

Introduction to Forensic Anthropology and the Forensic Sciences

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Office hours: Before or after class and by appointment.

Required Text: Myriam Nafté. *Flesh and Bone: An Introduction to Forensic Anthropology*, 3rd edition. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2016.

Course Description:

This is an intensive course. It is worth 3.00 credit hours, the same as full semester course and therefore the requirements are the same, including a 7-10 page research paper.

This course is an introduction to the field of forensic science with special emphasis on forensic anthropology – the application of the theory and methods of biological anthropology and human osteology to cases of legal significance. Anthropology 2220 carries three semester credits at the University of Utah and fulfills the Applied Science requirement.

Forensic anthropology and other forensic disciplines related to human identification and death investigation – including crime scene investigation, forensic pathology, odontology, entomology and other lab-based forensic science fields – will be introduced. The course includes a lab-based osteology and forensic anthropology section in which basic human skeletal anatomy and methods for description and identification of human remains are covered.

Students should be aware of the potentially disturbing nature of some of the material covered in this course. This introduction to forensic science focuses heavily on issues related to medical and legal concerns arising with death. Students should be prepared to respectfully view explicit photographs in lectures and the textbook and handle real human skeletal remains in the lab. Students who feel that their ability to successfully complete this course might be jeopardized by adverse reactions to such material are advised to take another class. **No audio or video recording or photography of the lectures, guest lectures, or laboratory time is allowed due to the sensitive nature of the topics covered.**

At the end of the course, students will have a general understanding of forensic anthropology within the broader context of forensic investigation and analysis. They will be familiar crime scene investigation procedures and analytical techniques used in several fields of forensic

science. In addition, students will develop a basic knowledge of the human skeleton and will be able to explain methods for the description and identification of human remains. They will also gain an appreciation of the breadth of scientific knowledge that is applied to the forensic context.

Throughout this course students will achieve the Department of Anthropology's Learning Outcomes of: Apply anthropological research methods to answer a question or solve a problem and Evaluate and Synthesize scientific hypotheses about human variation using empirical data.

Coursework: The course is divided into two sections as indicated in the class schedule. The first section highlights the various other fields of forensic science. The second focuses on human osteology and forensic anthropology.

With the exception of the human osteology/forensic anthropology lab section, lectures and reading assignments form the basis of the material covered in this course. Reading assignments are listed in the Class Schedule attached to this syllabus. Lectures will **not** be posted on Canvas due to the sensitive or proprietary nature of some of the material.

Attendance is mandatory and will be included in your grade. Missing class will result in losing 15 points per day off the final cumulative grade.

Grading: Grades will be based upon performance on one exam, a human osteology quiz, a forensic anthropology lab, and a research paper as follows:

Exam	100pts
Human Osteology Quiz	50pts
Forensic Anthropology Lab	50pts
<u>Research Paper</u>	<u>100pts</u>
Total	300pts

Exam: The exam will be an at home essay based exam, you will upload it to the course Canvas website.

There will be no make-up exams, quizzes, or labs.

The syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor at any time. Any changes will be announced and posted on the Canvas website as soon as possible.

Class Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading
1/2	Introduction to Forensic Anthropology, Criminal Justice System & Forensic Evidence	Ch. 1 & 2
1/2	Crime Scene Investigations	Ch. 1 & Readings
1/2	Death Investigation & Forensic Pathology	Readings
1/2	Human Decomposition & Forensic Entomology	Ch. 7 & Readings
1/3	Positive ID & Forensic DNA & Forensic Odontology	
1/3	Mass Fatalities/DMORT & Crimes Against Humanity	Ch. 8
1/3	Human Osteology & Forensic Anthropology EXAM Handed Out	Ch. 4, 5, 6 & Handouts
1/4	Lab – Human Osteology	Ch. 4 & Handouts
1/5	EXAM Due by 11:59pm on Canvas	
1/10	Research Paper Topic Due at Beginning of Class Lab – Osteology Quiz & Forensic Anthropology	Ch. 5 & 6 & Handouts
1/11	Lab – Forensic Anthropology Lab	Ch. 5 & 6 & Handouts
2/2	Research paper due by 11:59 pm on Canvas	

Department and University Regulations

ADA Statement: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for Center for Teaching & Learning Excellence people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Safety Statement: The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

Addressing Sexual Misconduct: Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veterans status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776.

Wellness Statement: Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness (www.wellness.utah.edu; 801-581-7776).

Student Code: (Policy 6-400) All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code (<http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>). Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Section II of the Code. The Code also specifies standards of behavior (Section III) and academic conduct (Section V). Students must adhere to generally accepted standards of academic honesty, including but not limited to refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, research misconduct, misrepresenting one's work, and/or inappropriately collaborating" (Section VB). According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee.

Incomplete Policy: An "I" will only be given for work not completed because of circumstances beyond the student's control, providing the student is passing the course and needs to complete 20% or less of the work. Valid reasons for an "I" grade include: (a) An illness (documented by a medical statement) that precludes the ability of the student to perform; (b) an accident or situation that prevents the student from physically being present (documentation may be required); (c) Extreme emotional or other mental circumstances that are severe enough to interfere with a student's normal academic performance. If you do receive an "I", do not register for the course again. You must complete the required work in the time agreed by you and the instructor. If the work is not completed within one year, the grade will change to an "E". Faculty will not accept additional work to change the grade after that one-year period. If student's have a problem with a course, please deal with it immediately. It is the student's responsibility to contact instructors and submit necessary forms. If you delay, your instructor may have left the University or be out of the country. In such a case, you may find that there is nothing the Department can do.

Repeating a Course: Any course taken at the University may be repeated. If you wish to attend a class again, you must register for it and pay tuition for that semester. Note that some courses may be taught infrequently or discontinued. Note: The syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor when the student is given reasonable notice of the modification.