

# Human Osteology (ANT4525)

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

**Class Meeting Times:** (Section 2B69) M, W, F | Period 4 (10:40 AM – 11:30 AM)

**Instructors:** Rose Bryson, MSc.

**Email Address:** ebryson@ufl.edu

**Office Hours:** M (11:30-1:30) & W (11:30-12:30)

## **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 Spring 2024, we will have in-class lectures (MWF) and a weekly quiz that tests your growing knowledge of the skeleton. This means that the responsibility is on you, as the student, to review course material and prepare in advance for each class. Students will construct an Osteology Notebook (due: April 12<sup>th</sup>) and present a Final Project (proposal due: March 4<sup>th</sup>). To be successful in this class you must also come into the lab outside of our normal class periods to study with the collection. This is a 3-credit course. You will have 3 contact hours of lecture each week. You should allot an additional 9-12 hours of in-lab study time each week to prepare and review for assessments.

## **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 the age, sex, 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 notes) likely requires 3 hours
- IN-CLASS activities require 3 hours
- REVIEW of course material requires a minimum of 4 hours, and more is often advised
- QUIZ and review of feedback takes 1 hour
- SPECIAL PROJECTS (notebook and final project) will add additional time requirements

**SUCCESS in this course requires a minimum of 9-12 hours of effort every week!**

**Required Textbook:** White T.D., Folkens P.A., (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*.)

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

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## Graded Work

Percent of Total Grade	Assignment
50%	Thirteen (13) weekly Practical Quizzes <i>lowest grade is dropped</i>
20%	Osteology Notebook (Notes, drawings, infographic, etc.)
15%	Final Project + Presentation
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. We will post plenty of practice quizzes and study material, so you'll get the hang of it quickly!

*Quizzes may not be retaken, but the lowest quiz score will be dropped at the end of the term.  
The grade for the Final Exam cannot be dropped.*

### Osteology Notebook Guidelines

Each student in this course 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. 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 colleagues.

*Required notebook items are posted in Canvas and will be discussed in class.*

## Final Project

Students will complete a final research project to share with the class. This is intended to be an 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 research project include detailed infographics, learning modules, or research presentations. We'll discuss possible options throughout the course. Your plan for the final project will be submitted for approval in March, 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

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 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. If you are ill or withheld from campus, please stay home. Make-up will be arranged for you, the format of which is at the discretion of the instructor.

## COVID Statement

As we live with and adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic, the following practices are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

- UF expects but does not require that faculty, staff or students receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Vaccines are readily available and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit this link for details on where to get your

shot: <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/vaccinations-2/vaccine-availability/vaccine-availability-alachua/>

- Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class. Hand sanitizing stations are located within the classroom and throughout campus.
- **If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine.** Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.

### **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 lecture and open-lab environments. We will adhere to a strict policy of dignity and respect for the human remains that we study.

- **Your conduct in this class should demonstrate respect for human remains.** This includes handling the material carefully in lab. Respect for human remains is also demonstrated by the words that we use to describe the material with which we are working.
- Images of human remains (2D or 3D) provided for this course via Canvas **should NOT be downloaded to your personal devices.** Lecture videos 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 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/](http://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](#). 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](#). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at the [public results website](#).

## 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

WEEK	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS	DATE
1	Introduction & Skeletal Bioethics		Jan 8 - 12
2	Skull: Joints, Bone Biology & Development	<b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day – No Class</b>	(M) Jan 15
		<b>Acknowledgement of Lab Policies – Due</b>	(W) Jan 17
		Practical Quiz #1	(F) Jan 19
3	Skull: Foramina & Nerves	Practical Quiz #2	(F) Jan 26
4	Dentition and Craniometrics	Practical Quiz #3	(F) Feb 2
5	Spine & Thorax	Practical Quiz #4	(F) Feb 9
6	Upper Limb 1: Scapula, Clavicle & Humerus	Practical Quiz #5	(F) Feb 16
7	Upper Limb 2: Radius, Ulna & Carpals	Practical Quiz #6	(F) Feb 23
8	Upper Limb 3: Hand & Nonhuman	Practical Quiz #7	(F) Mar 1
		<b>Notebook Check-in</b>	
9	Lower Limb 1: Os Coxae, Sacrum & Femur	<b>Final Project Proposal</b>	(M) Mar 4
		Practical Quiz #8	(F) Mar 8
10	<b>Spring Break - NO CLASS</b>		<b>Mar 9-17</b>
11	Lower Limb 2: Tibia, Fibula & Tarsals	Practical Quiz #9	(F) Mar 22
12	Lower Limb 3: Bones of the Feet & MNI	Practical Quiz #10	(F) Mar 29
13	Biomechanics, Trauma, Pathology & Taphonomy	Practical Quiz #11	(F) Apr 5
14	Bioprofile: Sex, Age, Ancestry, & Stature	Practical Quiz #12	(F) Apr 12
		<b>Final Notebook Due</b>	
15	Final Project Presentations	<b>Final Presentations</b>	Mon → Fri
		Practical Quiz #13	(F) Apr 19
16	Review for Final Exam		Mon→Wed
17	<b>FINAL EXAM (May 2<sup>nd</sup> 7:30 – 9:30am)</b>		