

School of Arts & Science SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT ANTH 250

Forensic Anthropology
Winter 2011

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/anth.html

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Brenda Clark, M.A.	
(b)	Office Hours:	Wednesday 1:30-2:30; Thursday 1:00-2:00	
(c)	Location:	Young 212A	
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3375	
(e)	Email:	clark@camosun.bc.ca	
(f)	Website:	http://faculty.camosun.ca/brendaclark	

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will 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

Texts	Byers, Steven (2008). <i>Introduction to Forensic Anthropology: A Textbook</i> . 3 nd edition. Pearson Education Inc. (packaged with the Marieb Bone Atlas)
Lab manual	Anth 250 Forensic Anthropology Lab Manual
Article	Schwarcz, Henry P. (2007) <i>Tracing Unidentified Skeletons Using Stable Isotopes</i> . Forensic Magazine, June/July Issue at http://www.forensicmag.com/article/tracing-unidentified-skeletons-using-stable-isotopes

The Learning Environment

Together, let's encourage creativity and a commitment to learning within each other over the next weeks. Your enrolment in this class signifies a commitment to coming to class on time and being prepared by completing your assigned readings. Please show your commitment to learning and your respect for others in the classroom by turning off cell phones, ipods or other personal devices during classes. Use your laptop for note-taking only. Thank you.

4. Basis of Student Assessment

(a)	Assignments	 Lab assignments are worth 10% of the final grade. I have the expectation that you will attend a minimum of 80% of the labs Each week you will hand in the summative paragraphs for your weekly lab mark. You will be allowed to make up a missed lab with a reasonable excuse. Reasonable excuses do not include: vacations, long weekends, work schedules, or poor time management on your part. 	
(b)	Quizzes 40%	There are 2 lecture tests equally weighted. See the course sequence for dates. Lecture exams cover only material that is dealt with in lectures and your textbook.	
(c)	Exams	Lab Exam: 25%. The lab exam covers basic skeletal identification as well as some skills-based questions on sex determination. The lab exam is a bell-ringer exam, which 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. • You need to receive at least a C (60%) on your osteology exam (the bellringer) otherwise you will not be qualified to participate in the case study.	
(d)	Case Report 25%	The case report involves analysis of human skeletal remains in a team context and writing a report discussing the evidence and your conclusions. You will have two lab periods in which to collect data and analyze the case and one lecture period to write the report. NOTE: all team members must be present for both lab periods. Do not arrange travel, job interviews, etc for those dates! The case report replaces a final exam. The formal report, type written, is due on or before noon Friday April 15. Late reports not 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 note to write a makeup exam. There will be no exceptions.

5. Class Schedule

Week	Lab	Lecture
Jan 10-14	Registration and Course Outline	Introduction to Forensic Anthropology Readings: Chapter 1
Jan 17-21	The Appendicular Skeleton	Structure and Function of the Human Skeleton The Forensic Context Readings: Chapter 2 – "Basic Topics in Osteology" and Chapter 3
Jan 24-28	Shoulder Girdle and Thorax	Guest Lecture: The Role of the BC Coroners Service
Jan 31- Feb 4	Pelvic Girdle: anatomy; sex determination Read relevant info in Ch. 8	Changes After Death and Post Mortem Interval Readings: Chapter 5
Feb 7-11	Cranial skeleton: anatomy; sex determination Read relevant info in Ch 8	Forensic Archaeology Readings: Chapter 4 Review for lecture exam
Feb 14-18	Cranial measurements and Ancestry Read relevant info in Ch 7	Lecture Test 1
Feb 21-25	Doing the skeletal inventory Review for lab exam	Reading Break
Feb 28- Mar 4	BELLRINGER EXAM	Antemortem Conditions and Trauma Readings: Chapters 11 and 15
Mar 7-11	Antemortem Conditions and Trauma	Post Mortem Changes to bone Readings: Chapter 16 Human Growth and Development Reading: Chapter 9
Mar 14-18	Developmental Aging Read relevant info in Ch 9	CSI Victoria: guest speaker from Victoria Police Detachment
Mar 21-25	Senescent Aging Read relevant info in Ch 9	Establishing Identity Readings: Ch 17 and 18; Schwarcz on-line article
Mar 28- Ap 1	MNI Estimates and Postmortem Changes	Forensic Anthropology and human rights Ethics Readings: Ch. 19
April 4-8	CASE WORK	Lecture Test 2 Writing the Case Report Ch. 6 and 19 have relevant information
April 11-15	CASE WORK	NO LECTURE: WRITE YOUR REPORT

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at **camosun.ca** for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	Incomplete: A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	In progress: A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
cw	Compulsory Withdrawal: A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

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, at Student Services, or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student 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, at Student Services, and the College web site in the Policy Section.