



ANTH 4351/CRIJ 4351 FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY

Class Location: HH 318 LAB

Class time: Mon & Wed 12:30-1:45 pm

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Christine Jones, PhD

Office: HH 204C

Contact me via Canvas message or email: Bioarchjones@tamuct.edu

Student-instructor interaction

During the week (Mon-Fri) I usually check emails often and respond within 24 hours. I may not respond to weekend emails until Monday or Tuesday. Email is a better way to reach me than Canvas message. If you have questions or concerns about the class and need to talk about them, please email me to request an appointment.

Mode of instruction and course access

This course meets face-to-face on Mondays & Wednesdays 12:30-1:45pm in HH 318, with supplemental materials made available online through the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>].

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a broad overview of forensic anthropology, the application of the science of physical anthropology to the legal process. Students will learn the techniques used by forensic anthropologists to identify human remains, both skeletal and decomposed. Topics include the determination of age, sex, ancestry, stature, and unique features of a decedent from the skeleton and how these are used to help establish a positive identification. An overview of trauma and other pathological conditions of the skeleton show how forensic anthropologists can provide information to help determine the cause and manner of death. Classes will be a combination of lecture and laboratory exercises.

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

SAFEZONE. SafeZone provides a public safety application that gives you the ability to call for help with the push of a button. It also provides Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate emergency information quickly via push notifications, email, and text messages. All students automatically receive email and text messages via their myCT accounts.

Downloading SafeZone allows access to push notifications and enables you to connect directly for help through the app.

You can download SafeZone from the app store and use your myCT credentials to log in. If you would like more information, you can visit the [SafeZone](http://www.safezoneapp.com) website [www.safezoneapp.com].

To register SafeZone on your phone, please follow these 3 easy steps:

1. Download the SafeZone App from your phone store using the link below:
 - o [iPhone/iPad](https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756): [<https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756>]

- [Android Phone / Tablet](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp)
[https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp]
- 2. Launch the app and enter your myCT email address (e.g. {name}@tamuct.edu)
- 3. Complete your profile and accept the terms of service

For updates on COVID information, please monitor the University [website](https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/)
[https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/]

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students will

- Learn basic human osteology
- Identify the various methods used in determining sex, age, and ancestry from human skeletal remains
- Identify the methods used in determining trauma and/or pathological conditions of the human skeleton
- Explain the steps necessary to establish a positive identification from human skeletal remains
- Outline the role of the forensic anthropologist in the field including proper fieldwork techniques and methods and learn how to work in a cooperative manner with law enforcement officials
- Conduct themselves ethically and with respect for human rights

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Your books are also available through the university library on course reserves

1. Christensen et al. 2019. ***Forensic Anthropology: Current methods and practice*** (2nd edition) Academic Press ISBN: 9780128157343
2. Christensen et al. 2018. ***A Laboratory Manual for Forensic Anthropology*** Academic Press ISBN 9780128122013
 - This lab manual is required. It is an integral part of this course.

MATERIALS NEEDED

Disposable/reusable LAB COAT. These will be on sale in our bookstore for approximately 10 dollars but are also available online. A lab coat is required when in the lab.

- We will be storing these safely in the lab for lab use only.
- It must be able to close in the front.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Lab Safety: Students must complete the “Lab Safety Module” on Canvas, including the Lab Safety Quiz. Safety equipment locations will be demonstrated in class. After taking the module, students must turn in a hard copy of the Safety Agreement no later than the second day of class, Wed. Aug 24.** Failure to complete

the module or turn in the safety agreement will result in the student not being able to enter the lab.

