

CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School Of Arts & Science
Department

ANTHROPOLOGY 250
FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY

Winter 2004

1. Instructor Information

(a) Instructor: Brenda Clark, M.A.

(b) Office hours: Monday 1:30-3:00, Wednesday 2:30-3:30, Thursday 12:30-1:30 or by appointment.

(c) Location: Young 212A

(d) Phone: 370-3375

E-mail: clark@camosun.bc.ca

Website: <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/schools/artsci/socsci/anth.htm>

Lecture:	Thursday Y216	1:30-3:20
Labs:	Monday Y214	Lab D: 4:00-5:50
	Tuesday Y214	Lab A: 9:30-11:20
		Lab B: 12:30-2:20
		Lab C: 3:30-5:20
	Wednesday Y214	Lab E: 4:00-5:50

2. Intended Learning Outcomes: upon completion of this course, students should be able to

1. describe human skeletal anatomy and morphological variation in the human skeleton.
2. discuss the principles of skeletal development and function.
3. explain the principles of archaeological excavation and recording techniques
4. identify the major bones of the human skeleton and differentiate them from animal bones.
5. perform key visual inspection techniques to determine age and sex of an individual from certain skeletal elements.
6. perform various measurements to establish cranial shape, stature and sex of an individual from certain skeletal elements.
7. recognize and describe certain pathological conditions of the skeleton.
8. analyze a case of commingled skeletal remains according to protocol questions for forensic anthropology: forensic significance, time since death, circumstances surrounding death, how many individuals present, their age, sex and stature, disease or trauma present on bones.
9. discuss the role and contributions of anthropology in contemporary medico-legal death investigations.

3. Required Materials

- (a) Text:
Byers, Steven (2002). *Introduction to Forensic Anthropology: A Textbook*. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon. (packaged with the Marieb Bone Atlas)
- (b) Lab Manual: Anth 250 – Forensic Anthropology Lab Manual

4. Basis of Student Assessment

- (a) Exams: there are two lab exams and two lecture exams for this course. See the course sequence for dates of the exams.

Lab Exam 1: 10%

Lab Exam 2: 15% (this exam is cumulative for skeletal identification)

The lab exams cover basic skeletal identification as well as some skills-based questions on sex and stature determination and measurements of bones. The lab exams are bell-ringer exams. This means that there will be stations located throughout the lab and you will spend a limited amount of time at each station in order to answer the questions. Bell-ringer responses are brief and do not require extensive written answers.

Lecture Exam 1: 15%

Lecture Exam 2: 20%

Lecture exams cover only material that is dealt with in lectures and your textbook. These exams will be multiple-choice exams.

- (b) Lab assignments: 10%
At the end of most labs, you will hand in a lab exercise to be graded and worth 1 mark each toward your final grade.
- (c) Case Report: 30%

You will be given a case study in forensic anthropology. Working in a team context with three other people, you will analyse human skeletal remains and produce a report discussing the remains and your conclusions. You will receive further detailed instructions by week 10 at which time you should have decided with whom you will be working on this report. You will have two lab periods in which to analyse the bones. The formal report, typewritten, is due on or before noon Monday April 14, 2003.

Late case reports will not be accepted.

All exams and the case report must be attempted and an overall passing grade achieved in order to pass this course. Exams must be written at the scheduled times unless prior notice has been given to the instructor and approval received to write at a different time. If a student misses an exam due to illness, s/he must present a medical certificate to write a make-up exam. There will be no exceptions.

5. Grading System

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 95 - 100%	B = 75 - 79%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 90 - 94%	B- = 70 - 74%	F = 0.0 - 49%
A- = 85 - 89%	C+ = 65 - 69%	I = See Calendar for Details
B+ = 80 - 85%	C = 60 - 64%	AUD = Audit

W = Official withdrawal has taken place.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

There is an Academic Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-8

Course Sequence

WEEK OF:	LAB	LECTURE
Jan 5-9	Registration and Course Outline Introduction to the Human Skeleton Readings: Chapter 2	Introduction to Forensic Anthropology Readings: Chapters 1 and 3
Jan 12-16	Lab 1 The Appendicular Skeleton	The Human Skeleton: structure and function Readings: Chapter 2, pp. 46-55
Jan 19-23	Lab 2 Stature Estimation and Sex Determination from the Femur Readings: Chapter 10, pp. 240-245 Shoulder Girdle and Thorax	The Human Skeleton: growth and development. Readings: Chapter 9
Jan 26-30	Lab 3 Pelvic Girdle Sex Determination using the ox coxae Readings: Chapter 8, pp. 172-179	Forensic Archaeology Powerpoint presentation Readings: Chapter 4
Feb 2-6	Lab 4 Review	Processing the Crime Scene: guest lecture
Feb 9-13	Lab 5 Lab Exam 1 Cranial Skeleton	READING BREAK, NO LECTURE
Feb 16-20	Lab 6 Cranial Measurements	Lecture Exam 1
Feb 23-27	Lab 7 Sex Determination from the Skull Readings: Chapter 8, pp. 170-186 Review bones	Biotaphonomy and Post Mortem Interval Video: <i>Postmortem</i> (excerpt) Readings: Chapter 5
Mar 1-5	Lab 8 Lab Exam 2 Pathology and Trauma	Pathology and Trauma Postmortem Changes to Bone Readings: Chapter 11, 15 and 16 (Chapters 12, 13 and 14 are optional but the lecture will contain some information from these chapters)
Mar 8-13	Lab 9 Sub-Adult Age Determination Readings: Chapter 9, "Subadults"	Human Variation Establishing Identity Readings: Chapter 7, 17 and 18 Video: <i>The Talking Skull</i>

Mar 15-19	Lab 10 Adult Age Determination Readings: Chapter 9 ("Adults")	The Role of the BC Coroner's Service – guest speaker.
Mar 22-26	Lab 11 Post Mortem Changes to Bone Minimum Number of Individuals	Lecture Exam 2
Mar 29-Apr 2	Open lab: Case Work	Writing the Case Report Readings: Chapters 6 and 19
April 5-9	Open lab: Case Work	Students do case report writing out of class.