

Anthropology& 236: Forensic Anthropology

Instructor: **Shawn Curtis**

Office:	D200A
Office Hours:	Tues. 9:30-11:00 or by Appointment
Telephone:	425-564-2401 (email is best)
Email:	shawn.curtis@bellevuecollege.edu

Meeting Times & Locations

Tuesday/Thursday	12:30 – 2:20
Friday	Online
Final Exam	Part 1 – 12/5 (12:30 – 2:20) and Part 2 – 12/10 (11:30 – 1:20)

Course Overview:

Anthropology is the holistic study of humans. We combine methods, theories, and data from natural sciences, social sciences and humanities to examine human experience in the broadest framework possible. Anthropology courses explore human biology, origins, prehistory, cultural diversity, and religious experience. Students in anthropology courses acquire basic skills in critical thinking, oral and written communication, quantitative reasoning, group interaction, and cultural diversity.

Content for Anthropology& 236: Forensic Anthropology

Introduces the basic procedures employed by forensic anthropologists during the recovery and analysis of human remains and associated materials of legal interest. Explores how biological anthropologists apply osteology, skeletal variation and plasticity, skeletal pathology, archaeological recovery of evidence, and body decomposition to medical/legal investigations. Prerequisite: None
Recommended Courses: ANTH& 204 (prev. ANTH 105) or ANTH& 215 (prev. ANTH& 205 and Anth 201)

At the conclusion of Anthropology& 236 you will be able to:

1. Identify elements of human skeletal and dental anatomy.
2. Identify characteristics that differentiate the manner of death (natural causes, homicide, suicide or accident), and the principles used for estimation of time of death.
3. Describe techniques used for biological profiling (age, sex, race, height) from skeletal remains.
4. Describe the theories and techniques used in forensic DNA analysis.
5. Describe characteristics of evidence at crime scenes, including methods of collection, preservation, analysis, class differentiation, and comparison, and report preparation.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the legal role of the forensic anthropologist including issues in crime scene processing and evidence collection.

General Education Rating:

Big 3	General Ed Requirement	Rating
Creative and Critical Thinking	Scientific Inquiry (Nature of Science)	3

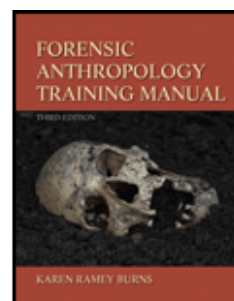
Student Responsibilities

To make the most out of the educational opportunities in this class, you need to take an active and energetic role in your own learning process. Success can best be achieved by completing the following student responsibilities.

- Complete all reading assignments before class on the day assigned.
- Participate actively in each discussion activity. We cannot reproduce a classroom level discussion. No makeup discussions are available. In this sense absences will have a negative impact on your grade.
- Take advantage of extra credit opportunities.
- Use the instructor's office hours for questions.
- Do not neglect your online responsibilities in this course.

Textbook (Required)

- Forensic Anthropology Training Manual 3rd edition, by Karen R. Burns. (2013), Pearson Prentice Hall, ISBN 978-0205022595
- Bone Voyage: A Journey in Forensic Anthropology, by Stanley Rhine ISBN 0826319688



Evaluation

Student evaluation centers upon successful mastery of the course content. Final grades will be based upon the following set of assignments and point distributions.

- Weekly Discussions 10 @ 10 pts = 100 pts
- Bone test: 100 pts
- Lab Portfolio: 10 labs @ 15 pts= 150 pts
- Comprehensive Exam: 100 pts
- Final Practicum: 150 pts

Bone Test

This exam will cover the bones of the body, features on the bones and orientation of the bones. This test will evaluate your ability to quickly recognize different elements of the skeleton. Knowing the bones, features, landmarks and orientations of bones is the critical first step in reconstructing a forensic crime scene and is the basis for all work in forensic anthropology and medico-legal death investigation.

Bone Voyage Case Discussions

There will be weekly discussion posts related to the chapter of Bone Voyage assigned for the week. This portion of the class will be done during the on-line time.

