

Sam Houston State University  
Advanced Techniques in Forensic Anthropology  
FORS 4343.01  
Spring 2018  
Mon - Wed 11-12:20 pm Piney Woods Lab

Dr. Joan A. Bytheway  
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Office Hours: M-W 8-9 am,  
Thurs 8-1pm at AARC or by  
appointment

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Tentative Class Schedule

Date	Readings	Topics
Jan 17		Syllabus and administrative issues
Jan 22		Current topics in Forensic Anthropology
Jan 24		Choosing a Forensic Anthropology Research Topic Research Project: Planning, Preparing, Proceeding, Collecting, Analyzing, Writing (Journal writing preference, literature review, abstract, introduction, materials and methods, results, conclusion/discussion), Presenting
Jan 29		Research of Project Literature
Jan 31		Introduction – history of previous research on your project Preparation of Literature Review (turn in some references) Photography in Forensic Anthropology
Feb 5		<b>Literature Review rough draft due</b> Photography in Forensic Anthropology (cont'd) Begin writing Introduction
Feb 7		<b>Digital images due</b> Begin writing Materials and Methods Bone Histology and Microtome lab
Feb 12		Bone histology and microtome lab (cont'd)
Feb 14		<b>Introduction rough draft due</b>
Feb 19		<b>Materials and Methods rough draft due</b>
Feb 21		Radiograph digital imaging and personal identification lecture Digital imaging lab

Feb 26	<b>Literature Review, Introduction, and Materials and Methods 2<sup>nd</sup> rough draft due</b>
Feb 28	Digitizing and geometric morphometrics Data collection
Mar 5	Digitizing and geometric morphometric lab
Mar 7	Search and Recovery techniques for human skeletal remains
Mar 12-14	<b>SPRING BREAK. SCHOOL CLOSED.</b>
Mar 19	Search and Recovery techniques for human skeletal remains
Mar 21	Begin analyzing data and writing Results Research Project Data Collection
Mar 26	Research Project Data Collection
Mar 28	Research Project Data Collection
April 2	Research Project Data Collection
April 4	<b>Preliminary Results (rough draft) due</b>
Apr 9	Research Project Data Collection/Analysis Begin writing Discussion/Conclusion section
Apr 11	Research Project
Apr 16	<b>Discussion/Conclusion rough draft due</b> Begin writing Abstract
Apr 18	Research Project
Apr 23	<b>Abstract rough draft due</b> Begin prepping for Presentations and final paper
Apr 25	<b>Oral Presentations (powerpoint and other visual aids)</b>
Apr 30	<b>Oral Presentations</b>
May 2	<b>Draft Manuscript due</b>
May 9	<b>Final Manuscript due</b>

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. Students will gain an understanding of the foundational work required to develop the biological profile.
2. Students will explore and understand more sophisticated methods used in developing the biological profile.
3. Students will learn and demonstrate proper techniques in the photography of bone trauma and pathology.
4. Students will learn and operate sophisticated instruments such as the Microscribe digitizer to create three-dimensional data.
5. Students will learn how to properly prepare and write a research project paper for presentations or manuscripts.
6. Students will be required to work individually and within groups.

Office hours may change periodically. You will be notified if this occurs. I am also available by appointment. Please consider using e-mail correspondence for questions concerning the course material.

The class readings/lectures/labs may be modified to accommodate for class progression and discussions. Other materials, such as internet exercises, internet readings, journal articles, and handouts may also be assigned.

## **TEXTBOOK**

None Required

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will provide practical experience in the application of various methods that aid in the identification of unknown skeletal remains, such as geometric morphometrics and digital imaging. Students will understand the histology and biomechanics of bone and identify and differentiate bone pathology from bone trauma. The course will train students in proper writing in forensic anthropology, manuscript preparation including photography of bone trauma and pathology. Prerequisite CRIJ 4442 Forensic Anthropology.

## **CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE**

The use of cell phones (including text messaging), i-phones, and i-pods during lectures is NOT permitted. Make sure these electronic devices are turned OFF during lecture. Electronic devices are permitted during lab time. All material in class, e.g. handouts, readings, movies, exercises may be included on the exams. It is your responsibility to obtain any class materials you may miss.

## **UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE POLICY**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University (800401) that students attend class regularly and are punctual. University policy allows students to miss 3 hours of class. Please see me if you anticipate exceeding the 3 allotted class hours.

### **CLASSROOM ATTENDANCE POLICY**

You will receive 1 point for each class attended. If you are late to class and miss attendance, you will not receive that day's attendance point. If you anticipate running late, please notify me prior to that particular class. Also, if you sign in and then leave class early, without prior approval, you will lose the class point.

Attendance and class participation constitutes 10% of your grade.

### **GRADING POLICY**

#### **Grading Scale**

5%	Literature review draft	A = 100-90
5%	Digital Images	B = 89-80
10%	Introduction draft	C = 79-70
5%	Attendance & exercises	D = 69-60
5%	Abstract draft	F = 59-below
5%	Materials and Methods draft	
10%	Literature Review, Introduction, and Materials and Methods 2 <sup>nd</sup> rough draft due	
5%	Preliminary Results draft	
5%	Conclusion/Discussion draft	
15%	Presentation	
30%	Final Manuscript	
100%	Total	

**EXTRA CREDIT IS NOT AN OPTION IN THIS COURSE.**

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

All students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic work. Consult the Sam Houston State University website for more information.

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf)

### **DISABLED STUDENT POLICY**

Students with disabilities who need academic accommodations can contact the Counseling Center and Services for Students with Disabilities at 936-294-3786 or at the website listed below.

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/811006.html](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/811006.html)

### **SERVICES FOR DISABLED STUDENTS**

<http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>

### **STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY POLICY**

Students may be excused from attending class for the observance of a religious holy day.

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf)

### **USE OF TELEPHONES AND TEXT MESSAGERS IN ACADEMIC CLASSROOMS AND FACILITIES**

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/100728.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/100728.pdf)