

ANTHROPOLOGY 250
FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY

WINTER 2005

1. Instructor Information

- (a) Instructor: Brenda Clark, M.A.
- (b) Office hours: Mon/Wed 10:30-12:00; Thurs 12:30-1:20; or by appointment
- (c) Office: Young 212A
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2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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.

3. Required Materials

(a) Text:

Byers, Steven (2005). *Introduction to Forensic Anthropology: A Textbook*. 2nd edition. 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 (Weighting)

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

Lab Exam: 25%

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: 20%

Lecture Exam 2: 15%

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.

(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. **NOTE: all team members must be present for both lab periods. Do not arrange travel, job interviews, etc for those days!** The formal report, typewritten, is due on or before noon Monday April 18.

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%

A = 90 - 94%

A- = 85 - 89%

B+ = 80 - 84%

B = 75 - 79%

B- = 70 - 74%

C+ = 65 - 69%

C = 60 - 64%

D = 50 - 59%

F = 0.0 - 49%

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 **which includes plagiarism**. 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/2-5.html

Course Sequence

WEEK OF:	LAB	LECTURE
Jan 10-14	Registration and Course Outline Introduction to the Human Skeleton Readings: Chapter 2	Introduction to Forensic Anthropology Readings: Chapters 1 and 3
Jan 17-21	Lab 1 The Appendicular Skeleton	The Human Skeleton: structure and function Readings: Chapter 2, pp. 46-55
Jan 24-28	Lab 2 Stature Estimation and Sex Determination from the Femur Readings: Chapter 8, pp. 201-203 Shoulder Girdle and Thorax	The Human Skeleton: growth and development. Readings: Chapter 9
Jan 31-Feb 4	Lab 3 Pelvic Girdle Sex Determination using the ox coxae Readings: Chapter 8, pp. 182-189	Changes After Death and Post Mortem Interval Readings: Chapter 5
Feb 7-11	Lab 4 The Cranial Skeleton and Cranial Measurements	READING BREAK, NO LECTURE
Feb 14-18	Lab 5 Sex Determination From the Skull Readings: Chapter 8, pp190-196	Antemortem Conditions and Trauma Readings: Chapters 11 and 15
Feb 21-25	REVIEW LAB	Postmortem Changes to Bone Readings: Chapter 16
Feb 28-Mar 4	BELLRINGER EXAM	CSI Victoria: Victoria City Police Forensic Identification Section
Mar 7-11	Lab 6 Antemortem Conditions	Lecture Exam 1
Mar 14-18	Lab 7 Estimating Age at Death: Developmental Aging Readings: Chapter 9: Subadults	Forensic Archaeology Forensic Anthropology and Human Rights

Mar 21-25	Lab 8 Estimating Age at Death: Senescent Aging Readings: Chapter 9 (“Adults”)	The Role of the Coroner in British Columbia: Guest lecture from Regional Coroner’s Office
Mar 28- April 1	Monday Lab: Easter Monday. College Closed. Lab 9 Post Mortem Changes to Bone Estimating Minimum Number of Individuals	Establishing Identity Readings: Chapter 7, 17 and 18
April 4-8	Open lab: Case Work	Lecture Exam 2 (first 50 minutes) Writing the Case Report Readings: Chapters 6 and 19
April 11-15	Open lab: Case Work	Students do case report writing out of class.