Lab Portfolio

We will be conducting weekly hands on activities. These are essentially “labs” that will examine human and non-human bones, structures and features of bones, human remain identification, and crime scene analysis.

There are assignments that will include charts to fill in, vocabulary to define, questions to answer, and drawings. All of these elements are meant to help you master the material and grasp the concepts of human osteology. Once you have completed each lab assignment you will put it in a binder (I will provide), this will serve as your lab notebook/portfolio. I will post answer keys to the labs after they have been completed. It is in your best interest to do these assignments before checking the answers. Your grade is based on completeness of your binder. **You will submit this binder at the end of the quarter for a grade.**

For each lab assignment you will have to be present in class to be eligible for credit. On days with lab time there will be a sign out sheet, indicating when you leave the lab. In order to get credit for participation in these labs signing out is required. If you fail to sign out, you must contact me by email to inform me of this with an estimated time of your departure.

There are no make-ups for these assignments. If you do miss a lab section, I strongly recommend that you do get the information from a classmate and complete the assignment. It will be important for the exam and practical.

You will want to use all the time you have to learn the bones and methods. You may think you can do it at home, but I assure you that the hands on lab activities are the only way to get a strong enough grasp on the material to appropriately apply it.

Comprehensive Exam

This class will consist of one exam at the end of the quarter. It will cover all of the material from this class, but will focus on non-diagnostic materials, including the bone identification, forensic context, evidence types and text readings. It will consist of 50 multiple-choice true/false and fill-in questions.

No makeup exams will be available without written documentation of a legitimate excuse (death, accident, hospitalization, illness, etc.). If a makeup exam is granted, it will be different in format than the original exam.

Lab Practical Examination

We will have a lab practical that will occur during the last day of class and during the final period. The practical will utilize all of your skills of identification. It will require critical thinking and creative problem solving. More detailed descriptions of what I expect from you will be presented in class. Because the practical is based on the hands on labs we have in class, it is crucial to your success in this class that you do not miss class session. **There will be no make-ups for the practical. You must be present for both day of the practical to receive credit.**

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be based upon the accumulation of points using the table below.

Grade & Percentage	Point Value
A = 92-100%	(552-600 pts)
A- = 90-91%	(540-551 pts)
B+ = 88-89%	(528-550 pts)
B = 82-87%	(492-527 pts)
B- = 80-81%	(480-491 pts)
C+ = 78-79%	(468-479 pts)

C = 72-77%	(432-467 pts)
C- = 70-71%	(420-431 pts)
D+ = 68-69%	(408-419 pts)
D = 50%-67%	(300-407 pts)
F = <50%	(<299 pts)

Academic Integrity and Safe Zone

Cheating and plagiarism will not be accepted. Proper citation of ideas, concepts and quotes that are not your own is required. Cheating and plagiarism will result in a zero score on that assignment and will be reported to BC administration.

This class is designed to explore and discuss controversial issues. Sometimes these issues evoke emotional or personal repossess. It is important for students to be able to speak their minds without worrying about ridicule, demeaning remarks, or hurtful statements. Any occurrences of such comments will be dealt with immediately.

Schedule:

The schedule below indicates due dates for assignments and associated tutorials and readings. Penalty for late submissions of written assignments is 10% per day late.

