ANATOMY AND BIOLOGY OF THE HUMAN SKELETON

SYLLABUS

ANTHROPOLOGY 366 (31560) FALL 2017

PROFESSOR

- Dr. John Kappelman (jkappelman@mail.utexas.edu)
- Office: SAC 5.160, telephone: 512-471-0055
- Office hours: Tu and Th: 11.30 am–12.30 pm in SAC 5.160, or by appointment

CLASS MEETINGS

- Tu and Th: 12.30–3 pm in SAC 5.172

PREREQUISITES

- Anthropology 301 and upper-division standing, or permission of the instructor
- Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259

DESCRIPTION (see the UT Canvas class website)

This class introduces the student to an in-depth study of the human skeleton. Class sessions combine lecture and laboratory sessions and cover primarily skeletal identification with some attention to developmental biology and functional morphology, and a special focus on identification skills as they relate to forensics and archaeological studies. This class is not, however, solely focused on simple identifications of complete skeletal elements; although it is important to master this skill, exams also include identifications of fragmentary elements and even broken portions of elements, the anatomical features of elements, siding, pathology, taphonomy, and determinations of age and sex. Students will be introduced to new 3D imaging techniques for studying the skeleton and have the opportunity to apply these techniques to their own forensic case study term project if desired.

This class requires both intensive in-class and out-of-class study. Participants must be prepared to handle actual human osteological specimens and have a professional approach to the subject and the human remains. Expertise in human skeletal identification is especially applicable to the fields of archeology, biological anthropology, health sciences, law, and law enforcement.

GRADING

- Weekly exams and problem sets (there is no final exam): 60%
- Case study: 25%
- Class and lab participation (attendance is taken!): 15%
- Grades (rounded to whole number with + and -):
  - A: 90-100%
  - B: 80-89%
  - C: 70-79%
  - D: 60-69%
  - F: <60%

TEXTBOOKS AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA

- Steele and Bramblett, 1988. *The Anatomy and Biology of the Human Skeleton*. Texas A&M University Press, College Station, TX. (Note: we use the vocabulary in this text.)
- See [www.eSkeletons.org](http://www.eSkeletons.org) for a web-based version of the human and primate skeleton.
ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students who cheat not only cheat themselves but also cheat other students in the class as well as the University. This class has a zero tolerance policy for cheating.

Any student found cheating will receive an F in the class and will be directed to the appropriate University authorities for additional sanctions including possible dismissal from the University. Please see Honor Code to review the UT policy.

Students ARE NOT permitted to copy answers from or share information with another student during an exam. Students are not permitted to look at each other’s exam sheets during an exam. If you finish a question before time is up, keep your eyes directed to your exam!

Students ARE NOT permitted to share problems sets and answers with other students unless they are specifically directed to collaborate and work in teams.

Students ARE NOT permitted to submit problem sets for one another.

Any questions about problem sets and exams should be directed to the professor and NOT to your fellow students. If you have any questions, please ask the professor!

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES TO REMEMBER:

4 Sept. Labor Day Holiday
5 Sept. Last day of official add/drop period
15 Sept. Twelfth Class Day
7 Nov. Last day a student may, with their dean’s approval, withdraw or drop a class, or change to pass/fail basis.
22-25 Nov. Thanksgiving Holiday
11 Dec. Last day of the semester
CLASS SCHEDULE
Aug. 31  Introduction to the class; and
         Introduction to bone biology and skeletal development
Sept.  5  Introduction to Skull
Sept.  7  Skull (continued)
Sept. 12  QUIZ: Skull; Case study: inventory
Sept. 14  Case study: inventory (continued)
Sept. 19  Case study: inventory (continued)
Sept. 21  Introduction to Vertebrae
Sept. 26  QUIZ: Vertebrae; Introduction to Chest
Sept. 28  Chest (continued)
Oct.   3  QUIZ: Chest; Introduction to Arm
Oct.   5  Arm (continued);
         Problem set 1: estimation of stature and body mass
Oct.  10  QUIZ: Arm; Introduction to Hand
Oct.  12  Hand (continued)
Oct.  17  QUIZ: Hand; Introduction to Pelvis
Oct.  19  Pelvis (continued);
         Problem set 1 DUE
Oct.  24  QUIZ: Pelvis; Introduction to The Leg
Oct.  26  Leg (continued)
Oct.  31  QUIZ: Leg; Introduction to The Foot
Nov.   2  Foot (continued)
         Problem set 2: estimation of sex and age
Nov.   7  QUIZ: Foot; Introduction to Dentition
Nov.   9  Dentition (continued)
Nov.  14  QUIZ: Dentition; Introduction to Applications: 3D imaging
Nov.  16  Your case study
         Problem set 2 DUE
Nov.  15  Your case study
Nov.  17  Your case study
Nov.  21  Your case study
Nov. 23  Thanksgiving Holiday (no class meeting)
Nov.  28  Your case study (continued)
Nov.  30  Your case study (continued)
Dec.   5  Your case study (continued)
Dec.   7  Your case study (continued)
Dec.  11  Last class day (this is a Monday): case study due
**SAC 5.172 Schedule Fall 2017**

It is likely that you will want to (and need to!) study the osteological specimens and work on your case study outside of the scheduled class and lab times (just as you would work on a term paper outside of class time). You can use the room schedule below to determine when SAC 5.172 is free. If you have a smart UT ID card (and if you don’t, you’ll need to get one!), you will be granted UT ID card-activated access to the room. You will need to be sure that the osteological specimens are put away and the cabinets and room locked when you leave. If you use the room outside of our formally scheduled calls and lab times, you are responsible for ensuring the security of the skeletal collections. You are not permitted to allow unauthorized people into the room. If you work in the room before another class starts, you will have to have everything cleaned up and put away and be out of the room 10 minutes before the start of that class. (For example, if you work early Monday morning, you will need to be out of the room no later than 9.50 am.)

Here below is the Fall 2017 schedule for the room. It is relatively full, but there are some available windows.

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