ARCLG151: Forensic Anthropology

Core Unit, 15 credits

Turnitin Class ID: 3543780

Turnitin Password: IoA1718

Essay Submission Date: 19th January 2018

Co-ordinator: Dr Carolyn Rando
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IoA Room 607, (0)20 7679 4780
INTRODUCTION:

This course focuses on introducing students to the basic techniques and theory that form the framework of Forensic Anthropology. This will include biological profiling, analysis of trauma, the use of modern records (dental and medical) in identification, and understanding the legal framework in which the forensic anthropologist works. Further aims of this course are to provide students with a solid background in the function and role of forensic anthropological skills in both small scale forensic death inquiries and in larger mass-disaster events.

WEEK-BY-WEEK SUMMARY

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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>LECTURE: Tuesdays 11.00-13.00, Room 209</th>
<th>PRACTICAL: Wednesdays; 2hr session between 10.00 – 17.00</th>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Forensic Anthropology</td>
<td>Osteology ‘Refresher’</td>
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<td>Introduction to Biological Profiling &amp; Sexual Dimorphism</td>
<td>Biological Profiling 1: Sex Estimation</td>
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<td>WEEK 2</td>
<td>Growth, Development and Senescence</td>
<td>Biological Profiling 2: Age Estimation</td>
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<td>WEEK 3</td>
<td>Measurements, Stature &amp; BMI</td>
<td>Biological Profiling 3: Taking measurements; Stature Estimation; Revision</td>
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<td>WEEK 4</td>
<td>Understanding Race: Ancestry &amp; Anthropology</td>
<td>Biological Profiling 4: Ancestry Estimation</td>
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<td>WEEK 5</td>
<td>Introduction to Trauma Analysis</td>
<td>Revision &amp; Practice test</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 6</td>
<td>Reading Week</td>
<td>No Classes</td>
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<td>WEEK 7</td>
<td>Blunt Force Trauma: Classification and Biomechanics</td>
<td>Trauma 1: Blunt Force</td>
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<td>WEEK 8</td>
<td>Sharp Force Trauma</td>
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<td>WEEK 9</td>
<td>Ballistic and Projectile Trauma</td>
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<td>WEEK 10</td>
<td>Ante-mortem Records; Reading CT/Radiographs</td>
<td>Revision Session</td>
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<td>WEEK 11</td>
<td>Dealing with Disaster &amp; Disaster Victim Identification</td>
<td>EXAM</td>
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BASIC TEXTS

These are intended to provide only the most basic of introductions to the various topics discussed during lectures and seminars. A more comprehensive reading list for each week of the course is provided later in this handbook, however this is not exhaustive and it is expected that each student will expand upon these provided articles in their own time.


-Blau, S., and Ubelaker, D. (eds), 2009. Handbook of Forensic Anthropology and Archaeology. Walnut Creek, California: Left Coast Press. INST ARCH JF BLA


RELEVANT JOURNALS

-American Journal of Physical Anthropology
-FBI Bulletin (http://www.fbi.gov/publications/leb/leb.htm)
-Forensic Science International
-Journal of Forensic Dental Science
-Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine
-Journal of Forensic Sciences
-Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery
-International Journal of Burns and Trauma
-JAMA (Journal of the American Medical Association)
-Science and Justice
-American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology
METHODS OF ASSESSMENT
This course is assessed by means of:
(a) one essay of 2500 (range between 2375 - 2625) words, which will contribute 60% to the final grade for the course.
(b) one practical examination, to be held on WEDNESDAY 13th December 2017, which will contribute 40% to the final grade for the course.

TEACHING METHODS
The course is taught though lectures and practical sessions. All lectures will be held on TUESDAYS in room 209 of the Institute from 11.00 – 13.00. Practical sessions will be held on WEDNESDAYS from 10.00 – 17.00 (students will be assigned one of two sessions which run 2 hours each) and are compulsory (all practicals will be held in room 308).

AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND ASSESSMENT

Aims
The primary aim of this course is to introduce students to the wide range of circumstances whereby a Forensic Anthropologist is required. In addition, further aims of this course are as follows: to provide students with a solid background in the function and role of forensic anthropological skills at the scene and in the lab; to introduce students to the analysis and interpretation of trauma; to provide students with the basic legal framework in which the forensic anthropologist works; and introduce students to mass fatality incidents and the role of the forensic anthropologist therein.

