

Instructor: Kate Kolpan

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Office: Turlington Hall, Rm. B327 (in the basement)

Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:45-2:45 pm, Thursdays 3:00-4:00 pm or by appointment

Lecture: Turlington Hall, L005, Tuesday 3:00-4:55 pm, Thursday 4:05-4:55 pm

## *ANT3520 SKELETON KEYS: AN INTRODUCTION TO FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY*

### Required Text

Warren MW, NL Parr, KE Skorpinski and CJ Zambrano . *Bare Bones: A Survey of Forensic Anthropology*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Kendall-Hunt Publishing. ISBN: ISBN: 978-075758756.

Any and all supplemental articles will be posted online in Sakai

### Course Objectives

*Skeleton Keys* is designed to provide a broad overview of the sub-discipline of forensic anthropology. Forensic anthropology is an aspect of biological anthropology that deals primarily with human remains in a medicolegal context. This course will focus on how forensic anthropologist's aid in determining a positive skeletal identity and make observations related to skeletal trauma and taphonomy. Throughout the semester, students will learn about the applications and techniques necessary to forensic investigation, as well as some of the problems forensic anthropologists face in regard to positive identification, skeletal trauma, and the legal system.

### Course Assessment

There will be three non-cumulative exams, each totaling 100 points. Exams will be a combination of lecture material, the textbook, and all supplemental material so it is in the student's best interest to regularly attend class. **Unless otherwise stated, all exams are on the Thursday of the week in which they are scheduled.** Should attendance become a problem, I reserve the right to assign random in-class pop quizzes.

### Grade Distribution:

A	93% - 100%	B-	80% - 82%	D+	67% - 69%
A-	90% - 92%	C+	77% - 79%	D	63% - 66%

B+ 87% - 89%	C 73% - 76%	D- 60% - 62%
B 83% - 86%	C- 70% - 72%	E 59% or less

## Policies and Procedures

1. **Lateness:** Lateness will not be tolerated. Should lateness or absences become a large-scale chronic problem, I reserve the right institute the dreaded pop quiz (see above.)
2. **Absences:** Due to the fact that this course covers a vast amount of material, it is of critical importance that students attend **EVERY** class. I do not allow unexcused absences. If you know you will be absent for a valid reason, such as a medical procedure or a funeral, please contact me **BEFORE** class. If this proves impossible, please bring some sort of official form, such as a doctor's note, to validate your absence. If you must be absent during an exam, you must notify me **BEFORE** the exam date. It will be up to my discretion whether or not you will be allowed to make-up the exam. Be advised that a make-up exam may differ significantly from the exam given in class. Please note that I do not hand out my notes and I will not post my PowerPoint presentations online. Therefore, if you miss a class, you must get the material you missed from one of your classmates.
3. **Cellular Telephones, Portable Devices, iPods, etc.:** Please no calls or texting in class. If there is an emergency and you are expecting an important call, please approach me before class to inform me of the situation. Lectures cannot be recorded unless you have my express permission.
4. **Computers:** It is perfectly acceptable to take notes on a computer. However, please use your computer for class purposes only. If I catch you using your computer to chat with your friends, surf the web, check your Facebook page, etc., I will ask you not to bring your computer again and you will have to take notes the old fashioned way.
5. **Human remains:** This course deals with human remains, which should be treated respectfully. If students cannot be respectful, they will be asked to leave for the remainder of the class. Moreover, due to the subject matter of the class, please be advised that students may encounter images/written material of a graphic and/or disturbing nature.
6. **Food:** Please, no food or drink in class.
7. This syllabus may be amended during the semester if I should deem it necessary to do so.

## Readings

The majority of the readings for this class will come from the textbook, though some supplementary materials will be posted to Sakai.

All students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the materials. This means that you have read the assigned reading **BEFORE** coming to class.

## Academic Honesty

Be forewarned, plagiarism is a very serious offence. All students matriculating at the University of Florida have signed the following statement:

“I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”

I will not tolerate any sort of plagiarism, be it intentional or otherwise. If you are worried about unintentional plagiarism, please ask.