2. Reading assignments: Readings from the textbooks are listed in the course calendar below. It is best to read the chapters just before the class under which they are listed.
3. Lectures: On class days you don't have activities scheduled, lectures will be held in our lab classroom on campus. Lectures will NOT be recorded or streamed on Webex.
4. Activities: There are 8 participation-based assignments in this course, called activities, which are worth in total 40% of your course grade. Some activities are held in the lab and others are outdoors. Not all activities are eligible to be made up if missed (see makeup policy). If a student foresees having to miss multiple activities, especially due to a regular event such as work, it is better to drop the course.
 - a. Communication: Locations of activities will be communicated in class and via Canvas announcement. The instructor will monitor the weather and will post an announcement on Canvas if weather will affect class activities.
 - b. Outdoor safety: An updated class Forensic Anthropology Safety Guide including safety requirements and appropriate attire will be available on Canvas for students and will be reviewed during class time. If an activity is conducted outdoors appropriate attire is required.
 - c. Grading of activities: There are 8 activities total and each is worth 50 points for a total of 400 points. Each 50-point activity is made up of two parts
 - i. Participation: 25 points. To earn full participation points, the student must arrive on time, they must stay for the entire class period, and they must participate in the lab. Attendance will be taken.
 - ii. Assignment: 25 points. To earn full points, students must complete the assignment. These are usually in the form of a handout; however, they may involve a take-home assignment or workbook page.
 - iii. Makeups: There are no makeups for missed outdoor activities. It may be possible to makeup a missed lab classroom activity (see makeup policy).
5. Online lab assignments. There are 10 online lab assignments worth 20 points each corresponding to the numbered assignments listed in the course textbook "A Laboratory Manual for Forensic Anthropology." While your assignments are located in your laboratory manual, online means that the assignment is to be submitted online. Online Lab **Assignments are due Sundays @11:59pm on the week they are assigned.**

Canvas links will be provided in the weekly modules for students to submit their assignment. Students can submit a photo of their completed lab manual page (must be legible) or they can type out answers in a word document.

6. **Final Lab report:** Students will complete one final lab report corresponding to Lab 15.6 in the course textbook “A Laboratory Manual for Forensic Anthropology.” A canvas link will be provided for students to submit their report online as a word document. Further guidelines will be provided on Canvas and will be reviewed during class time (see course schedule).
7. **Exams:** There will be two exams, each worth 100 points, both administered IN PERSON in the lab classroom. Exams are usually a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions.

Coursework	Points
Exams (2@ 100)	200
Activities (8x 50 pts)	400
Online lab assignments (10 x 20 pts)	200
Final lab report	200
Total:	1000

Points	%	Grade
900 – 1000	90 – 100%	A
800 – 899	80 – 89%	B
700 – 799	70 – 79%	C
600 – 699	60 – 69%	D
0 – 599	0 – 59%	F

Grade posting: All grades will be posted online; it takes about 1-2 weeks for the instructor to grade student work. Be assured that she is grading classwork as fast as she possibly can.

COURSE SCHEDULE (Lecture topics listed by week)

Subject to revision, if necessary, during the semester. Activities may need to be rescheduled if there is bad weather. IF IN DOUBT CHECK CANVAS OR EMAIL THE INSTRUCTOR!!

- *READINGS: FA=Forensic Anth, main text. LAB= Lab Manual for Forensic Anth.
- **Online lab assignments are due Sundays @11:59pm on the week they are assigned.
- ***For Activities, an (L) indicates the activity will be held in the lab, while an (O) indicates the activity will be held outdoors.

Week 1: Syllabus & Skeleton

Readings: Syllabus, FA 1 and 2, LAB ch. 1 and 2

M Aug 22: Syllabus & Introduction

W Aug 24: **Activity 1: Skeletal inventory (L)**

Online Lab Assignment (1): LAB 2.3

Week 2: Methods & Medicolegal significance I

Readings: FA Ch. 3, LAB ch. 3, LAB ch. 6 “line search”

M Aug 29: **Activity 2: Skeletal measurements (L)**

W Aug 31: Medicolegal significance I

Online Lab Assignment (2): LAB 2.6

Week 3: Medicolegal significance II

Readings: FA Ch. 4, LAB ch. 4, LAB ch. 6 “base-line mapping”

M Sep 5: LABOR DAY, no classes

W Sep 7: Medicolegal significance II

Online Lab Assignment (3): LAB 4.1

Week 4: Forensic Archaeology & Scene Processing

Readings: FA ch 6, LAB ch. 6

M Sep 12: **Activity 3: Base line mapping (O)**

W Sep 14: **Activity 4: Surface scene (O)**

Online Lab Assignment (4): LAB 4.5

Week 5: Taphonomy I & II

Readings: FA Ch. 5, LAB Ch. 5

M Sep 19: Taphonomy I

W Sep 21: Taphonomy II

Online Lab Assignment(5): LAB 5.5

Week 6: Taphonomy III

M Sep 26: Taphonomy III

W Sep 28: Study session

Week 7: Exam 1 /Sex estimation

Readings: FA Ch. 8 and LAB Ch. 8

M Oct 3: Exam 1 (in person in lab)

W Oct 5: Sex estimation

Online Lab Assignments (6): LAB 8.5 and 8.7 (8.7 with instructor video, these labs graded together as one lab)

