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Fall 9-1-2021

### ANTY 314.01: Principles of Forensic Anthropology

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# COVID Mitigation Procedures

The University has instituted several COVID mitigation procedures that will impact our class. I submit to them under protest, but we really have no choice other than to follow these procedures.

1. Everybody in the classroom must wear a mask. If you don't have a mask or aren't wearing it you must leave the classroom. If an unmasked person fails to leave the classroom I will have to cancel class for that day.
2. The university is very interested in who is sitting next to whom. This is so that if someone tests positive for COVID contact tracing can be used. If we know where everyone is seated then only those near the infected person need to be quarantined. Otherwise, the whole class will be quarantined. There are a couple of things we need to do to comply with this.
  - a. My TA will compile a seating chart of who is sitting where. Thus, she will have to move around during lecture asking each of you your name. If you want to be prepared, you can come with your name written on a piece of paper to hand to her.
  - b. You will need to sit in the same seat all semester. So, choose your seat carefully at the first class meeting.
  - c. If you arrive at class and someone is sitting in your seat, please let the instructor or the TA know so they can handle the issue.
3. I am hoping that I can talk loudly enough that you can all hear me with my mask on. I don't know whether there is a working microphone in the room. If so, I'll use it.
4. I plan to zoom each class meeting, to accommodate those who might be quarantined or who would rather watch from home. This may not always go smoothly, because despite my B.S. degree in computer science I'm not very good with techy techy crap like zoom. I will apologize ahead of time if something doesn't work right. We are told not to hand out paper syllabi this year, but you can get it from Moodle.
5. All exams will be administered through Moodle this year. The exam access will be virtually the entire day for which the exam is scheduled (12:05am to 11:55pm). Although university excused absences (see the catalog) are allowed, I will not generally be willing to reschedule an exam for individual students.

I hope these procedures are not too nasty and apologize in advance if they are.

## ANTHROPOLOGY 314

# PRINCIPLES OF FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY

**Dr. Randall Skelton 226 Social Sciences Building**

**Office Hours: MWF 10:00-10:50, TR: 8:00-8:50**

**Email: randall.skelton@umontana.edu**

### GOALS AND PURPOSE

Students who successfully pass this class will acquire knowledge of the following:

- Basic forensic science, crime scene processing, and rules for handling evidence
- Forensic archaeology, including finding and recovering buried evidence
- State and federal burial regulations
- Criteria for evaluating the forensic relevance of discovered remains
- The nature, structure, composition, evolution, and function of bones and the skeleton
- The bones of the skeleton and some of their more important features
- Distinguishing human from non-human bones
- Methods for estimating age, sex, race, height, pathology, and trauma from the skeleton
- The role of forensic anthropologists in mass disasters, documenting human rights violations, recovery of war dead, and as expert witnesses in court
- How to write recovery reports, osteological inventories, and forensic reports

### ADMINISTRIVIA

**Required Texts:** The Burns text will be vital for doing your assignments. The Steadman text is less critical.

- Burns, Karen Ramey, 2012. *Forensic Anthropology Training Manual*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Prentice Hall. (ISBN 0205022596)
- Steadman, Dawnie Wolfe, 2009. *Hard Evidence: Case Studies in Forensic Anthro*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Prentice Hall. (ISBN 0136050735)

**Lecture notes:** Lecture notes for this class and other the course pack will be posted on the University's Moodle online class system.

**Attendance Policy:** As experience has shown that students who attend class do markedly better than those who do not, attendance will be taken (at least randomly) and attendance will contribute to students' grades.

**Academic Integrity:** Students will be held to the provisions of the Student Conduct Code with regards to cheating, plagiarism, abusive language, and other issues. Violations will not be tolerated. Students may work together on homework assignment, but each student must turn in an assignment prepared and written by themselves. If submitted assignments are copies (identical or not) the credit for that assignment will be divided equally among all the copies.

**Disabilities:** Students with disabilities will be accommodated upon recommendation by Disability Services for Students. Accommodation services and facilities will be provided by DSS.

