

Anthropology 236: Forensic Anthropology Online

Winter 2012

Instructor:

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|---------------|-------------------------------------|
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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 expertise in osteology, skeletal variation and plasticity, skeletal pathology, archaeological recovery of evidence, and body decomposition to medical/legal investigations.

Recommended Prerequisite: ANTH& 204 (prev ANTH 105) or ANTH& 205 (prev ANTH 201) or ANTH 215.

At the conclusion of Anthropology 236/ Criminal Justice 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, 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

| | |
|---|---|
| Critical Thinking, Creativity, and Problem Solving: | 2 |
| Research/ Intion Literacy: | 1 |
| Computer Literacy: | 1 |
| Group Processes: | 1 |
| Ethics: | 1 |
| Cultural Diversity: | 1 |
| The 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 during the week assigned.
- Participate actively in each online discussion and activity. Discussions will close at the posted time. No makeup discussions are available.
- Take advantage of extra credit opportunities.

If you require an accommodation for a disability, please contact:

Disability Resource Center Contact Information:

Telephone: 425-564-2498

E-mail: drc@bellevuecollege.edu

Textbook Requirements

- Forensic Anthropology by Steven N. Byers. (Third Edition), (2008), Pearson Prentice Hall, ISBN 9780205512294

It is of the up most importance that you keep up with the topics covered in the book. There are some topics that will not be covered in the course lectures that you will be responsible for on the final exam (legal aspects of forensics).

- Human Osteology: Laboratory and Field Manual by William Bass, ISBN 9780943414966

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.

- Participation/Discussion: 125 pts
- Lab Assignments and discussions (5 x 35 pts): 175 pts.
- Lab quizzes (4 x 40 pts): 160 pts.
- Exam: 200 pts.

Participation/Discussion

Being that this is an online course you are expected to sign on to Black Board Vista at least 5 times per week. The first day of the online week is Tuesday. This means that every Tuesday the count of your online logins starts again. Logins can include just checking messages or to complete assignments or quizzes. It is important to check in often, so you do not miss out on any announcements. Your participation points will be derived from your online activity. We will also have a couple of discussion throughout the quarter. Your grade on these discussions will be based on your involvement and contributions.

Lab Assignments

Starting the first week there will be lab activities that will cover the materials examined during lectures and reading assignments. The details of each assignment will be stated in the posted assignment. The Lab assignments will be opened on Tuesdays at 8:00 am (the first day of the online week) and will be **due on Monday at 8:00pm**. All assignments turned in after Monday at 8:00pm will be considered late. Late assignments will be reduced by 10% each day beyond the due date (including weekends). The assignments during the first half of the quarter will give you the foundation you will need to complete the assignments. Each assignment is worth 20 pts.

Lab Quizzes

Throughout the quarter there will be 5 quizzes. Each quiz will cover the material indicated in the class schedule. The format of each quiz will be determined by the nature of the material covered. Most quizzes will consist of multiple choice, true/false and fill in the blank. Quizzes will open on Thursday at 8:00am and will close on Monday at 8:00pm. Once you start the quiz you will have to complete it within 20 minutes. You are allowed to use notes, books etc. I will warn you, you will have less than one minute to for each question. This means that you will need to know the material fairly well before you start. Questions answered after 20 minutes have expired may not count as correct answers. If you have technical difficulties (i.e. internet crashes, lockouts, unexplainably the window your quiz was in closes...etc.) inform me ASAP. I may reset your quiz. This is up to my discretion. I will not reset quizzes after the quiz has closed. The details for each quiz will be included in the instruction section. Each quiz is worth 40 points.

Exams

There will be a cumulative final exam. It will be cumulative in that the material covered will come from all of the sections of the class. This exam will act as a final evaluation of how well you have learned and can apply the material from the quarter. The format of this exam will be a simulated forensic case. You will have to use the methods you've learned to collect data, help identify a crime victim and determine cause of death. This exam will contain information covered in the lectures, labs, other course materials and the text book. The final exam will be open on March 16th at 8:00am and will close on March 22nd at 5:00pm.

No makeup exams will be allowed without written documentation of a legitimate excuse (death, accident, hospitalization, illness, etc.).

HIGHLIGHTS: THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Online week starts on Tuesday and ends on Monday
- Log-on to Blackboard 5 times per week
- Lab activities open on Tuesdays at 8:00 am and are due on Monday at 8:00pm
- Quizzes cover the materials indicated in the schedule
- Quizzes are open note.
- You only have 20 minutes to complete the quiz – Don't rely on your notes.
- Questions answered after the time has expired may not be counted.
- Quizzes open on Friday at 8:00am and close on Monday at 8:00pm.
- The final exam is cumulative.

Grading Scale

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

| Grade & Percentage | Point Value | C+ = 78-79% | (507-519 pts) |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| A = 92-100% | (598-650 pts) | C = 72-77% | (468-506 pts) |
| A- = 90-91% | (585-597 pts) | C- = 70-71% | (455-467 pts) |
| B+ = 88-89% | (572-584 pts) | D+ = 68-69% | (442-454 pts) |
| B = 82-87% | (533-571 pts) | D = 50%-67% | (325-441 pts) |
| B- = 80-81% | (520-532 pts) | F = <50% | (<325 pts) |

Academic Integrity and Safe Zone

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.

