

# Human Osteology (ANT4525)

**Classroom Location:** Turlington Hall, B304 (Biological Anthropology Laboratory)

**Synchronous Small Groups:** Tuesday, Period 5-6 (11:45-1:05pm)

**OR** Thursday, Period 5-6 (11:45-1:05pm)

**Instructor:** Rose Bryson, MSc

**Email:** ebryson@ufl.edu

**Virtual Office Hours:** Friday 10:00am-1:00pm

**Office Location:** Zoom

**TA:** Henna Bhramdat, M.A.

**Email:** bhramdath@ufl.edu

**Virtual Office Hours:** Mondays 1:30-4:30pm

## 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.

For Fall 2020, we'll be using a combination of teaching modalities. In the synchronous portion of the class, we will have a live 90-minute meeting each week in small groups using virtual meetings (weeks 1-2 and 11-15) and face-to-face meetings (weeks 3-10). Additional activities will be completed asynchronously. This is a three (3) credit course. You will have 3 contact hours and an additional 9-12 hours of preparation, review, and assessments each week.

## Student Learning Objectives:

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

- identify whole and fragmentary human skeletal elements;
- relate bone features to associated soft tissue;
- distinguish between human and non-human bone;
- estimate age, sex, ancestry, and stature of an individual;
- 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 videos) likely requires 3 hours
- LAB and WORKSHOP activities require 3 hours
- REVIEW activities require a minimum of 4 hours, and more is often required
- QUIZ and review of feedback takes 1 hour
- SPECIAL PROJECTS (flip-thrus and final project) will add additional time requirements
- **SUCCESS in this course requires a minimum of 12 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.

## Course Requirements:

- Fourteen (14) weekly practical quizzes  
(100 points each; lowest grade is dropped, totaling 1300 points)
- Fourteen (14) weekly submissions of asynchronous activities  
(50 points each, totaling 700 points)
- Osteology Notebook  
(Four flip-thru videos due, each 50 points, totaling 200 points)
- Final Project  
(infographic, teaching module, original research proposal; 200 points)
- Final practical exam  
(300 points)

## Practical Quizzes and Final Exam

Quizzes and the final exam will involve the identification of fragmentary skeletal remains and anatomical features as well as short-answer questions. Quizzes and the final exam are cumulative, completed independently, and submitted through Canvas. Students are not permitted to discuss the quizzes or final exam with any other student who has not already submitted 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.

These are timed quizzes, with one minute available for each question. Your goal is to acquire the ability to quickly recognize diagnostic features and make an immediate determination of element(s), side, and distinguishing characteristics. This is a valuable skill for anyone who will be working with skeletal remains in their future professional career. We will post plenty of practice quizzes, so you'll get the hang of it pretty quickly!

## **Asynchronous Activities**

Students will complete and submit assigned activities each week outside of our scheduled synchronous labs. These activities include online workshops and activity sheets that are designed to exercise your understanding of osteology and the role of the skeleton in the human body. The activity sheets will also be added to your Osteology Notebook, which you will construct throughout the semester in order to provide yourself with an excellent resource to use in future osteological analyses. Please note that while students may work together in parallel on these asynchronous activities, each student must complete all portions of each activity and submit their own work.

## **Osteology Notebook Guidelines**

Each student in this course is responsible for compiling a notebook of their own labeled drawings of skeletal elements, workshops and notes. Artistic skill is **not** important, you won't be graded on how nice your drawings are. The main purpose of drawing all skeletal elements is to force you to observe every little curve, crease, and bump on each bone. You will demonstrate progress on your notebook by sharing notebook "flip-thrus" at the end of each module. These are short 2-3 minute videos that you can record using your cell phone, computer, or other camera. You'll have an opportunity to see what other people are doing, get ideas, and provide useful feedback to your student colleagues. We'll post a few example flip-thru videos to get you started. Required notebook items are listed below and will be discussed in class. Additional views and illustrations are strongly recommended.

- Drawings
  1. Complete articulated human skeleton (Anterior View)
  2. Two (2) views of each bone (and tooth) with landmarks and features labeled
  3. Five (5) skull views (Anterior, Posterior, Lateral, Inferior, and Endocranial) with landmarks and features labeled
  4. Anterior view of orbit with bones labeled
  5. Drawings or schematics showing hand and foot articulations with bones labeled
- Lists, flow charts, tables, and/or annotated drawings that record your process for identifying human skeletal fragments
- Workshops
- Notes from lectures, readings, and feedback on quizzes

## **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 in this class, and there is no specific grading rubric. 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 include weekly online lab practical quizzes, weekly workshops, monthly notebook flip-thrus, a final project, and a final exam. All are submitted online. Grading is based on a percentage earned of a total of points. Point values/percentages for

each assignment are provided above in “Course Requirements.” 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**

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 Primary Instructor, and documentation must 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. Unexcused late submission of quizzes and the final exam are not allowed. Unexcused late submission of other graded assignments will be accepted for reduced credit (penalty is generally 20% per day).

