

# ANTH 4358.001

## Advanced Topics in Archaeology: Bioarchaeology

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Naomi Cleghorn  
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Office Hours: Wednesday 12:15 - 2:15 pm or by appointment

**CLASS MEETS:** Tuesday and Thursday 2 - 3:20 pm

**TEACHING ASSISTANT:** Destiny Micklin (Email: [Destiny.Micklin@mavs.uta.edu](mailto:Destiny.Micklin@mavs.uta.edu))

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Bioarchaeology is the study of human remains from archaeological contexts. Bioarchaeologists attempt to reconstruct individual identity and life history (including growth and development, health, nutrition, work, migration, family affiliation, and cause of death). This is a method-oriented class that combines lecture and lab work.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

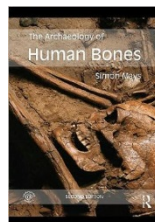
- Describe and apply basic techniques of life history reconstruction and individual identification.
- Identify a range of pathologies and traumas in human remains.
- Explain some of the current issues and debates in bioarchaeology.

### PREREQUISITES:

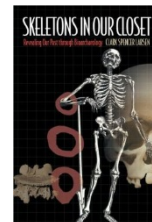
There are no formal prerequisites for this course. However, students who undertake this subject are expected to have a familiarity with skeletal anatomy from previous coursework. Students lacking this preparation should plan to spend several additional hours per week in independent study of the human skeleton. This is in addition to the typical time spent preparing for each class. If you have any questions about preparation, please contact the instructor.

### REQUIRED TEXTS:

The Archaeology of Human Bones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2010  
By Simon Mays



Skeletons in our Closet: Revealing our past through bioarchaeology, 2002  
By Clark Spencer Larsen



Standards for Data Collection from Human Skeletal Remains, 1994  
By Jane Buikstra and Douglas Ubelaker

Note - this last one is not available through the bookstore. I suggest you rent it through Amazon (\$28) or buy it on-line. This link to the Amazon rental is:

[http://www.amazon.com/Standards-Collection-Human-Skeletal-Remains/dp/1563490757/ref=aag\\_m\\_pw\\_dp?ie=UTF8&m=AR5O9XYIZHIE5](http://www.amazon.com/Standards-Collection-Human-Skeletal-Remains/dp/1563490757/ref=aag_m_pw_dp?ie=UTF8&m=AR5O9XYIZHIE5)

These texts will be supplemented with some additional articles.

**SUGGESTED ADDITIONAL TEXTS:**

The Human Bone Manual by White and Folkens (or any osteology reference with good photos)  
The Paleolithic Origins of Human Burial by Pettitt, 2011

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

Assignments & Assessments	Date
Human Osteology Quiz	January 21
Plagiarism Quiz Due	February 4
Cemetery Project Due	February 4
Annotated Research Bibliography Due	February 14 (A Friday)
Age & Sex Lab Due	February 18
Craniometric and Stature Lab Due	March 4
First Paper Draft Due	March 20
Dental Lab Due	March 27
Pathology Lab Due	April 8
Final Paper Due	April 15
Student Presentations	April 29 - May 1
Osteobiographies Due	May 1
Final Exam (Take home due + In class)	May 6

In-Class Labs	Date
Cemetery Project	January 28
Age & Sex Lab	February 11
Osteometric and Stature Lab	February 25
Dental Lab	March 18
Pathology & Trauma	April 8

## REQUIREMENTS & EXPECTATIONS

Grade Scale:

90% and greater	A
80% to 89%	B
70% to 79%	C
60% to 69%	D
Less than 60%	F

\* A .5% is rounded to next higher grade.

### DETAILED REQUIREMENTS AND GRADE PERCENTAGES:

#### ***5% Attendance and participation in discussion:***

*Be in class, on time, and prepared to discuss assigned readings. Failure to prepare will impact this grade.*

#### ***20% Osteobiography:***

Each student will prepare an osteobiography on one of the laboratory skeletons, providing an overall picture of that individual's age, sex, stature, biological affinity, health, evidence of trauma and any other details relevant to your skeleton. You will prepare a finished professional report on your osteobiography, including photo documentation, and submit this by **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014**.