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.

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 | Reading | Lecture | Laboratory/ Discussion | Quizzes |
|------------------------|---------------|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| WEEK 1 1/3 – 1/9 | Ch. 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction• Orientation | | |
| WEEK 2 1/10 – 1/16 | Ch. 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bone Structure• The Skull | Bones of the Skull | |
| WEEK 3 1/17 – 1/23 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Axial Skeleton• Dentition | Bones of the Axial Skeleton and teeth | Lab quiz 1 Weeks 1 and 2 |
| WEEK 4 1/24 – 1/30 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appendicular Skeleton | Bones of the limbs | |
| WEEK 5 1/31 – 2/6 | Ch. 3, 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forensic Context and Recovery | | Lab quiz 2 Weeks 3 and 4 |
| WEEK 6 2/7 – 2/13 | Ch. 5,8, 9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sex Determination• Age Determination | Age and sex determination | |
| WEEK 7 2/14 – 2/20 | Ch. 7, 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stature Estimation• Racial Determination | Stature and Racial determination | Lab quiz 3 Weeks 5 and 6 |
| WEEK 8 2/21 – 2/27 | Ch.11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Metric and Non-Metric Variation | | |
| WEEK 9 2/28 – 3/5 | Ch. 12,13, 14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pathology | | Lab quiz 4 Weeks 7 and 8 |
| WEEK 10 3/6 – 3/12 | Ch. 15, 16 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cause and Manner of Death | | |
| WEEK 11 3/13 – 3/19 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Study for exam | Study for exam | |
| Finals week | | Final exam | | |

MY SCHEDULE

| TIME | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|----------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 10:00 AM | | | | | |
| 10:30 AM | | | | | |
| 11:00 AM | Anth&215 A 10:30 - 12:20 B120 | | Anth&215 A 10:30 - 12:20 B120 | | Anth&215A 10:30 - 12:20 B120 |
| 11:30 AM | | Office hours 11:30 - 12:30 | | Office hours 11:30 - 12:30 | |
| 12:00 PM | | | | | |
| 12:30 PM | Office hours 12:30 - 2:00 | Anth&215 B 12:30 - 2:20 B120 | Office hours 12:30 - 2:00 | Anth&215 B 12:30 - 2:20 B120 | Anth&215 B 12:30 - 2:20 B120 |
| 1:00 PM | | | | | |
| 1:30 PM | | | | | |
| 2:00 PM | | | | | |
| 2:30 PM | | | | | |
| 3:00 PM | | Anth&100 3:30 - 5:10 D101 | | Anth&100 3:30 - 5:10 D101 | |
| 3:30 PM | | | | | |
| 4:00 PM | | | | | |
| 4:30 PM | | | | | |
| 5:00 PM | | | | | |
| 5:30 PM | | | | | |

SNOW DAYS or other non-schedule class cancelations

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 ANTHROPOLOGY ARE OFFERED AT BC?

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.

Tentative Spring Schedule

| | | On Campus | Online |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| ANTH& 100 | Survey of Anthropology | X | X |
| ANTH 180 | American Life and Culture | X | X |
| ANTH 106 | Great Discoveries in Archaeology | X | |
| ANTH& 204 | Archaeology* | X | X |
| ANTH& 205 | Biological Anthropology+ | | X |
| ANTH& 206 | Cultural Anthropology* | X | X |
| ANTH 208 | Language, Culture and ,Society* | X | X |
| ANTH& 215 | Biological Anthropology w Lab+ | X | X |
| ANTH& 234 | Religion & Culture | | X |
| ANTH& 236 | Forensic Anthropology | X | X |

(* denotes required courses for the Academic Concentration in Anthropology)

(+ denotes a choice between two courses for the Academic Concentration in Anthropology)

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN THE SOCIETY of STUDENT ANTHROPOLOGISTS at BELLEVUE COLLEGE?

Anthropologists can and do study just about anything. In this class, you will learn about some of the usual topics...Join the club and find out about the other stuff. The SOCIETY of STUDENT ANTHROPOLOGISTS at BELLEVUE COLLEGE mission 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. (tony.tessandori@bellevuecollege.edu) ALSO see our Facebook page [Society of Student Anthropologists at BC](#).

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN EARNING A CONCENTRATION IN 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 Anthropology. These four courses provide the basic foundation of Anthropology and represent the 4-field approach of American Anthropology. All of them are be offered on campus and on-line.

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 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

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: If you have medical information to share with me in the event of an emergency, please contact me via email or come to see me during office hours. Emergency preparedness is important! If you need course modifications, adaptations, or accommodations because of a disability, I can refer you to our Disability Resource Center (DRC). If you prefer, you may contact them directly by going to B132 or by calling 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110. Information is also available on their website at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc/>

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.