

## COURSE SYLLABUS ANTHROPOLOGY 545: *BIOARCHAEOLOGY*

**Semester:** Fall 2020

**Section:** 1 (M 2:00 - 3:15, via Zoom)

**Instructor:** Mark C. Griffin

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**Office Hours:** via Zoom W and F 10-12 ([Make an Appointment](#))

### DESCRIPTION:

Over the past forty years, archaeologists and biological anthropologists have increasingly concentrated on the potential of human skeletal remains for reconstruction of past lifeways. The material builds on concepts introduced in the Human Osteology course but is focused at the population level of analysis rather than the individual level. Specifically, this course examines the reconstruction from skeletal populations of subsistence patterns, diet, disease, demography, and physical activity. Completion of ANTH 530 (Human Osteology Practicum) or the approval of the instructor is required for this course.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

There are three formal writing assignments for this course. Each assignment contributes 20% toward your final grade. The remaining 40% of your grade will come from a series of seven iLearn quizzes. **All of the assignments must be completed in order to receive a passing grade or “CR” for this course.**

### TEXTBOOK:

Larsen, Clark Spencer. 2015. *Bioarchaeology: Interpreting behavior from the human skeleton*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Cambridge University Press.

*You are held responsible for all information presented in lectures, assigned readings, and any other media (i.e., films, video tapes, slides, etc.). The assigned readings are meant to compliment the material presented in lecture, not substitute for it.*

Due to the nature of the assignments, they cannot be turned in late except in extremely dire circumstances and **only with the prior approval** of the instructor. Jammed printers, obstinate computers, incompetent computer users, recalcitrant cars, dead pets, irritating viruses, busy schedules, and general lack of prior planning **are not** valid excuses for late assignments.

**SCHEDULE:**

<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>READING / Video</b>
Overview of Bioarchaeology	Larsen Chp. 1 Ben Franklin's Bones
Osteology Review: Sex	White and Folkens 17 Viking Warrior Queen
Osteology Review: Age-at-Death	White and Folkens 17 Digging for Britain: The Romans
<b>Age-at-Death/Sex Quiz or Writing Assignment 1</b>	
Growth and Development	Larsen Chp. 2
Growth Disruption	Larsen Chp. 2
Biomechanics	Larsen Chp. 6
<b>CRITICAL THINKING EXERCISE 2</b>	
The Arthritides	Larsen Chp. 5
Skeletal Infection: Non-specific	Larsen Chp. 3
Skeletal Infection: Specific	Larsen Chp. 3
Oral Pathology	Larsen Chp. 3
<b>CRITICAL THINKING EXERCISE 3</b>	
Dietary Reconstruction	Larsen Chp. 7, 8 Ghosts of Stonehenge
Skeletal Trauma	Larsen Chp. 4, 5 Jamestown's Dark Winter Digging for Britain: Invaders
Population Distance	Larsen Chp. 9 King Arthur's Lost Kingdom
Paleodemography	Larsen Chp. 10
<b>CRITICAL THINKING EXERCISE 4</b>	

### ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

- (1) Students are responsible for knowing the San Francisco State University regulations concerning cheating and plagiarism (<https://conduct.sfsu.edu/plagiarism>).
- (2) Misconduct includes, but is not limited to: cheating on exams; fabrication of reports, assignments, sources, etc.; plagiarism or the reproduction of others' work without *proper* acknowledgment; interfering with another student's work; or helping another student cheat.
- (3) Plagiarism is specifically defined as copying another person's words without appropriate acknowledgment. This includes: (a) quoting another person's actual words; (b) paraphrasing another person's words; (c) use of another person's idea, opinion, or theory; or (d) borrowing of facts, statistics, or other illustrative material, unless the information is common knowledge.
- (4) ***The essays you write for this course are to be substantially your work. That is, long block quotes, paraphrasing or copying from the text or any other source, and copying another student's work are unacceptable.***
- (5) **If plagiarism is proven in this class, the student will be given an "F" for the assignment.**

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## **Student Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Explain the theoretical basis of methods used in the field.
- Apply the latest techniques used to analyze and contextualize skeletal remains from archaeological sites.
- Interpret and critically analyze research papers in bioarchaeology and evaluate the strength of the conclusions reached based on the results.
- Gain experience in archival and literature analysis to provide the historical context of cemetery remains.
- Complete a basic skeletal analysis according to the standards of the field.

## **Disability Statement Policy**

'Students with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations are encouraged to contact the instructor. The Disability Programs and Resource Center (DPRC) is available to facilitate the reasonable accommodations process. The DPRC is located in the Student Service Building and can be reached by telephone (voice/TTY 415-338-2472) or by email ([dprc@sfsu.edu](mailto:dprc@sfsu.edu))."

## **University Withdrawal Policy**

The Withdrawal deadline occurs two weeks after the semester starts. After this deadline, students must petition for a Withdrawal, or receive a non-passing grade for a class if they do not complete the requirements of the course. Withdrawals are permitted only for serious and/ or compelling reasons. In the last three weeks of the semester, students must be able to document the reason for their withdrawal.

SF State fosters a campus free of sexual violence including sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and/or any form of sex or gender discrimination. If you disclose a personal experience as an SF State student, the course instructor is required to notify the Dean of Students. To disclose any such violence confidentially, contact: The SAFE Place - (415) 338-2208; [http://www.sfsu.edu/~safe\\_plc/](http://www.sfsu.edu/~safe_plc/) Counseling and Psychological Services Center - (415) 338-2208; <http://psyservs.sfsu.edu/> For more information on your rights and available resources: <http://titleix.sfsu.edu>