#### ***30% Lab Projects/Practical Quiz:***

Over the course of the semester we will have 5 laboratory projects that will provide you with some practical analytical experience. These will include in-class, outdoor, and take-home analyses. There will also be 1 extra credit project on 3D scanning (barring any technical difficulties). In addition, there will be a general osteology quiz on the third day of class.

#### ***20% Final Exam:***

The take-home portion of the final will be due on the day of the final exam, **May 6<sup>th</sup>**. In addition, there will be an in-class laboratory exam.

#### ***25% Research paper/presentation:***

Each student will choose a paper topic (a list is provided below) during the first 2 weeks of class, and will be expected to begin the research process immediately. Students will compile an annotated bibliography early in the semester and a full draft after spring break. The final paper will be between 1500 and 2500 words (about 4 pages single-spaced), and will be due **April 15<sup>th</sup>**. Each student will give a short (7 minute) presentation of their research paper at the end of the semester. Course grade values of each part of this assignment break down as follows: 5% research bibliography, 5% first draft, 10% Final Paper, 5% presentation (these are out of the 25% of the whole, and are percentages of the total course grade).

#### ***Potential Paper Topics:***

Investigate one of the following issues from a bioarchaeological perspective and citing case studies (from multiple regions, if possible). You **DO NOT have to provide a comprehensive overview** of the whole scope of each topic. **Think of these as starting points.** You will probably want to constrain your

research to particular regions or time periods. If you have a topic that you would like to research that is not on this list, contact me right away to discuss it. Only one student per topic! Topics are assigned based on the order of email requests received, so email me soon with your top choice (You may want to give me your top 3 choices).

1. Understanding childhood through bioarchaeology
2. Altering skeletons for long-term interactions
3. Bioarchaeological evidence for the origin / spread of infectious disease
4. Post-mortem punishment
5. Slavery and the skeleton
6. Sex and gender in bioarchaeological interpretation
7. Immigrant populations in prehistory
8. Evidence for warfare and conflict
9. Religious identity and the dead
10. Evidence for ancient health care and medical intervention
11. Urban systems of dealing with the dead
12. Cannibalism
13. Mortuary practice and infants
14. Mummies and the afterlife
15. Social strata: hierarchy and equality in death
16. Bioarchaeological indicators of human sacrifice
17. Skeletal alterations in life: Piercing, foot-binding, and cranial modification
18. The antiquity of age-related conditions

#### *Research Sources:*

Your research should be based on a minimum of 6 scholarly sources (scholarly books or peer review journal article). Do not rely on web sources such as Wikipedia or similar sites – these are not reliable. Ask me if you are uncertain about a source. If you are unsure how to find such sources, contact me and/or the Anthropology Reference Librarian, Burton King ([bking@uta.edu](mailto:bking@uta.edu)).

When preparing your annotated bibliography please see the following link for guidance.  
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/01/>

#### *Required use of a reference manager:*

When researching and writing this paper, I require you to use a reference manager like Zotero, End Notes, or Ref Works. I highly recommend Zotero (which is free). If you have not done this before, talk to me as soon as possible and I will give you a tutorial. Failing to use a reference manager in the preparation of your annotated bibliography or paper will impact your grade – this is a requirement!

## ONE MORE REQUIREMENT -- Due February 4<sup>th</sup> -

On-line Plagiarism Tutorial: You must complete the tutorial to get credit for your research paper. I will not begin to grade any part of your paper or bibliography until you have passed this quiz, and your assignment will incur late penalties as a result. Failure to complete this could result in complete loss of credit for the research paper.

~ALSO~

If you violate the standards of academic integrity described on the Office of Student Conduct site, and in the tutorial, you will fail the course.



- Go to the web site of the Office of Student Conduct:
- (<http://www.uta.edu/conduct/academic-integrity/index.php>)
- Review the UTA policies on Academic Integrity.
- Click on the link to the Plagiarism Tutorial.

You must pass this with a score of 100% in order to get credit for the tutorial (the site itself will tell you that 70% is passing, but we have higher expectations in anthropology).

You may take the tutorial as many times as you require to achieve 100% accuracy.

At the conclusion of a successful test, you must have the test email your results to me - I will not give you credit unless I receive the email from the test. I generally send out an email acknowledging receipt. If you don't get this within 3 days, check in with me.

