applications of forensic anthropology</b>			
<b>6</b>	Human Rights Missions	Chapter 15	Lecture: Human Rights Missions
<b>6</b>	Military Identifications	Chapter 16	JPAC Video links

**Summer A 2015: ANT 3520 Due Dates – Use this to track your assignments**

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Description/Location</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Done</b>
<b>Week 1 (11-15 May)</b>				
Quiz: Syllabus/Course Policies	Check your understanding of the course policies, in Quizzes tool	15 May	Extra Credit (up to +5)	
Discussion: Introduction	Discussion tool, original post and two responses	15 May	10	
Quiz: Module 1	Quizzes tool	15 May	10	
Activity: Module 2 Medicolegal System Matching	Quizzes tool	15 May	5	
Quiz: Module 2	Quizzes tool	15 May	10	
<b>Week 2 (16-22 May)</b>				
Discussion: The CSI Effect	Discussion tool, original post and two responses	22 May	10	
Activity: Module 3 Recovery Scene	Handout with questions in Module 3; enter answers in Quizzes tool	22 May	10	
Quiz: Module 3	Quizzes tool	22 May	10	
Activity: Module 4 Decision Tree	Create with Gliffy and upload in Quizzes tool; example and Gliffy tutorial in Module 3	22 May	10	
Quiz: Module 4	Quizzes tool	22 May	10	
Activity: Module 5 Taphonomy Matching	Practice in Module 5; Graded activity in Quizzes tool	22 May	5	
Quiz: Module 5	Quizzes tool	22 May	10	
<b>Week 3 (23-29 May)</b>				
Discussion: Taphonomy and Forensics	Discussion tool, original post and two responses	29 May	10	
Activities: Module 6 Osteology matching	Practice in Module 6; Graded activity in Quizzes tool	29 May	5	
Quiz: Module 6	Quizzes tool	29 May	10	
Essay: Module 7 Biological Sex	Write a 1-page paper (double-spaced, 12-point font, 1-inch margins); topic in Module 7, upload in Quizzes tool	29 May	10	
Quiz: Module 7	Quizzes tool	29 May	10	
Activity: Module 8 Age matching	Quizzes tool	29 May	5	
Quiz: Module 8	Quizzes tool	29 May	10	

<b>Week 4 (30 May- 5 June)</b>				
Activity: Module 9 Stature Estimation	Handouts with questions and formulae in Module 9; enter answers in Quizzes tool	5 June	10	
Quiz: Module 9	Quizzes tool	5 June	10	
Discussion: "RACE?"	Discussion tool, original post and two responses	5 June	10	
Activity: Module 10 "Sorting people" and Reaction	Instructions in Module 10; upload in Quizzes tool	5 June	10	
Quiz: Module 10	Quizzes tool	5 June	10	
Activity: Module 11 Radiograph Comparison	Practice in Module 11; Graded activity in Quizzes tool	5 June	5	
Quiz: Module 11	Quizzes tool	5 June	10	
<b>Week 5 (6-12 June)</b>				
Discussion: Forensic Reconstruction	Discussion tool, original post and two responses	12 June	10	
Activity: Module 12 Art vs. Science Matching	Quizzes tool	12 June	5	
Quiz: Module 12	Quizzes tool	12 June	10	
Activity: Module 13 Trauma Matching	Practice in Module 13; Graded activity in Quizzes tool	12 June	5	
Quiz: Module 13	Quizzes tool	12 June	10	
Activity: Module 14 Cremation Artifact Identification	Quizzes tool	12 June	5	
Quiz: Module 14	Quizzes tool	12 June	10	
<b>Week 6 (13-19 June)</b>				
Discussion: Burned Bodies	Discussion tool, original post and two responses	19 June	10	
Activity: Module 15 Mass Disaster Response	Create with Gliffy and upload in Quizzes tool; example and Gliffy tutorial in Module 15	19 June	10	
Quiz: Module 15	Quizzes tool	19 June	10	
Quiz: Module 16	Quizzes tool	19 June	10	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>			<b>320</b>	