Any individual caught violating the University of Florida Honor Code will be temporarily or permanently expelled from the class and will receive an automatic “E” (0 points earned) on any associated assignment(s). Be advised that further disciplinary action may also occur. If you have questions about the honor code at UF, you may read about it at: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>.

During an exam hats should be removed and all of your class materials (such as textbooks, school bags, and notebooks) should be stowed under your desk.

## Accommodations

Students with disabilities are encouraged to notify me as early in the semester as possible and I expect to have all valid documentation related to any and all student disabilities submitted to me within the first two weeks of the semester. All students with disabilities must obtain a letter from the Dean of Students office, which should also be provided to all of the student’s instructors.

All students with documented disabilities (physical, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) should make arrangements with the Disability Resource Center, which is located at 0001 Building 0020 (Reid Hall) on the UF campus. Students may contact the Disability Resource Center by telephone at 352-392-8565 or via email at [accessuf@dso.ufl.edu](mailto:accessuf@dso.ufl.edu).

## University of Florida Counseling Services

Counseling is available to all students attending UF. If a student finds they are having problems that interfere with their academic performance, they are encouraged to seek help from one of the following resources:

1. The University Health and Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Rd, (352)392-1575
2. The Teaching Center, SW Broward Hall, (352) 392-2010 (academic tutoring)
3. The Career Resource Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Reitz Union, (352) 392-1601
4. The Student Health Care Center, 280 Fletcher Drive, (352) 392-1161 (physical health problems)

## **Course Outline**

(Please note that any and all supplemental articles will be posted online and that some supplemental material may be added to the reading list if I deem it necessary.)

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	
1	7-Jan	<i>Course Introduction; A Brief History of Forensic Anthropology</i>	<i>Chapter 2</i>
2	14-Jan	<i>The Medicolegal Context and Chain of Custody; The Benefits of Collaboration in Forensic Anthropology</i>	<i>Chapter 1 Article: The CSI Effect</i>
3	21-Jan	<i>Search and Recovery Methods</i>	<i>Chapter 3</i>
4	28-Jan	<i>The Post-Mortem Interval; Taphonomy and Non-Human Remains</i>	<i>Chapter 4</i>
5	4-Feb	<i>Anatomical Terminology Exam 1-Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>White and Folkens: Chapter 6</i>
6	11-Feb	<i>Osteology: The Axial and Appendicular Skeleton</i>	<i>Chapter 5</i>
7	18-Feb	<i>The Biological Profile: Biological Sex and Determination of Age based upon Development and Maturation AAFS Meetings Feb 18<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, Washington DC</i>	<i>Chapter 6; Chapter 8 pgs. 127-139 Article on Farinelli (2011)</i>
8	25-Feb	<i>The Biological Profile: Determination of Age (Degenerative); Ancestry and the Issue of Race</i>	<i>Chapter 7 &amp; 8 pgs. 139-147; Article by Sauer (1992)</i>
9	4-Mar	<b>Spring Break</b>	
10	11-Mar	<i>The Biological Profile: Stature and Idiosyncratic Features; Forensic Art Exam 2-Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Chapters 9, 10 &amp; 11</i>
11	18-Mar	<i>Skeletal Pathologies; Anti-mortem, Perimortem, Postmortem Trauma; Blunt Force Trauma and Patterned Injuries</i>	<i>Chapter 12</i>
12	25-Mar	<i>Sharp Force Trauma and Ballistic Injuries</i>	
13	1-Apr	<i>Fire Damage: Burned Remains and Cremations; Professional Ethics</i>	<i>Chapter 13</i>
14	8-Apr	<i>Mass Fatalities; Human Rights AAPA Meetings, Apr 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, Knoxville, TN</i>	<i>Chapters 14 and 15 Article by Borrell (2012)</i>
15	15-Apr	<i>Human Rights (cont.); Joint MIA/POW Accounting Command; Forensic Anthropology as a Profession</i>	<i>Chapter 16</i>
16	22-Apr	<b>Exam 3-Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	