Date	Corresponding Reading	Class Topics	Labs and Projects
Week 1 - 9/24	Burns: Ch. 1	Introduction, Syllabus, What is Forensic Anthropology & History of Forensic Anthropology	Video
9/26	Burns: Ch. 2 (pgs. 10-17)	Intro to Genetics, Bone Growth, & Development	
Online	Rhine: Intro. & Ch. 6	History of Forensic Anthropology Cont.	Post
Week 2 - 10/1	Burns: Ch. 2 (pgs. 17-24)	Body Orientation Bone Landmarks & Features	Body orientation Anatomical Terminology Lab 1- Gummy Bears!!! & Is it Bone?
10/3	Burns: Ch. 3 (pgs. 26-50) & Ch. 11 (pgs. 154-163)	The Skull & Dentition Part 1	Lab 2 – Bones of the Skull and Dentition
Online	Burns: Ch. 12 & Rhine: Ch. 8	Medico-Legal Forensic Identification & The Office of The Medical Examiner	Post
Week 3 - 10/8	Burns: Ch. 3 (pgs. 26-50) & Ch. 11 (pgs. 154-163) *Hyoid & Auditory Ossicles are bonus (may be extra-credit on the test)	The skull and dentition Part 2	Lab 2 – Bones of the skull and Dentition (cont.)
10/10	Burns: Ch. 4 (pgs. 64-70) Ch. 5 (pgs. 74-82)	The Rib cage, Sternum Vertebral Column	Lab 3 – Rest of the Axial Skeleton
Online	Rhine: Ch. 2	Search, Discovery & Recovery	Post
Week 4 - 10/15	Burns: Ch. 4 (pgs. 57-64) Ch. 6: Arm Bones Ch. 7: Hands	Upper Appendicular & Pectoral girdle	Lab 4 – Upper Appendicular
10/17	Continued	Continued	Lab 4 Continued
Online	Rhine: Ch. 3		Post
Week 5 - 10/22	Burns: Ch. 8 (109-114)	Lower Appendicular & Pelvic girdle	Lab 5 – Lower Appendicular

Date	Corresponding Reading	Class Topics	Labs and Projects
	Ch. 9: Leg Bones Ch. 10: Feet		
10/24	Continued	Continued & Skeleton Review	Lab 5 Continued
Online	None	Skeleton Review	Review for Bone Test
Week 6- 10/29	None	Bone Test	Bone Test
10/31	Burns: Ch. 11 (pgs. 173-177) Ch. 13 (204, 211-214)	Bone Pathology & Disease & Healing	Video
Online	Rhine: Ch. 4	Age, Sex, Stature, Race & Other Things	Post
Week 7- 11/5	Burns: Ch.3 (pg.52-54); Ch. 6 (pgs. 87 & 91); Ch. 8 (pgs. 112-115); Ch. 9 (pgs. 126 & 132); Ch. 13 (pg. 197)	Sex Determination	Lab 6– Sex Determination
11/7	Burns: Ch. 3 (pg. 51)- Skull Ch. 4 (pg. 71-72)-Ribs Ch. 5 (pgs. 82-84)- Vertebrae Ch. 8 (pgs. 116-120)- Pelvis Ch. 11 (pgs. 165-172)- Teeth Ch. 13 (pg. 197)	Age Determination	Lab 7 – Age at Death Part 1
Online	Rhine: Ch. 4 Cont.	Age, Sex, Stature, Race & Other Things Continued	Post
Week 8 – 11/12	Burns: Continued	Age Continued	Lab 7 – Age at Death Part 2
11/14	Burns: Ch. 13 (pgs. 199-201)	Metric and Non-Metric Variation Stature Estimation	Lab 8 – Stature Determination
Online	Rhine: Ch. 7	The Intricacies of ID	Post
Week 9 – 11/19	Burns: Ch.11 (pg. 164) Ch. 14	Racial Determination	Lab 9 – Ancestry Determination
11/21	Burns: Ch. 13 (pgs. 204-210)	Cause and Manor of Death Trauma	Lab 10 – Bone Trauma
Online	Rhine: Ch. 9	Sharp & Blunt Force Trauma	Post
Week 10 – 11/26	Burns: Ch. 13 (pgs. 190-196) Ch. 15	Lab and Field Work	No class 11/28-29 No Online
Week 11 – 12/3	Burns: Ch. 17 Rhine: Ch. 10	Large Scale Applications & Mass Disasters	Practical Review
12/5	None	Practical Final Day 1	Final Part 1
On-line	None	Exam	Exam
Final 12/10	None	Practical Final Day 2	Final Part 2

Cool and Useful Links

[American Academy of Forensic Sciences](#)

[International Association for Identification](#)

[International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia \(ICTY\)](#)

Skeletal Anatomy I (Skull Module)

Skeletal Anatomy II (eSkeleton)

SNOW DAYS or other non-schedule class cancellations

The possibility is always there that class will be cancelled unexpectedly. In the case that class is cancelled, I will post information on MyBC. This will include lecture material, assignments and handouts. It is your responsibility to check this in a timely manner before the next class session. Material provided in this way will be covered as a review in class but may not be lectured on in detail.

