

School of Arts & Science SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

ANTH 250-001 Forensic Anthropology Winter 2016

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Katie Waterhouse
(b)	Office Hours:	M, W 9.30-1.30, Tu 15.00-16.00, Th 13.00-14.00
(c)	Location:	Y207
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3368
(e)	Email:	waterhousek@camosun.ca
(f)	D2L Website	D2L

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. Materials

Required

- Christensen, A. M., Passalacqua, N. V., & Bartelink, E. J. (2014). Forensic anthropology: Current methods and practice. Amsterdam: Elsevier Academic Press.
- ANTH 250 Forensic Anthropology Lab Manual

Highly recommended

- Hutchinson, M., Mallatt, J., Marieb, E. N., Wilhelm, P. B., Hutchings, R. T., Zanetti, N. C., & Hutchinson, M. (2007). A brief atlas of the human body.
- OR another skeletal atlas/flash cards/colouring book that details skeletal elements and their features.

4. Basis of Student Assessment

Evaluation	Value	Due Date	
Lab assignments	10%	Throughout the semester	
Lab bell ringer exam	20%	Feb 10 th and 11 th	
Mid term	22.5%	Feb 29 th	
Lab quiz	5%	Mar 30 th and 31 st	
Case report	20%	4pm Friday Apr 14 th	
Final exam	22.5%	TBA	

(a) Labs assignments, quizzes and exams (35%)

The laboratory part of Anthropology 250 is worth 35% of your final grade and consists of:

- 10 labs, each worth 1% of your final grade, totaling 10%
- 1 lab bell ringer exam, worth 20% of your final grade
 - This is a timed exam with different stations where you are asked to identify bones, fragments and features. Reponses are brief and do not require extensive written answers
- 1 lab quiz, worth 5% of your final grade
 - This quiz covers material from labs 4-8 and will be run at the beginning of lab 9.

You must attempt and pass the lab tests, you must pass the lab assignments and you must attempt the case report in order to pass the course!

(b) Case report (20%)

The case report, worth 20% of your final grade, involves analysis of human skeletal remains in a hypothetical case. You will work in a team context and write a report discussing the evidence and your conclusions. You will have one lab period 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 the lab period. Do not arrange travel, job interviews, etc for those dates!**

(c) Exams (45%)

There are two lecture exams in this course; a midterm to be written in class time and a final exam written in the formal exam period. These exams are not cumulative. Both exams must be attempted in order to pass this course.

Please note: students must be available during the College's formal exam period at the end of term. <u>Do</u> not leave town before confirming your exam dates.

5. Classroom Policies

(a) Contacting the Instructor

I can be contacted via email, D2L or in person during office hours. All emails should contain "ANTH 250" in the subject line. I highly encourage all students to use the course forum available on D2L to ask course content type questions. Asking non-personal questions on the forum allows the whole class to benefit from the answer and I will answer all relevant questions posted on the forum BEFORE I respond to emails. Fellow students are also welcome to answer posted questions. All forum postings must be relevant to class and respectful of all your classmates. Inappropriate use of the forum will not be tolerated.

(b) Attendance

Lecture: you are expected to attend lectures, as material covered in lecture will be included in the exams, and will augment and supplement the material in the readings. As well, announcements regarding course content and exams will be made in class. I will not provide my personal notes to students who miss class. If you miss a lecture you should consult another student to find out what you missed.

Labs: Lab attendance is MANDATORY. You will be allowed to make up a missed lab with a reasonable excuse. Reasonable excuses do not include: vacations, long weekends, work schedules, poor planning or poor time management on your part. If you are going to miss a lab and want to catch up on the material you must let me know before class. I often dismantle the lab materials after class and need to know if I must keep the lab available. You must catch up on the lab material within one week.

(c) Missing/Deferring a Lab test, exercise or Exam

Failure to attend a midterm or lab text/ assignment will result in a mark of zero, unless I have been informed within 2 working days and an excused absence has been granted. In the case of illness, a medical note is required in order to write a make-up exam or quiz. If a student fails to come for a make-up at the scheduled time, the exam will not be further rescheduled unless a medical certificate is presented to the instructor. Unavailability of texts and pressure of other work does not constitute a reason for missing exams or quizzes. Rescheduling a quiz or assignment following an excused absence will be done at the mutual convenience of the student and instructor.

(d) Late Assignments

Lab assignments must be completed in the available lab time and will not be accepted late without previous arrangements. The case report will not be accepted late.

(e) Group/team work

Team work is basic in forensic contexts; forensic anthropology is no exception. Team members are expected to get along and work well together. Each team member is expected to contribute equally to the final case report project. Note that equally does not mean identically but it does mean that each person's contribution is important to the outcome of the case and that everyone has 'pulled their weight' during the project.

(f) Classroom Environment

While some students may be more comfortable using laptops to take notes, keep in mind that electronic devices are often disruptive to other students. Please mute your speakers and turn off your cell phone or smart phone. If you must use your telephone please step outside the classroom.

Please refrain from using instant messaging, online or video games, Facebook, or using other non-academic programs. Keep in mind that your laptop screen is visible to people sitting behind you, and by engaging in these activities you are not only distracting other students but endangering your own and your friends' privacy. If a student is found to be engaging in these activities during class and disrupting other students, their laptop or smart phone may be confiscated and returned at the end of class.

Discussion and questions in this class are welcome and encouraged, but all discussion participants will be expected to treat others with respect, even if different opinions arise about issues. Anyone acting in a way that is disrespectful to others will be asked to leave the class.

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+	Exceptional; exceeds highest expectations for the assignment or course	9
85-89	А	Outstanding; meets highest standards for the assignment or course	8
80-84	A-	Excellent; meets very high standards for the assignment or course	7
77-79	B+	Very good; meets high standards for the assignment or course	6
73-76	В	Good; meets most standards for the assignment or course	5
70-72	B-	Solid; shows some reasonable command of material	4
65-69	C+	Acceptable; meets basic standards for the assignment or course	3
60-64	С	Acceptable; meets some of the basic standards for the assignment or course	2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; 1 a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	
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	<i>Incomplete</i> : 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

(a) 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

(b) 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 on the College web site in the Policy Section.

8. Class sequence

Week	Lecture Topic	Readings	Lab Schedule
Jan 11-17	Class list and course outline Introduction to the skeleton	Ch. 2.1-2.3	Lab 1
Jan 19-24	Forensic anthropology and death investigation.	Ch. 1 Ch. 4	Lab 2
Jan 25-31	Taphonomy	Ch. 5	Lab 3
Feb 1-7	Forensic archaeology and remains	Ch. 6 and Ch. 7	Open lab
	processing		Attendance is mandatory
Feb 8-14	Family Day. No class		Bell ringer exam
Feb 15-21	Skeletal development	Ch. 8 Ch. 9 Ch.	Reading break. No lab
Feb 22-28	Skeletal development	10 Ch. 11	Lab 4
Feb 29-Mar 6	Lecture Midterm Exam		Lab 5
Mar 7-13	Trauma	Ch. 13	Lab 6
Mar 14-20	Ante mortem and post mortem changes to bone	Ch. 12	Lab 7
Mar 21-27	Personal identification	Ch.14	Lab 8
Mar 28- Apr 3	Easter Monday. No class		Quiz on labs 4-8 Lab 9
Apr 4-10	Expert witness testimony and data collection preparation		Casework data collection
Apr 11-17	Forensic anthropology and contemporary issues	Ch.15	Casework report writing Due 4pm Friday Apr 15