Objectives
On successful completion of this course a student should:
- fully understand the varied role of the Forensic Anthropologist
- know what is expected of them at both the scene and the morgue/mortuary
- understand the importance of working within a multidisciplinary team
- recognise when the skills of human identification can assist in crime investigation
- have an understanding the limitations of profiling human remains
- have the ability to problem solve efficiently when confronted with human remains

WORKLOAD
There will be 22 hours of lectures and 22 hours of practical sessions for this course. Students will be expected to undertake around 45 hours of reading for the course, plus 45 hours preparing for and producing the assessed work, and an additional 10 hours on revision for the examination. This adds up to a total workload of some 150 hours for the course.

PREREQUISITES
A good understanding of human osteology is required for this course.
Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of the course students should be able to demonstrate general skills of observation and inference, critical reflection, and the application of acquired knowledge.

Coursework
Assessment tasks
This course is assessed by means of an essay and practical examination. The titles (topic) for the essay will be provided in the first few weeks of term; student must ordinarily select one of these. Students may, if desired, choose to set their own title, but this must be agreed by the course co-ordinator before any writing begins.

Submission dates
Essay #1 – Must be submitted on or before the 19th of JANUARY 2018, with a hardcopy handed in by 5pm. If students are unclear about the nature of an assignment, they should discuss this with the Course Co-ordinator.

Students are not permitted to re-write and re-submit essays in order to try to improve their marks. However, students may be permitted, in advance of the deadline for a given assignment, to submit for comment a brief outline of the assignment. The course co-ordinator is willing to discuss an outline of the student’s approach to the assignment, provided this is planned suitably in advance of the submission date.

Word counts [For this essay: 2500 (range between 2375 – 2625)]
The following should not be included in the word-count: title page, contents pages, lists of figure and tables, abstract, preface, acknowledgements, bibliography, lists of references, captions and contents of tables and figures, appendices. Penalties will only be imposed if you exceed the upper figure in the range. There is no penalty for using fewer words than the lower figure in the range: the lower figure is simply for your guidance to indicate the sort of length that is expected.

In the 2017-18 session penalties for over-length work will be as follows:

• For work that exceeds the specified maximum length by less than 10% the mark will be reduced by five percentage marks, but the penalised mark will not be reduced below the pass mark, assuming the work merited a Pass.
• For work that exceeds the specified maximum length by 10% or more the mark will be reduced by ten percentage marks, but the penalised mark will not be reduced below the pass mark, assuming the work merited a Pass.
Coursework submission procedures

• All coursework must normally be submitted both as hard copy and electronically. (The only exceptions are bulky portfolios and lab books which are normally submitted as hard copy only.)

• You should staple the appropriate colour-coded IoA coversheet (available in the IoA library and outside room 411a) to the front of each piece of work and submit it to the red box at the Reception Desk (or room 411a in the case of Year 1 undergraduate work)

• All coursework should be uploaded to Turnitin by midnight on the day of the deadline. This will date-stamp your work. It is essential to upload all parts of your work as this is sometimes the version that will be marked.

• Instructions are given below.

Note that Turnitin uses the term ‘class’ for what we normally call a ‘course’.

1. Ensure that your essay or other item of coursework has been saved as a Word doc., docx. or PDF document, and that you have the Class ID for the course (available from the course handbook) and enrolment password (this is IoA1718 for all courses this session - note that this is capital letter I, lower case letter o, upper case A, followed by the current academic year)

2. Click on http://www.turnitinuk.com/en_gb/login
3. Click on ‘Create account’
4. Select your category as ‘Student’
5. Create an account using your UCL email address. Note that you will be asked to specify a new password for your account - do not use your UCL password or the enrolment password, but invent one of your own (Turnitin will permanently associate this with your account, so you will not have to change it every 6 months, unlike your UCL password). In addition, you will be asked for a “Class ID” and a “Class enrolment password” (see point 1 above).
6. Once you have created an account you can just log in at http://www.turnitinuk.com/en_gb/login and enrol for your other classes without going through the new user process again. Simply click on ‘Enrol in a class’. Make sure you have all the relevant “class IDs” at hand.