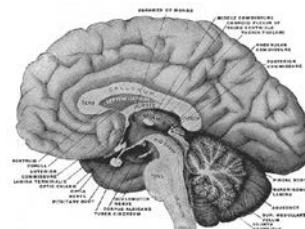
If you've done this for me before, please do it again. Review never hurts.

## COURSE POLICIES

(including the policies of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs):

### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

**Make sure all your work is the product of  
YOUR BRAIN!**



As a student of the University of Texas at Arlington, you are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. Any instance of academic dishonesty will have a significant negative impact on your scholastic record, not to mention your grade in this class.

Discipline may include a **failing grade** together with either **suspension or expulsion** from the University of Texas. Academic misconduct **will also be reported** to the Office of Student Conduct.

I am not kidding and I have no tolerance for even "small" amounts of cheating or plagiarism. To avoid doing this "accidentally," never cut and paste from anything you didn't write.

The Board of Regents has defined academic dishonesty as follows: "Scholastic dishonesty includes but *is not limited to* cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2).

All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the **UT Arlington Honor Code:**

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

### ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION POLICY:

**I expect you to check your UTA email daily during the week!**

A note from the Provost on communication:

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking

the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

To obtain your NetID or for logon assistance, visit:

<https://webapps.uta.edu/oit/selfservice/>.

If you are unable to resolve your issue from the Self-Service website, contact the Helpdesk at [helpdesk@uta.edu](mailto:helpdesk@uta.edu).

#### **MAKE-UP TEST POLICY:**

In general, I do not offer make-up quizzes or exams. If you have an exceptional emergency that prevents you from attending a test, contact me immediately and let me know. If possible (and this is *not* always logistically possible) I will try to accommodate. However, I can only accommodate one such emergency - **please do not ask a second time**.

#### **LATE WORK POLICY:**

Assignments are graded down **10%** of their value per day after the due date.

#### **ATTENDANCE POLICY:     **Be there on time!****

*Attendance and punctuality* are required. Walking in late is rude and distracting - don't do it! Students will be graded as absent if they enter the classroom after lecture has begun, or use a cell phone or any electronic communication device during class.

#### **BLACKBOARD POLICY:**

**Check it often** for assignments, instructions, announcements, and to monitor your progress.

#### **ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY:**



**No laptops, tablets, or cell phones** may be used during class - *unless* you have a special waiver from the Office for Students with Disabilities. (I suggest you set your cell phone to silent, but I will forgive the occasional accidental ringing.)

#### **POLICY ON TAKING AN INCOMPLETE:**

Incompletes are only offered under very exceptional circumstances. I will only consider authorizing a grade of Incomplete if the student has completed nearly all (more than 75%) of the grade value assignments for the course and, in my assessment, has a reasonable chance of finishing the final missing assignment *and* getting a passing grade in the class. Even meeting these criteria does not mean I will authorize an Incomplete - not all requests can be accommodated and a student may alternatively have to consider withdrawing from the course.

#### **DROP POLICY:**

The Provost's Office states:



Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period (**through January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014**). After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. **The last day to drop a class is March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014.** It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT POLICY:**

Please inform me if you have a disability requiring special consideration for classes and exams, and provide me with the relevant paperwork during the first two weeks of class. If you need to take any tests or exams in the Office for Students with Disabilities (UH 102), please note that these must be scheduled with **both** the instructor and that office at least a week in advance. It is possible (and preferable) to set up this schedule near the beginning of the semester. The University's policy is as follows:

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

### **WRITING SUPPORT:**

Having trouble with that paper? **Get help!** Contact the UTA writing center on-line at: <http://www.uta.edu/owl/>

Not only will they give you advice on your work, they also have short workshops throughout the semester. Writing well is one of the most valuable skills you can acquire in college!



### **STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE:**

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).



## **STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY**

At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

## **FINAL REVIEW WEEK**

As stated by the Provost's Office:

A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

## **EMERGENCY EXIT PROCEDURES:**

As stated by the Provost's Office:

Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. The nearest stairway exits are to the east of our room. To reach these, exit the room, turn left, go to the end of the hall, turn right, go down the stairs until you reach the door to the outside. Note that there are additional exits if this route is too crowded. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.

