

**Skeleton Keys**  
**Introduction to Forensic Anthropology**  
ANT 3520, Section 0458  
Summer A 2011

Instructor: Kristina Ballard, M.A.

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Class meeting times and location: Monday – Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> period (2:00 – 3:15 pm),  
Turlington L005

Office hours and location: TBA

**Course Objectives:** Upon completion of this course, the student 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

Please note that, due to the nature of forensic anthropology and the study of human remains, students may find some of the images presented during lecture disturbing or graphic. Students who are unable to view these images objectively may want to consider dropping the course before the university drop/add deadline. Students who choose to remain in the course will be responsible for knowing all lecture materials.

**Required Text:** Warren MW *et al.* 2010. *Bare Bones: A Survey of Forensic Anthropology*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition\*. Kendall-Hunt Publishing.

\*The first edition is an acceptable substitute for the required text if the second edition is unavailable, however, page numbers may differ between editions.

Sections of the above text are assigned to prepare students for lecture and stimulate inquiry. Therefore, reading assignments are to be completed *before* corresponding lecture dates.

**Classroom policies:** Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner that facilitates the learning of their peers.

- Cell phones and other communication devices should be *turned off* during lecture
- Video recording devices are not allowed. Audio recording devices may only be used with express consent from the instructor.
- Students should avoid conversation with their classmates during lecture. If a student has a question, the instructor will be more than happy to answer it either in response to a raised hand, an email, or upon being approached immediately after lecture or during office hours.
- Disrespectful comments will not be tolerated

Students who do not abide by these guidelines may be asked to leave the lecture hall by the instructor.

**Attendance:** Formal attendance will not be taken. However, exams will draw on lecture materials. Therefore, it is in the student's best interest to regularly attend lectures and take notes. Lecture presentations *will not* be made available to students outside regularly scheduled lecture meeting times. Students who miss lectures must obtain lecture notes from a fellow classmate.

Missed exams may not be made up without prior authorization from the instructor. 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 48 hours *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.

Students with disabilities must register with the Disability Resource Center and present the instructor with an accommodation letter as soon as possible to allow enough time for accommodations to be made. Students who fail to make such arrangements by at least 48 hours prior to test time will not be allowed to make up the exam. More information can be found at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/current.php>

**Grading:** Final grades are determined by two non-cumulative exams, each worth 100 points (see schedule for dates). Exams are multiple-choice and based on material from lectures, assigned readings, and videos shown in class.

The grading scale is as follows:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
93%- 100%	90%- 92%	87%- 89%	83%- 86%	80%- 82%	77%- 79%	73%- 76%	70%- 72%	67%- 69%	63%- 66%	60%- 62%	59% or lower
186- 200 points	180- 185 points	174- 179 points	166- 173 points	160- 165 points	154- 159 points	146- 153 points	140- 145 points	134- 139 points	126- 133 points	120- 125 points	119 or fewer points

Questions about grades are to be addressed to the instructor *before* final grades are posted online.

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.

**Course Schedule:** Below is a tentative schedule of topics to be discussed over the course of the Summer A semester. Dates and topics are subject to change, however, the instructor will make all attempts to notify the class of any changes as they arise.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lecture Topic</b>	<b>Assigned Reading</b>
5/9	Introduction, syllabus review	
5/10	“What is forensic anthropology?”	Chapter 2
5/11	The modern medicolegal system	Chapter 1
5/12	Field recovery	Chapter 3
5/13	Processing and lab analysis	
5/16	Human vs. non-human	
5/17	Taphonomy, time since death	Chapter 4
5/18	Anatomy terminology, bone histology	
5/19	Human osteology – axial	Chapter 5
5/20	Human osteology – appendicular	
5/23	EXAM 1	
5/24	Determination of sex	Chapter 6
5/25	Determination of ancestry	Chapter 7
5/26	Age estimation	Chapter 8
5/27	Stature estimation	Chapter 9
5/30	<b>Memorial Day – no class</b>	
5/31	Skeletal pathology	
6/1	Individualizing traits	Chapter 10
6/2	Statistics and reference populations	
6/3	Video: <i>Unfleshed: The Story of Dr. Maples</i>	
6/6	Antemortem vs. postmortem trauma	Chapter 12
6/7	Blunt-force trauma and fractures	Chapter 12
6/8	Sharp-force trauma	
6/9	Projectiles	Chapter 12
6/10	Burned remains and cremation	Chapter 13
6/13	Superimposition and reconstruction	Chapter 11
6/14	Mass fatalities	Chapter 14
6/15	Human rights and military identification	Chapter 15
6/16	Overview of the forensic sciences	Chapter 16
6/17	EXAM 2	

**Additional Resources:** Students are encouraged to take advantage of the following campus services if they are experiencing personal difficulties which interfere with their studies.

- University Counseling Center – 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575
- Student Mental Health – Student Health Care Center, 392-1171
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services – Student Health Care Center, 392-1161

Academic help may be found through the following campus services.

- Teaching Center – Ground Floor, Broward Hall, 392-2010
- Reading and Writing Center – Mezzanine, Broward Hall, <http://www.at.ufl.edu/rwcenter/index.html>
- Academic Advising - <http://www.ufadvising.ufl.edu/>