7. Click on the course to which you wish to submit your work.
8. Click on the correct assignment (e.g. Essay 1).
9. Double-check that you are in the correct course and assignment and then click ‘Submit’
10. Attach document as a “Single file upload”
11. Enter your name (the examiner will not be able to see this)
12. Fill in the “Submission title” field with the right details: It is essential that the first word in the title is your examination candidate number (e.g. YGR8 In what sense can culture be said to evolve?).
13. Click “Upload”. When the upload is finished, you will be able to see a text-only version of your submission.
14. Click on “Submit”
If you have problems, please email the IoA Turnitin Advisers on ioa-turnitin@ucl.ac.uk, explaining the nature of the problem and the exact course and assignment involved.

One of the Turnitin Advisers will normally respond within 24 hours, Monday-Friday during term. Please be sure to email the Turnitin Advisers if technical problems prevent you from uploading work in time to meet a submission deadline - even if you do not obtain an immediate response from one of the Advisers they will be able to notify the relevant Course Coordinator that you had attempted to submit the work before the deadline.

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**SCHEDULE AND SYLLABUS**

**Teaching schedule**
Lectures will be held **11.00 – 13.00 on Tuesdays in Room 209**. Practical sessions will be held from **10.00 – 17.00 on Wednesdays in room 308** (students will be assigned to one two-hour session).

**Practical Groups**
Students will be divided into groups for practical sessions (Wednesdays, one 2-hr session between 10.00 – 17.00), which will take place in room 308. To keep practical groups small enough for effective discussion and learning, **it is essential that students attend the group to which they have been assigned**. If they need to attend a different group for a particular session, they should arrange to swap with another student from that group, and confirm this arrangement with the Course Coordinator.

**Syllabus**
The following is an outline for the course as a whole, and identifies essential readings relevant to each session. Information is provided as to where in the UCL library system individual readings are available; their location and Teaching Collection (TC) number, and status (whether out on loan) can also be accessed on the eUCLid computer catalogue system.
Week 1: 3rd October 2017

*Introduction to Forensic Anthropology; Biological Profiling; Sexual Dimorphism in the skeleton*

Suggested readings:

Week 2: 10th October 2017

*Growth, Development and Senescence; Estimating Age in the Skeleton*

Suggested Readings:
Week 3: 17th October 2017

Measurements, Stature & BMI; Estimating height in the skeleton

Suggested readings:


Week 4: 24th October 2017

Understanding Race: Ancestry & Anthropology; Can we estimate ancestry from the skeleton?

Suggested readings:


Week 5: 31st October 2017

*Introduction to Trauma Analysis*

Suggested readings:


Week 6: 7th November 2017

READING WEEK - NO CLASSES!

Week 7: 14th November 2017

*Blunt Force Trauma: Classification and Biomechanics*

Suggested readings:


**Week 8: 21st November 2017**

**Sharp Force Trauma**

Suggested readings:

**Week 9: 28th November 2017**

**Ballistic and Projectile Trauma**

Suggested readings:


**Week 10: 5th December 2017**

**Using antemortem records for Identification ; CT/Radiographs**

Suggested readings:


**Week 11: 12th December 2017**

**Dealing with Disaster & Disaster Victim Identification**

Suggested readings:


13th December 2017
FINAL EXAM
(During your normal practical sessions)
ONLINE RESOURCES
The full UCL Institute of Archaeology coursework guidelines are given here:
http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/administration/students/handbook
The full text of this handbook is available here (includes clickable links to Moodle and online reading lists if applicable)
http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/administration/staff/handbook

Moodle
The access code for the Moodle resource for this course is ARCLMG151

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Libraries and other resources
In addition to the Library of the Institute of Archaeology, other libraries in UCL with holdings of particular relevance to this degree are: UCL Science Library, UCL Cruciform Library and UCL Main Library. Libraries outside of UCL which have holdings which may also be relevant to this degree are: Wellcome Institute Library, British Library.

Attendance
A register will be taken at each class. If you are unable to attend a class, please notify the lecturer by email. Departments are required to report each student’s attendance to UCL Registry at frequent intervals throughout each term.

