



CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Department of Social Sciences

ANTH-250-001
Forensic Anthropology
Winter 2019

COURSE OUTLINE

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

Ω Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

1. Instructor Information

(a) Instructor	Katie Waterhouse
(b) Office hours	M 11.30-12.30, Tu 9.00-10.00, W 2.30-3.30 and F 12-1
(c) Location	Y207
(d) E-mail	waterhousek@camosun.bc.ca

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

- ANTH 250 Forensic Anthropology Lab Manual
- Weekly readings posted on D2L

Highly recommended

- Christensen, A. M., Passalacqua, N. V., & Bartelink, E. J. (2014). Forensic anthropology: Current methods and practice. Amsterdam: Elsevier Academic Press.
- Hutchinson, M et al. (2007). A brief atlas of the human body.
 - OR another skeletal atlas/flash cards/colouring book that details skeletal elements and their features.

4. Course Content and Schedule

	Lecture	Lab
Jan 7th- 9th	Course Introduction Introduction to the skeleton	Lab 1
Jan 14th-16th	Forensic anthropology and death investigation.	Lab 2
Jan 21st -23rd	Taphonomy	Lab 3
Jan 28th-30th	Forensic archaeology and remains processing	Open lab Scene Recovery Assignment
Feb 4th-6th	Skeletal development	Bell Ringer Exam
Feb 11th-13th	Skeletal development	Lab 4 Scene recovery assignment due
Feb 18th-20th	Family Day No Class	Reading Break No Class
Feb 25th- 27th	Lecture MidTerm	Lab 5
Mar 4th-6th	Trauma	Lab 6
Mar 11th-13th	Ante mortem and post mortem changes to bone	Lab 7
Mar 18th-20th	Personal identification	Lab 8
Mar 25th-27th	Personal identification Forensic anthropology and crimes against humanity	Quiz on labs 4-8 Lab 9
Apr 1st –3rd	Forensic anthropology and mass disasters After the Wave	Casework data collection
Apr 8th- 10th	Forensic anthropology and undocumented border crossers	Casework report writing Due 4pm Friday Apr 12 th

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Evaluation	Value	Due Date
Lab assignments	5%	Throughout the semester
Lab Bell ringer exam	13%	Feb 5 th /6 th
Scene recovery assignment	5%	Jan 28 th /30 th Feb 12 th /13 th
MidTerm	25%	Feb 25 th
Lab quiz	7%	Mar 26 th /27 th
Case report	15%	Apr 2 nd /3 rd , Apr 12 th
Readings quizzes	5%	Throughout the semester
Final Exam	25%	TBA

(a) Lab assignments, quizzes and exams (40%)

The laboratory part of Anthropology 250 consists of:

- 10 labs (5%)
- 1 lab bell ringer exam, worth 13% of your final grade
 - This is a timed exam with different stations where you are asked to identify bones, fragments and features. Responses are brief and do not require extensive written answers
- 1 lab quiz, worth 7% of your final grade
 - This quiz covers material from labs 4-8 and will be run at the beginning of lab 9.
- 1 case report, worth 15% of your final grade
 - The case report involves analysis of human skeletal remains in a hypothetical

case. You will work in a team context (unless otherwise arranged, see below) 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!**

NOTE: You must attempt both lab tests in order to pass the course. If you do not average above 50% on the two lab tests combined, you will be required to complete the case report assignment individually.

(b) Scene recovery assignment (5%)

For this assignment you will need to analyze a potential scene, assess forensic relevance and develop a search and recovery protocol.

(c) Readings quizzes (5%)

There are weekly assigned readings for this course. Each reading has an associated mini quiz to be completed on D2L. These quizzes are an incentive to encourage you to complete the weekly readings on time and thus cannot be completed late.

(d) Exams (50%)

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.

6. Classroom Policies

(a) Contacting the Instructor and contacting students

I can be contacted via email, D2L or in person during office hours. All emails should contain "ANTH 250" in the subject line. I will contact you for announcements, class changes or cancellations through D2L. I highly encourage you to set up mail forwarding from D2L to your personal email or make sure that you check your D2L messages frequently.

(b) Attendance

Lecture: you are expected to attend lectures as material covered in lecture will be included in the exams, and will not all be covered 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. I will offer one make up lab for excused absences.

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

Failure to attend a midterm or lab test/ 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 but not for lab assignments. 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.

7. 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	A	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	B	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	C	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; 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	<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	<i>In progress</i> : 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. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal</i> : 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.

8. Recommended Materials 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.

9. College Supports, Services and Policies



(a) Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @ <http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

(b) College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the Student Services link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

(c) College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.