

ANTH/CRIM 3136 WA/WDE Forensic Anthropology 2025

Professor: Dr. Tamara Varney

Live class time: Mon & Wed 5:30-7pm

Lab: Tues 2:30-5:30 as on schedule below

Email: tvarney@lakeheadu.ca

Office Hours: *by appointment** you can email questions OR schedule a Zoom session*

Do not leave phone messages

Students should NOT expect less than 24 hour turnaround time to email messages. Please do NOT assume that your message has been received unless you receive an acknowledgment.

Course Description:

This course provides an examination of the role of the forensic anthropologist within the forensic sciences. Topics include recovery methods, techniques of skeletal analysis, and the role of the forensic anthropologist in different contexts and as an expert witness.

Required Textbook: (available at the University Bookstore)

Byers SN & CA Juarez 2023 *Introduction to Forensic Anthropology*. 6th Edition. Routledge

ISBN-13 978-1032255590. **Cost:** 143.95

The latest edition is definitely significantly updated in some sections and having it will be an advantage – especially in the laboratory exercises. Students using earlier editions will be responsible for figuring out the relevant chapters and page #s.

Recommended/Suggested Supplemental Textbook:

Steadman DW 2009 *Hard Evidence: case studies in forensic anthropology*. 2nd Edition. Routledge.

ISBN 978-1315664057 **Cost:** 155.50

The first edition would be fine but it is up to the students to find the relevant readings (chapter & page #).

Lakehead's Accommodation & Confidentiality Statements:

Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities/medical conditions. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities/medical conditions to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability/medical condition and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and register as early as possible. For more information, please email sas@lakeheadu.ca or visit

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/sas>

In **ANTH/CRIM 3136 WA/WDE**, in the context of remote instruction and participation, video and audio recordings of class activities will be made to ensure students and instructors' easy and comprehensive access to those activities. The recordings are confidential and are intended only for the use of the course students and instructors. They may otherwise not be used or disclosed. During recording, to protect others' privacy, each student should ensure that no one else is present in the location where they are being recorded without that non-student's consent. The recordings are made

under the authority of sections 3 and 14 of *The Lakehead University Act, 1965*. Questions about the collection of the images and sounds in the recordings may be directed to Dr. Todd Randall (Dean, Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies), todd.randall@lakeheadu.ca, 807-343-8289

Important Dates & Grading:

| | Date | Location | Value |
|--------------|--|--|-------|
| Quiz 1 | T, Jan 21 (opens 8am for 24 hours) | myCourseLink/D2L – under the Quizzes tab | 5 % |
| Quiz 2 | T, Jan 328 (opens 8am for 24 hours) | | 5 % |
| Lab 1 | T, Feb 4 due at end of lab | BB2002 | 5 % |
| Quiz 3 | M , Feb 3 (opens 8am for 24 hours) | | 5 % |
| Quiz 4 | T , Feb 11 (opens 8am for 24 hours) | | 5% |
| BREAK | WEEK | | |
| Quiz 5 | M , Feb 24 (opens 8am for 24 hours) | | 5% |
| Lab 2 | T, Feb 25 due at the end of lab | BB2002 | 5 % |
| Midterm Exam | T, Mar 3 or 4 (opens 8am for 24 hours) | myCourseLink/D2L – under the Quizzes tab | 20% |
| Lab 3 | T, Mar 11 due at the end of lab | BB2002 | 5% |
| Quiz 6 | T, Mar 18 (opens 8am for 24 hours) | | 5 % |
| Quiz 7 | T, Mar 25 (opens 8am for 24 hours) | | 5 % |
| Study labs | T, Mar 25 | BB2002 | |
| Lab Test | T, Apr 1 | BB2002 | 5 % |
| Final Exam | TBA | myCourseLink/D2L – under the Quizzes tab | 25 % |

Quizzes and exams are multiple choice, true/false, and fill in the blank diagrams (mostly anatomy) format. All quizzes and tests are **CLOSED BOOK** tests to be done without the use of any course or other materials.

Quizzes are 'timed' and administered on MyCourseLink, and will relate to the previous week's course material only. Students will have one time window/opportunity to take the test and if you take time for a disallowed looking up of answers you may 'time out' before completion.

NOTE: Both Midterm and Final Exam are cumulative tests

Please note that **Friday, March 7, 202** is the *last date for withdrawal without academic penalty* from 5this course. Students will have received feedback on at least 25% of the course mark by that date.
****NOTE** – this date may change as it did last term.

Missed labs, quizzes, tests, and exams will not be made-up unless official documentation of a reasonable excuse is submitted (e.g. student or family illness, death of family member, car accident). The same policy applies to **missed due dates for Assignments**. Please note that going off on holidays or leaving early for Study Break or at the end of term does not constitute a reasonable excuse. Please contact instructors *within 48 hrs.* of any missed due date or test to determine if it is possible to re-schedule a test.

Students are strongly advised to familiarize themselves with the Student Code of Conduct (<http://policies.lakeheadu.ca/policy.php?pid=60>) with regard to **both** academic and non-academic misconduct. Non-compliance will NOT be tolerated in this course and the code will be adhered to in terms of disciplinary action.