### **Grade Return Timing**

Online lab practical quizzes and the final exam are automatically graded, and feedback is provided immediately. Automated grading will be reviewed and updated to include partial credit within 48 hours. Workshops, notebook flip-thrus, and the final project will be graded and feedback provided within one week.

### **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. Lecture videos 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 downloaded to your personal devices. The only exception to this rule is where we have indicated that a specific image is publicly available.
- No photography is permitted in the face-to-face Osteology Lab (TUR B304).
- No specimens are to leave the face-to-face Osteology Lab (TUR B304).
- Food and drink are prohibited in the laboratory.
- Visitors are not allowed in the lab at any time. NO EXCEPTIONS.

### **Other Course Policies:**

- 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 Honor Code ([sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/](https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/)) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.
- Contact Hours: "Contact Hours" refers to the hours per week in which students are in contact with the instructor, excluding office hours or other voluntary contact. The number of contact hours in this course equals the number of credits the course offers.
- Workload: As a Carnegie I, research-intensive university, UF is required by federal law to assign at least 2 hours of work outside of class for every contact hour. Work done in these hours may include reading/viewing assigned material and doing explicitly assigned individual or group work, as well as reviewing notes from class, synthesizing information in advance of exams or papers, and other self-determined study tasks.
- Accommodation for Student with Disabilities: Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. This class supports the needs of different learners; 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 from [the Gatorevals website \(Links to an external site.\)](#). 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 [the evaluation system. \(Links to an external site.\)](#) Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at the [public results website \(Links to an external site.\)](#).

- Statement Regarding Course Recording: Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back to and for use of enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate verbally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

## **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](mailto: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 counseling and support as well as 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](mailto: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](mailto:vacounselor@ufl.edu)) assists student military veterans with access to benefits.

## Weekly Schedule

Topics	Synchronous Activity	Graded Assignment	DUE
Week 1: Intro and Skull	Virtual	Week #1 Activities	Fri Sep 4
		Quiz #1	Mon Sep 7
		Acknowledgement of Lab Policies	Tue Sep 8
Week 2: Skull, Joints, Bone biology	Virtual	Week #2 Activities	Fri Sep 11
		Quiz #2	Mon Sep 14
Week 3: Skull: Foramina and nerves	F2F	Week #3 Activities	Fri Sep 18
		Quiz #3	Mon Sep 21
Week 4: Dentition, bone development, craniometrics	F2F	Week #4 Activities	Fri Sep 25
		Notebook #1: The Skull	
		Quiz #4	Mon Sep 28
Week 5: Spine and thorax	F2F	Week #5 Activities	Fri Oct 2
		Quiz #5	Mon Oct 5
Week 6: Upper Limb #1	F2F	Week #6 Activities	Fri Oct 9
		Quiz #6	Mon Oct 12
Week 7: Upper Limb #2	F2F	Week #7 Activities	Fri Oct 16
		Plan for Final Project	
		Quiz #7	Mon Oct 19
Week 8: Upper Limb #3 and Nonhuman	F2F	Week #8 Activities	Fri Oct 23
		Notebook #2: Trunk & Upper Limb	
		Quiz #8	Mon Oct 26
Week 9: Lower Limb #1	F2F	Week #9 Activities	Fri Oct 30
		Quiz #9	Mon Nov 2
Week 10: Lower Limb #2	F2F	Week #10 Activities	Fri Nov 6
		Notebook #3: Lower Limb	
		Quiz #10	Mon Nov 9
Week 11: Bioarchaeology and Biomechanics Gait	F2F	Week #11 Activities	Fri Nov 13
		Quiz #11	Mon Nov 16
Week 12: Bioprofile – Sex, Age, Stature	F2F	Week #12 Activities	Fri Nov 20
		Quiz #12	Mon Nov 23
Week 13: Bioprofile – Ancestry and THANKSGIVING	Virtual	Week #13 Activities	Mon Nov 30
		Quiz #13	Mon Nov 30
Week 14: Trauma, Pathology, Taphonomy, and MNI	Virtual	Week #14 Activities	Fri Dec 4
		Final Project	Fri Dec 4
		Notebook #4: Applied Osteology	Fri Dec 4
		Quiz #14	Mon Dec 7
Week 15: Final Projects and Review	Virtual	Final Project Feedback	Tue Dec 8
		Final Project Feedback	
		Final Exam Review	Thu Dec 10
FINAL EXAM	Virtual	Final Exam	Wed Dec 16