

**ANT 3520**  
**Skeleton Keys: Introduction to Forensic Anthropology**  
**Summer B 2018**

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**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Or by appointment

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Or by appointment

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**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.-12:30p.m.  
Thursdays 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.  
Or by appointment

**Course Objectives:**

This course provides an introduction to the field of forensic anthropology. Forensic anthropology is an applied area of biological anthropology that focuses on the identification of human skeletal remains in a medicolegal context. This course will introduce you to basic terms and principles of forensic anthropology, focus on concepts and their applications, and present case histories. This is not intended to be a "how-to" course but a general overview of the discipline. Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Define the field of forensic anthropology and its purview
- Have a general understanding of human osteology
- Understand the basic concepts underlying determination of the biological profile, including sex, age, ancestry, and stature
- Describe different types of skeletal trauma, and differentiate between antemortem and postmortem trauma

**\*\*\*Some lectures will include disturbing and graphic images. Consider your reaction to this material before taking this course. You will be responsible for all course material.\*\*\***

**Course Materials:**

**Required:** Warren MW *et al.* 2011 *Bare Bones: A Survey of Forensic Anthropology*. 2nd edition. Kendall-Hunt Publishing.

Additional readings will be provided by the instructor and posted on Canvas.

**Course Policies:**

**Grading:**

Final grades will be calculated as a percentage of the total available points and graded using the following scale:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>A</b>	93-100	<b>C</b>	73-76
<b>A-</b>	90-92	<b>C-</b>	70-72
<b>B+</b>	87-89	<b>D+</b>	67-69
<b>B</b>	83-86	<b>D</b>	63-66
<b>B-</b>	80-82	<b>D-</b>	60-62
<b>C+</b>	77-79	<b>E</b>	≤ 59

Final grades will be rounded following conventional math standards; grades ending with a decimal of .5 or greater will be rounded up to the next integer. All types of graded material will be weighted equally.

**Course Mechanics:**

Because this is an online course, students are expected to be self-motivated. During the six week period the class is in session, there will be sixteen modules with two to three a week. All assignments for the modules (except for initial discussion posts, which are due earlier) must be completed during the five day period they are assigned and will be due each **Friday at 11:59 p.m. EDT. Do NOT wait until the last minute to complete the assignments.**

The instructions and materials needed for each assignment can be found under the relevant module. Please make sure you read the syllabus and familiarize yourself with Canvas. Students are responsible for all the material in each module and need to view all links posted on the course's website (e.g., lecture videos, films, and articles) and read any of the assigned reading in the textbook. All of the material is fair game when it comes to quizzes, discussions and activities. If there are questions about any assigned work, it is the students' responsibility to contact the instructor or TA prior to the due date.

**Assignments:**

Grades for this course are based on three types of assignments: quizzes, activities, and discussion posts. These assignments are generally detailed below with specific instructions on Canvas.

There is one quiz for each of the sixteen modules as well as a syllabus quiz. This means there will be two to three quizzes per week. Each quiz is multiple choice and worth 10 points. The syllabus quiz is multiple choice and fill in the blank worth 20 points. The quizzes make up approximately **50%** of your grade for a total of 180 points.

Students will also need to complete fourteen online activities. This averages about two a week. The activities range from 5 to 20 points and are approximately **34%** of the total grade for a total of 125 points.

Every week there will be a discussion topic. Each student must post a substantive original comment to the discussion by **Wednesday at noon (12:00 p.m. EDT)**. They must then make two substantive responses to other individual's comments by **Friday at 11:59 p.m. EDT**. The only exception to this is the discussion post for Week 1; the initial post is due by **Thursday July 5<sup>th</sup> (at 5:00 p.m. EDT)** with two substantive responses to other individual's comments by **Friday July 6<sup>th</sup> (at 11:59 p.m. EDT)**. This means there are 6 original comments and 12 responses in total. Participation in these discussions is approximately **16%** of the final grade for a total of 60 points. Online discussion groups will be assigned by the instructor once the Add/Drop period has closed. Original posts should be a **minimum of five sentences** in length; substantive comments should be a **minimum of three sentences** in length each.

Opportunities for extra credit may or may not be available at the discretion of the instructor.