**Grading:** Three non-cumulative midterm exams and a cumulative final exam will be offered. 50% of your grade will be based on the best three scores out of these 4 exams. Another 40% of your grade will be based on four written assignments: a theory of the case assignment, a skeletal inventory report, a skeletal analysis report, and a final identity. The final 10% of your grade will reflect attendance. The grading mode is "open" meaning that you can take the class for a traditional grade or CR/NCR. If you take a class CR/NCR you cannot count it toward specific major, minor, option, or certificate requirements that require a minimum grade.

## ANTY 314: Prin Forensic Anth – Provisional Lecture & Reading Schedule

It will be helpful to you to bring your Burns textbook to class on the days marked with a \*.

### PART 1: FORENSIC ARCHAEOLOGY

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>LECTURE</u>	<u>READINGS: B = Burns, S = Steadman</u>
8/30	M	1. What is Forensic Anthropology?	B: xv-6; S: 1-28
9/1	W	2. The Criminal Case Start to Finish	B: 6-8, 180-184
9/3	F	3. The Forensic Sciences	B: 184-188
9/6	M	*** Labor Day Holiday ***	
9/8	W	4. The Crime Scene	
9/10	F	5. Finding Buried Evidence	B: 239-247, 263-267; S: 103-132
9/13	M	6. Site Context	S: 255-270
9/15	W	7. Grave Excavation and Context	B: 247-254, 262; S: 91-102.
9/17	F	8. Chain of Custody and Bone Conservation	B: 189-195
		<b>Written Assignment 1 (Testing Hypotheses About a Theory of the Case) Due</b>	
9/20	M	9. Taphonomy and Time Since Death	B: 255 -261; S: 155-178
9/21	W	10. Critique of Assignment 1	
9/24	F	!!! MIDTERM 1 !!!	

### PART 2: OSTEOLOGY

9/27	M	11. Skeletal Inventory & Anatomical Terms	B: 16-24, 189-197
*9/29	W	12. Osteology of the Skull	B: 25-51, 55
*10/1	F	13. Osteology of the Postcranial Skeleton	B: 56-152
*10/4	M	14. Teeth	B: 153-163
*10/6	W	15. Bone Chemistry	S: 197-226
10/8	F	16. Bone as an Organ System	S: 3-6
10/11	M	17. Bone as a Tissue	B: 9-16
		<b>Written Assignment 2 (Skeletal Inventory) Due</b>	
10/13	W	18. Bone Remodeling	
10/15	F	19. Evolution and Functions of the Skeleton	
10/18	M	20. Critique of Assignment 2	
10/20	W	21. Human Uniqueness	
10/22	F	22. Is it Really Bone and is it Human?	
10/25	M	!!! MIDTERM 2 !!!	

### PART 3: SKELETAL ANALYSIS

10/27	W	23. Estimating Sex	B: 197-198, 52-54, 112-115
*10/29	F	24. Estimating Race	B: 164, 222-227, 238
*11/1	M	25. Estimating Age: The Early Years	B: 197, 165-168
*11/3	W	26. Estimating Age: The Later Years	B: 51, 71-72, 82-84, 116-121, 169-172
*11/5	F	27. Estimating Height, Weight, & Occupation	B: 198-202
11/8	M	28. Pathology	B: 173-179
11/10	W	*** Veterans Day Holiday ***	
*11/12	F	29. Trauma	B: 202-214
11/15	M	30. Measuring bones	B: 228-235
11/17	W	31. Discriminant Functions	B: 236-237
		<b>Written Assignment 3 (Forensic Report) Due</b>	
11/19	F	32. Race Revisited	
11/22	M	33. Critique of Assignment 3	
11/24-26	W-F	*** Thanksgiving Vacation ***	
11/29	M	34. Positive Identifications	B: 215-221
12/1	W	35. Being an Expert Witness and Ethics	B: 268-275
		<b>Written Assignment 4 (Identity Report) Due</b>	
12/3	F	36. Mass Disasters, War, and Human Rights	B: 276-298
12/6	M	37. Critique of Assignment 4	
12/8	W	38. Historical Forensic Science	
12/10	F	!!! MIDTERM 3 !!!	
????	?	<b>FINAL EXAM: As stated in the final exam schedule</b>	