

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: ANTH-250: Forensic Anthropology

CLASS SECTION: 001A, 001B, 001C

TERM: W2023

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): On Campus

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

For COVID-19 information please visit <https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html>.

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Katie Waterhouse

EMAIL: waterhousek@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Y207

HOURS: Mon 10-11, 1.30-2.30, Thurs 4.00-6.00

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the forensic application of physical anthropological and archaeological knowledge and techniques to recovery and identification of human remains. Forensic Anthropology will cover physical anthropological and archaeological research methods, skeletal development and anatomical identification.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C in ENGL 151
- C in ENGL 161
- C in ENGL 163
- C in ENGL 164

CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a 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.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

Readings and Lab materials provided on D2L

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 1	Course Introduction and Introduction to the Skeleton Readings: Haunted by My Teaching Skeleton. Michelle Rodrigues Lab: Osteology 1	Homework Activity 1%
Week 2	Forensic Anthropology and Death Investigation Reading: Ch 4 in Forensic Anthropology: Case Studies From Europe Lab: Osteology 2	Homework Activity 1%
Week 3	Non-osteological methods of Personal Identification Reading: The Use of Medical Implants to Aid in the Identification Process. Jennifer Vollner Lab: Osteology 3	Homework Activity 1%
Week 4	Between Death and Skeletonization Reading: Rest[ES] website Lab: Osteology 4	Homework Activity 1%

WEEK	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 5	Forensic Archaeology Reading: Ch 3 The Detection of Human Remains. Edward Killam Lab: Osteology Exam	Osteology Exam 13%
Week 6	Exam 1 Lab: Human vs Animal Bone	Exam 1 Lab Activity 1%
Week 7	Reading Week	Search Plan 5%
Week 8	Skeletal Development 1 Reading: Between Male and Female. Molly Bearman Lab: Sex Estimation	Lab Activity 2%
Week 9	Skeletal Development 2 Reading: How ICE's Bogus Science Is Violating Human Rights. Elizabeth Digangi Lab: Age Estimation	Lab Activity 3%
Week 10	Skeletal Trauma Readings: Section III: E Broken Bones: Anthropological Analysis of Blunt Force Trauma Lab: Osteometrics	Lab Activity 4%
Week 11	Skeletal Pathology Reading: Differential Diagnosis in Forensic Entomology: Mites versus Pathologies and Taphonomy. Cesar Sanabria, Luz Cifuentes, Maria Lopez-Cerquera Lab: Trauma and Pathology	Lab Activity 1%
Week 12	Mass Disasters and Crimes Against Humanity 1 Readings: Can the Hunt for Skeletons Help Heal a Nation's Wounds? Megan Gannon Lab: Lab methods quiz and Skeletal Inventory	Osteological Methods Quiz 5%
Week 13	Mass Disasters and Crimes Against Humanity 2 Lab: Case Report	Case Report
Week 14	Easter Monday Lab: Case Report	Case Report
Final Exam Period	Exam 2	Exam 2

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Homework Activities	4%

DESCRIPTION		WEIGHTING
Lab Activities		11%
Osteology Exam		14%
Search Plan		5%
Osteological Methods Quiz		6%
Case Report		10%
Exam 1		20/25%
Weekly quizzes 1	Optional, if incomplete weight goes to Exam 1	5%
Exam 2		20/25%
Weekly quizzes 2	Optional, if incomplete weight goes to Exam 2	5%
TOTAL		100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

Weekly homework or lab activities are completed at home (homework) or in lab (lab) and are based on lecture or lab content for that week. They vary in weighting from 1% to 4%, (see course schedule for weight). Each homework activity is due one week after the relevant content is covered and lab activities are due at the end of lab time.

The osteology exam (14%) and the osteological methods quiz (5%) are in-person bell ringer style exams to test knowledge of osteological terms and osteological methods. An average of at least 50% for the two assessments must be attained for group work in the Case Report. If a 50% average is not attained the Case Report must be completed individually.

The Search Plan is specific land-based activity to be completed in groups of four. This activity builds on a lab activity and requires assessment of the Camosun campus and the development of a local search plan.

The Case Report is a final course project which can be completed in groups of up to four. Complete inventory and analysis of a skeletal collection must be completed using skills developed during the semester.

Weekly content quizzes (10%) are online, untimed, open book multiple choice quizzes covering content from the lecture and readings for the week. Quizzes run most weeks and are optional. If not completed the weight for each uncompleted quiz is transferred to exam 1 (quizzes prior to exam 1) or exam 2 (quizzes after exam 1).

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Contact: I can be contacted via D2L, email or in person. Please include course name and section in your emails. I will contact students via course notifications in D2L, D2L messages or email. Please ensure you have set up notifications and/or mail forwarding in D2L to ensure you receive messages in a timely manner.

Attendance in lecture: It is your responsibility to catch up any missed lecture content by connecting with classmates and doing additional readings. I am always willing to address specific questions and issues you face but will not reteach entire classes.

Attendance in lab: As a lab-based class attendance in lab is important and excused lab absences will only be granted for extenuating medical or other emergency reasons. Requests for an excused absence must be timely and well supported. It is your responsibility to catch up on any missed lab material by connecting with classmates and doing your own readings. Attempts will be made to reschedule assessment elements of labs but if not possible, alternative assessment will be determined.

Due dates: Due dates are listed within D2L and are Pacific Standard time and stand regardless of what shows in individual student D2L windows.

Extensions: Extensions may be granted for medical or other legitimate reasons. Most quizzes and activities have a minimum of one week to complete and thus extensions for poor time management are unlikely to be granted. Extensions must be requested BEFORE the deadline and will not be granted once the deadline has passed unless there are relevant extenuating circumstances.

Late Submissions: Late submissions will receive a deduction of 10% a day and will not receive any feedback. Assignments more than 1 week late will not be accepted.

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

School of Arts and Science Student Information: <https://legacy.camosun.ca/learn/school/arts-science/archives/index.html>

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous

International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the “Attendance” section under “Registration Policies and Procedures” (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun’s Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student’s right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun’s Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College’s Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College’s expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that

course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.