WHAT COURSES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE OR ANTHROPOLOGY ARE OFFERED AT BC?

There is a general introductory class (Introduction to Criminal Justice) which introduces you to police work, the legal system, and correction. From there a number of more in-depth courses are available including, Criminal Investigations, Criminology, Juvenile Justice, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Ethics, and special topics like Digital Forensics.

There is a general introductory class (Survey of Anthropology) which highlights all four sub-disciplines of anthropology. BC offers in-depth courses in Anthropology which I encourage you to take: archaeology (Great Discoveries in Archaeology; Archaeology; Ancient North America; Incas & Their Ancestors; Aztecs, Mayas, & Their Ancestors), biological anthropology (Biological Anthropology; Bioanthropology with Lab; Cross-cultural Medicine; Forensic Anthropology), cultural anthropology (Food, Drink, & Culture; American Life & Culture; Cultural Anthropology; Sex, Gender, & Culture; Environment & Culture; REEL Culture; Religion & Culture) and linguistics (Language, Culture, & Society). Check BC's Course Catalogue for a full description of each course. We will also be offering several special topics courses spanning the discipline. Topics may include Primatology, Experimental Archaeology, Anthropology of Immigration and Scandinavian Culture. There are no prerequisites for any of these courses and they fulfill degree requirements. Different formats (on campus, on-line, hybrid) are offered. Stop by and visit the Social Science Advisor, Deanne Eschbach, in Room D110, for free professional planning and advising, or contact Anthropology Prof. Tony Tessandori (tony.tessandori@bellevuecollege.edu) to learn more about majoring in anthropology.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN:

The Criminal Justice Club <http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/socsci/acjustice/CJ%20club.asp>

All BC students are welcome to join the "Criminal Justice Club" to further explore topics and issues in the criminal justice field. The club provides career information, tours of criminal justice facilities, as well as discussion, campus activities and films within the criminal justice world. More information is available by contacting (shawn.curtis@bellevuecollege.edu or charlene.freyberg@bellevuecollege.edu)

The Society of Student Anthropologists @ BC (AKA: THE WEIRD ANTHROPOLOGY CLUB)

Anthropologists can and do study just about anything. In our classes, you will learn about some of the usual topics...Join the club and find out about the other stuff. The mission of **THE SOCIETY OF STUDENT ANTHROPOLOGISTS @ BC** is to explore topics that other groups do not cover. You can expect to investigate topics from Bigfoot to indigenous hunting techniques and everything else in between. We also continually contribute to a Heifer International Fund. Please contact Anthropology Professor Tony Tessandori, club advisor, if you are interested in joining other budding anthropologists in their pursuit of understanding humanity. (shawn.curtis@bellevuecollege.edu or tony.tessandori@bellevuecollege.edu) ALSO see our Facebook page [Society of Student Anthropologists at BC](#).

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN EARNING A CONCENTRATION IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE OR ANTHROPOLOGY, ALONG WITH YOUR DEGREE?

In addition to earning an AAS degree, you can take 20 credits of required courses to earn a concentration in Criminal Justice or Anthropology. These four courses provide the basic foundation of Anthropology and represent the 4-field approach of American Anthropology. All of them are offered on campus and on-line.

FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Choose 4 from:

CJ&101 – Introduction to Criminal Justice
CJ&106 – American Corrections System
CJ&109 – Introduction to Juvenile Justice
CJ&110 – Criminal Law
CJ&112 – Criminology
CJ/PHIL&248 – Ethics in Criminal Justice

FOR ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTH&204 – Archaeology (5 credits of Social Science)
ANTH&208 – Language, Culture, & Society (5 credits of Humanities or Social Science)
ANTH&206 – Cultural Anthropology (5 credits of Social Science)
ANTH&215 – BioAnthropology with Lab (6 credit of Lab Science) **or** ANTH& 205 – Biological Anthropology (5 credit of natural science)

Message from the chair

The Anthropology Department consists of a group of dedicated educators. We all want our students to learn and grow as they progress through their educations. We all are passionate about our fields of study and believe that what we have to say is important. We all feel that it is important that you come to class and take part in the learning process. We also know that life happens outside of our classrooms and missing class is sometime unavoidable. In order for all of us to work together an open dialog between students and instructors is key. Most often an understanding can be reached when outside situation arise. If at any time during the quarter you find that you are having concerns with the way a situation is being handled

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there are some steps to be followed. First you should talk direct to the instructor ask for clarification or further explanation. If you feel you are not getting the results you require, contact me (Anthony Tessandori, Department Chair) at tony.tessandori@bellevuecollege.edu. I will do what I can to help resolve any issues. If I am unable to help alleviate your concerns, you should contact the Interim Dean of Social Science (Virginia Bridwell) at Virginia.bridwell@bellevuecollege.edu

I look forward to the coming quarter and I hope to speak to each of you about the possibilities anthropology has to offer.

Have a great quarter

Tony Tessandori

Anthropology Paper Usage Policy

In an attempt to conserve resources the Anthropology Department has implemented a paper use reduction policy. We will use MyBC to post materials required for class (i.e. readings, activities, the complete syllabus...). When necessary we will make copies for class, but this will be when posting is not an option. You are not expected to print all materials. When we think it would be beneficial to print materials we will inform you of this. but will not require it. We know that it is not always convenient and understand that we all must make changes to attain a sustainable life style.

EXPLORE THE LMC! The Library Media Center is at your fingertips! I *strongly* encourage you to visit the LMC at least this quarter, but you can also access it via the web. Talk to a Reference Librarian at the Library (D-126), by calling (425) 564-6161, or by email: reference@bellevuecollege.edu.

- **Main Library Media Center:** <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/>
- **For the LMC online catalog:** <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/catalogs.html>
- **For article databases:** <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/periodicals.html>

For all of your written work: Submit proofread work **only**. Work not proofread will be returned *once* for a rewrite, expected to be handed in within 48 hours. If you need help with your writing, please make use of the following student support services:

- Academic Success Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/academicsuccess/>
- Academic Tutoring Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/tutoring/>
- TRiO Student Support Services: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/TRiO/>
- Writing Lab @ BCC: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/>

The MyBC website for this class: got to www.bellevuecollege.edu.

Click on MyBC link at the top of the page. Sign in and click on Class website link. There you will find course documents – which is where you will find the needed materials for this class.

Preventing Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty occurring when students use information or material from outside sources and do not properly cite those sources. This is grounds for disciplinary action. It is your responsibility to understand plagiarism and its consequences. Plagiarism occurs if:

- a. You do not cite quotations and/or attribute borrowed ideas.
- b. You fail to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks.
- c. You do not write summaries and paraphrases in his/her own words and/or doesn't document his/her source.
- d. You turn in work created by another person.
- e. You submit or use your own prior work for a current or past course, or work from one current course in another course *without express permission* from your professors. This may also be considered academic dishonesty.
- f. Consequences: If it is determined that you have plagiarized or engaged in other forms of academic dishonesty, you will likely fail the assignment and possibly the course, despite points earned through other work. Acts of academic dishonesty are reviewed for disciplinary action.

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Fall 2013

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services and at

[http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_\(Procedures\).asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_(Procedures).asp)

Email Communication with instructors must be done through student email accounts only. Instructors cannot communicate with students about their course work or grades through student's personal email accounts.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

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F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and program assistants or coordinators will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

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**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*