Use of AI

Generative artificial intelligence (Generative AI or GenAI) is a category of AI systems capable of generating text, images, or other media in response to prompts. These systems include ChatGPT and its variant Bing (built by OpenAI) and Bard (built by Google) among several others. Other Generative AI models include artificial intelligence art systems such as Stable Diffusion, Midjourney, and DALL-E. **The use of any GenAI systems to produce assignment responses or answers on tests for this course is NOT permitted.** All work submitted for evaluation in this course must be the student's original work. The submission of any work containing AI generated content will be considered a violation of academic integrity ("Use of Unauthorized Materials").

Tentative Schedule:

****Dates and subjects are tentative until any guest speakers are confirmed but the tentative schedule will provide you with a general guideline for studying – to ensure adequate study time test dates will never be moved back, only forward if need be to accommodate a guest speaker – updates to the schedule will be provided via D2L and notices will be sent via email – so check regularly.**

***I have included supplemental readings in the Suggested text by Steadman that would potentially enrich your understanding BUT they are not mandatory.**

| Week | Date | Topic | Byers | Steadman* |
|------|-----------|--|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | |
| 1 | M, Jan 6 | Introduction to the Course & Forensic Anthropology | | |
| | T, Jan 7 | NO LAB – NO QUIZ | | |
| | W, Jan 8 | Introduction to Forensic Anthropology (cont'd) | Ch 1 | Section I p 1-7 Ch 1 & 2 |
| | | | | |
| 2 | M, Jan 13 | Guest Speaker: Dr. Deborah Merrett, Anthropology, LU -Canadian case studies | | Ch 16 |
| | T, Jan 14 | NO LAB – NO QUIZ | | |
| | W, Jan 15 | Guest Speaker: | | Ch 16 |
| | | | | |
| 3 | M, Jan 20 | The Human Skeleton; | Ch 2 & 6 | |
| | T, Jan 21 | NO LAB – QUIZ 1 | | |
| | W, Jan 22 | TBA Tips on learning skeletal anatomy | Ch 2 | |
| | | | | |
| 4 | M, Jan 27 | Establishing the Medicolegal Significance: human or non-human | Ch 3 Pp 66-80 | Ch 19 |
| | T, Jan 28 | NO LAB? – QUIZ 2 | | |
| | W, Jan 29 | Establishing the Medicolegal Significance: contemporary or not | Ch 3 Pp 80-end | Ch 8 |
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| 5 | M, Feb 3 | Estimating Time Since Death – the Post-mortem Interval; QUIZ 3 | Ch 5 | Section IV P 155-164 Ch 13 |

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| | T, Feb 4 | LAB 1 – due at the end of the class Details TBA | | |
| | W, Feb 5 | N/A | | |
| 6 | M, Feb 10 | Attribution of Ancestry | Ch 7 | Ch 1-3 |
| | T, Feb 11 | NO LAB – QUIZ 4 | | |
| | W, Feb 12 | Attribution of Sex Estimation of Age at Death I | Ch 8 | Ch 1-3 |
| 6 | M, Feb 17 | BREAK WEEK – NO CLASS | | |
| | T, Feb 19 | BREAK WEEK – NO CLASS | | |
| | W, Feb 20 | BREAK WEEK – NO CLASS | | |
| 7 | M, Feb 24 | Estimation of Age at Death I QUIZ 5 | Ch 9 | Ch 1-3 |
| | T, Feb 25 | LAB 2 Details TBA | | |
| | W, Feb 26 | Estimation of Age at Death II; Estimation of Stature | Ch 9 & 10 | |
| 8 | M, Mar 3 | MIDTERM? | | |
| | T, Mar 4 | MIDTERM? | | |
| | W, Mar 5 | Guest Speaker: Dr. Scott Hamilton, Anthropology, LU: Forensic Archaeology/Recovery | Ch 4 | |
| 9 | M, Mar 10 | Recovery II | Ch 4 | |
| | T, Mar 11 | LAB 3 Details TBA | | |
| | W, Mar 12 | Guest Speaker:TBA | | |
| 10 | M, Mar 17 | Individualization | Ch 15 & 17 | Section III P 103-112 Ch 9 & 10 |
| | T, Mar 18 | LAB?; QUIZ 6 | | |
| | W, Mar 19 | Study Tips for Lab Test – Q & A | | |
| 11 | M, Mar 24 | Manner & Cause of Death | Ch 11 & 12 | Sec. VI P 271-279 Ch 11, 20, |

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|----|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | | | 22-25 |
| | T, Mar 25 | STUDY LAB – QUIZ 7 | | |
| | W, Mar 26 | Manner & Cause of Death II | Ch 12, 13, & 14 Ch 16 | Sec IV p155-164 Ch 15 Ch, 12, 14, & 17 |
| | | | | |
| 12 | M, Mar 31 | Post mortem change in bone | Ch 16 | |
| | T, Apr 1 | LAB TEST (bell ringer in lab) | | |
| | W, Apr 2 | Putting it all together | Ch 18 & 19; Ch 1 p 8-17 | |
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| | TBA | Q & A before Final Exam | | |
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| | April 7-17 19th is the contingency day in case of cancellations | FINAL EXAM | | |