### **Miscellaneous:**

#### *Accommodations*

Students requesting classroom accommodation should first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>), who will then provide the necessary documentation for the course instructor. Please provide this within the first week of classes.

If you are experiencing personal problems that are interfering with your studies, you are encouraged to take advantage of the available university resources:

UF Counseling and Wellness Center: 3190 Radio Road, (352) 392-1575

Student Mental Health: Student Health Care Center, (352) 392-1171

Sexual Assault Recovery Services: Student Health Care Center, (352) 392-1161

#### *Honor Code*

Students are expected to uphold the UF student Honor Code. Plagiarism and/ or cheating on any exam, assignment, or quiz will not be tolerated. Students found to be engaging in these behaviors will receive zero (0) points for that exam, assignment, or quiz.

Disciplinary action will follow university policy outlined by the Dean of Students. See <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

#### *Late or Missed Work*

Assignments are due at **11:59 p.m. EDT on Fridays** for full credit. Students have 24 hours or until Saturday at 11:59 p.m. EDT to turn in assignments with a 20% penalty for lateness. After Saturday no late work will be accepted without documentation of an excused absence and the student will be given a zero.

For the discussions due on Wednesday the students have until Thursday at 12:00 p.m. EDT to turn in the assignment with a 20% for lateness. After this date and time, no late discussion submissions will be accepted without documentation of an excused absence.

Quizzes missed due to a documented illness or emergency may be rescheduled; however, **48 hours prior notice** should be given to the Instructor, and documentation must be supplied. In the case of unexpected emergencies, the Instructor must be notified in advance, or as soon as possible thereafter (within a reasonable period of time), and the student should provide documentation immediately following the absence. Please note that make-up work will be the equivalent but not the exact same as the original quiz. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor and provide documentation and arrange the make-up.

**Summer B 2018 Schedule:**

Below is a tentative schedule of topics to be discussed over the course of the semester. Dates and topics are subject to change, however, the instructor will make all attempts to notify the class of any changes as they arise. Due dates for assignments and exams will not change except for university wide cancellation of courses.

Week	Topic	What to Read	What to Watch	Due
<b>Introduction to Canvas</b>				
Week 1: July 2-6	Introduction and Ground Rules: what to expect from an online course; syllabus review; course policies	Syllabus Start Here” module	Canvas Overview Video	Syllabus Quiz
<b>Module 1: The History of Forensic Science</b>				
1	What is Forensic Anthropology?	Chapter 2 of Bare Bones	Lecture: What is Forensic Anthropology	Discussion 1
1	History of Forensic Anthropology at UF (and beyond!)	Chapter 2	Lecture: History of Forensic Anthropology at UF	Mod 1 Quiz
<b>Module 2: The medicolegal system</b>				
1	Medicolegal Aspects of Death	Chapter 1	Lecture: Medicolegal Aspects of Death	Mod 2 Quiz Activity1: Medico-legal matching
<b>Module 3: Forensic Anthropology in the Field</b>				
Week 2: July 9-13	Recovery of Human Remains	articles on CSI effect (online) Chapter 3,	Lecture: Recovery of	Discussion 2

	I: Site Location and Site Survey		Human Remains I	
2	Recovery of Human Remains II: Mapping, Excavation, and Documentation.	Chapter 3	Lecture: Recovery of Human Remains II	Mod 3 quiz Activity 2: Recovery
<b>Module 4: Forensic anthropology in the laboratory</b>				
2	Processing Remains into Evidence	Chapter 3	Lecture: Processing Remains into Evidence	Mod 4: quiz
2	Laboratory Protocols, Procedures, and Quality Assurance	Supplementary “Lab SOP” (online)	Lecture: Laboratory Protocols...	Activity 3: SOP Discussion Tree
<b>Module 5: Taphonomy – from biosphere to lithosphere</b>				
2	What Happens After Death? Part I	Chapter 4	Lecture: What Happens after death? Part 1	Mod 5 Quiz
2	What Happens After Death? Part II	Chapter 4 practice activity (online)	Lecture: What Happens After Death II	Activity 4: Taphonomy Matching exercise
<b>Module 6: Anatomy, osteology, measurement, and statistics</b>				
Week 3: July 16-20	Skeletal Anatomy and Osteology	Chapter 5, practice activity (online)	Lecture: Skeletal Anatomy and Osteology	Mod 6 Quiz
3	Osteometry	Chapter 5	Lecture: Osteometry	Activity 5: Osteology Matching