Dyslexia
If you have dyslexia or any other disability, please make your lecturers aware of this. Please discuss with your lecturers whether there is any way in which they can help you. Students with dyslexia are reminded to indicate this on each piece of coursework.

Feedback
In trying to make this course as effective as possible, we welcome feedback from students during the course of the year. All students are asked to give their views on the course in an anonymous questionnaire which will be circulated at one of the last sessions of the course. These questionnaires are taken seriously and help the Course Co-ordinator to develop the course. The summarised responses are considered by the Institute’s Staff-Student Consultative Committee, Teaching Committee, and by the Faculty Teaching Committee.

If students are concerned about any aspect of this course we hope they will feel able to talk to the Course Co-ordinator, but if they feel this is not appropriate, they should consult their Personal Tutor, the Academic Administrator (Judy Medrington), or the Chair of Teaching Committee (Dr. Karen Wright).

Health and safety
The Institute has a Health and Safety policy and code of practice which provides guidance on laboratory work, etc. This is revised annually and the new edition will be issued in due course. All work undertaken in the Institute is governed by these guidelines and students have a duty to be aware of them and to adhere to them at all times. It should be noted that eating and drinking is not permitted in room 308 at any time.
APPENDIX A: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES 2017-18 (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY)

This appendix provides a short précis of policies and procedures relating to courses. It is not a substitute for the full documentation, with which all students should become familiar. For full information on Institute policies and procedures, see the IoA Student Administration section of Moodle: https://moodle.ucl.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=40867

For UCL policies and procedures, see the Academic Regulations and the UCL Academic Manual:
http://www.ucl.ac.uk/srs/academic-regulations ; http://www.ucl.ac.uk/academic-manual/

GENERAL MATTERS

ATTENDANCE: A minimum attendance of 70% is required. A register will be taken at each class. If you are unable to attend a class, please notify the lecturer by email.

DYSLEXIA: If you have dyslexia or any other disability, please discuss with your lecturers whether there is any way in which they can help you. Students with dyslexia should indicate it on each coursework cover sheet.

COURSEWORK

LATE SUBMISSION: Late submission will be penalized in accordance with current UCL regulations, unless formal permission for late submission has been granted.

The UCL penalties are as follows:

• The marks for coursework received up to two working days after the published date and time will incur a 10 percentage point deduction in marks (but no lower than the pass mark).
• The marks for coursework received more than two working days and up to five working days after the published date and time will receive no more than the pass mark (40% for UG modules, 50% for PGT modules).
• Work submitted more than five working days after the published date and time, but before the second week of the third term will receive a mark of zero but will be considered complete.

GRANTING OF EXTENSIONS: Please note that there are strict UCL-wide regulations with regard to the granting of extensions for coursework. You are reminded that Course Coordinators are not permitted to grant extensions. All requests for extensions must be submitted on a the appropriate UCL form, together with supporting documentation, via Judy Medrington’s office and will then be referred on for consideration. Please be aware that the grounds that are acceptable are limited. Those with long-term difficulties should contact UCL Student Disability Services to make special arrangements. Please see the IoA website for further information. Additional information is given here http://www.ucl.ac.uk/srs/academic-manual/c4/extenuating-circumstances/

RETURN OF COURSEWORK AND RESUBMISSION: You should receive your marked coursework within one month of the submission deadline. If you do not receive your work within this period, or a written explanation, notify the Academic Administrator. When your marked essay is returned to you, return it to the Course Co-ordinator within two weeks. You must retain a copy of all coursework submitted.

CITING OF SOURCES and AVOIDING PLAGIARISM: Coursework must be expressed in your own words, citing the exact source (author, date and page number; website address if applicable) of any ideas, information, diagrams, etc., that are taken from the work of others. This applies to all media (books, articles, websites, images, figures, etc.). Any direct quotations from the work of others must be indicated as such by being placed between quotation marks. Plagiarism is a very serious irregularity, which can carry heavy penalties. It is your responsibility to abide by requirements for presentation, referencing and avoidance of plagiarism. Make sure you understand definitions of plagiarism and the procedures and penalties as detailed in UCL regulations: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/current-students/guidelines/plagiarism

RESOURCES

MOODLE: Please ensure you are signed up to the course on Moodle. For help with Moodle, please contact Charlotte Frearson (c.frearson@ucl.ac.uk)