<b>Module 7: Group Characteristics I: Biological sex</b>				
3	Sexual Dimorphism, Birth, and Locomotion	Chapter 6	Lecture: Sexual Dimorphism...	Mod 7 Quiz
3	Methods of Sex Discrimination	Chapter 6	Lecture: Methods of Sex Discrimination	Activity 6: Short Essay on Biological Sex
<b>Module 8: Group Characteristics II: Age-at-death</b>				
3	Estimating Age in Children	Chapter 8	Lecture: Estimating Age in Children	Mod 8 Quiz
3	Estimating Age in Adults	Chapter 8	Lecture: Estimating Age in Children	Activity 7: Age matching
3	Methods in age Estimation	Chapter 8	Lecture: Methods in Age Estimation	Discussion 3
<b>Module 9: Group Characteristics III: Stature</b>				
Week 4: July 23-27	Living vs. Forensic Stature; Methods of Stature Estimation	Chapter 9, Ousley 1995 (online)	Lecture: Stature	Discussion 4 Mod 9 Quiz Activity 8: Stature
<b>Module 10: Group Characteristics IV: "Race"...fact or fiction?</b>				
4	Race fact or fiction	Chapter 7 PBS website, Sauer 1992 (online)	Lecture: "Race" Fact or Fiction?	Mod 10 Quiz
4	Clinal Variation and Population Affinities	Chapter 7	Lecture: Clinal Variation...	Activity 9: Sorting people

4	Determination of Ancestry: Do anthropologists cheat?	Chapter 7	Lecture: Determination of Ancestry	
<b>Module 11: Individual characteristics and personal identification</b>				
4	Individuating Skeletal Characteristics	Chapter 10	Lecture: Individuating Skeletal Characteristics	Mod 11 Quiz
4	Ante and Postmortem Radiographic Comparison	Chapter 10, practice activity (online)	Lecture: Antemortem and Postmortem...	Activity 10: Radiographic Comparison
4	Personal Identification in Action	Chapter 10	Video: Unfleshed: The Story of Dr. Maples	
<b>Module 12: Forensic Art</b>				
Week 5: July 30 – August 3	Forensic Reconstructions: Art or science?	Chapter 11	Lecture: Forensic Reconstructions; Video: Skeleton Stories Episode 7	Mod 12 Quiz Activity 11: Art vs Science
<b>Module 13: Trauma</b>				
5	Trauma and Cause of Death: Ante- vs. Postmortem	Chapter 12	Lecture: Trauma and Cause of Death I	Discussion 5
5	Trauma and Cause of Death: Blunt- vs. Sharp-force	Chapter 12	Lecture: Trauma and Cause of Death II	Mod 13 Quiz

5	Trauma and Cause of Death: Ballistics and Gunshots	Chapter 12	Lecture: Trauma and Cause of Death III	Activity 12: Trauma Matching
<b>Module 14: Cremation</b>				
5	Burned Bodies and Cremated Remains	Chapter 13	Lecture: Burned Bodies and Cremated Remains	Mod 14 Quiz
5	What Survives Cremation?	Chapter 13	Lecture: What Survives Cremation?	Activity 13: Cremation artifacts
<b>Module 15: Mass fatalities</b>				
Week 6: August 6-10	Mass Fatality Case History I: ValuJet Flight	Chapter 14	592 Lecture: Mass Fatality Case History I	Discussion 6
6	Mass Fatality Case History II: World Trade Center	Chapter 14	Lecture: Mass Fatality Case History II	Mod 15 Quiz
6	Mass Fatality Case History III: Hurricane Katrina	Chapter 14	Lecture: Mass Fatality Case History III	Activity 14: Mass Disaster response
<b>Module 16: Career paths and applications of forensic anthropology</b>				
6	Human Rights Missions	Chapter 15	Lecture: Human Rights Missions	Mod 16 Quiz
6	Military Identifications	Chapter 16	JPAC Video links	