Week 8: Sex Estimation II / Ancestry

Readings: FA Ch. 9 and 11, LAB Ch. 9 and 11

M Oct 10: **Activity 5: Sex estimation (L)**

W Oct 12: Ancestry

Online Lab Assignment (7): LAB 9.6 (with instructor video)

Next page

Week 9: Age estimation

Readings: FA ch.10, LAB ch. 10

M Oct 17: Age estimation

W Oct 19: **Activity 6: Age estimation (L)**

Online Lab Assignment (8): LAB 10.3

Week 10: Trauma I

Readings: FA Ch. 13, LAB Ch. 13

M Oct 24: Trauma I

W Oct 26: Trauma II

Week 11: Trauma II

Readings: FA Ch. 13, LAB Ch. 13

M Oct 31: Trauma III (Wear costume for extra credit ☺)

W Nov 2: **Activity 7: Trauma interpretations (L)**

WEEK 12: Processing and Preparing remains

Readings: FA Ch 7, LAB ch. 7

M Nov 7: **Activity 8: Excavation Day 1 (O)**

W Nov 9: **Excavation Day 2 (O)**

Online Lab Assignment (9): Submit Summary of excavation work online (see details on Canvas link)

Week 13: Skeletal variation & Stature

Readings: FA Ch. 11 and 12 Lab Ch. 11 and 12

M Nov 14: Skeletal variation (*Weather day: reserved in case of rain Nov 7-9*)

W Nov 16: Stature (*Weather day: reserved in case of rain Nov 7-9*)

Online Lab Assignment (10): LAB 14.1

Week 14: Case documentation and Report writing

Readings: Lab 15.6

M Nov 21: In-class review of final report guidelines 15.6

W Nov 23: Begin work on draft ****no class****

Week 15: Personal ID

Readings: FA Ch. 14, Lab Ch. 14, Read LAB 15.6 if you haven't already

M Nov 28: Personal ID

W Nov 30: Final exam review session

Week 16: Exam week

M Dec 5: Exam 2 (in person in lab)

W Dec 7: **Submit 15.6 report online using Canvas link by Dec 7@ 11:59pm. **no class****

COURSE PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

Handling human skeletal remains in this course: Throughout this entire course we will be learning using reproduction (plastic) skeletons as well as actual human skeletal remains. Students will be required to handle these materials as part of the course (such as during in class lab assignments). We will review a number of rules regarding the handling of skeletal remains to ensure they are not damaged during the class. We will be excavating simulated burials. If a student is not comfortable handling skeletal remains (either reproduction or actual) or if the idea of digging up a simulated murder victim/burial is difficult for any reason, students should see the instructor as soon as possible to help determine if this course is a right fit.

Diversity in the Classroom

Respect for cultural and human biological diversity are core concepts within the Social Sciences. In this course, each voice in the classroom has something of value to contribute to class discussion. Please respect the different experiences, beliefs and values expressed by your fellow students and instructor, and refrain from derogatory comments about other individuals, cultures, groups, or viewpoints. In this course we welcome individuals of all ages, backgrounds, citizenships, disabilities, education, ethnicities, family statuses, genders, gender identities, geographical locations, languages, military experience, political views, races, religions, sexual orientations, socioeconomic statuses, and work experiences.

Attendance & Makeup: Attendance is a requirement of this course to succeed because this course involves a lot of hands-on work completed during class. If students are not dedicated to coming to this class when it meets, they should consider taking another course.

Absolutely No Makeups for any reason will be provided for the scheduled outdoor activities (marked with an (O) in the course schedule). Makeups for these assignment types are time consuming to set up and administer and cannot be replaced easily with alternative assignments. Do not request this type of makeup.

Students may request a makeup of a lab activity (marked with an (L) in the course schedule) for a legitimate reason, such as if they miss the lab activity due to illness or dependent illness. If you miss a lab activity and wish to make it up, please contact the instructor ASAP to schedule a makeup.

Students may request a makeup exam if they miss the exam due to illness or injury for example. To successfully makeup an exam a student MUST 1. Contact the instructor prior to the missed exam (or within 24 hours of having missed the exam in the case of emergencies) for purposes of making it up; 2. Schedule with the instructor ASAP to take a makeup no later than 2 weeks after the original excused absence; and 3. Provide documentation verifying the reason for the absence. If a

student does not meet all three requirements they may be denied the request to makeup the work. Students who miss an exam with no excused absence will receive a zero on the exam. Makeups for final exams are usually denied because it is not possible to schedule a makeup final before final grades are due.

Late Work

No late assignments will be accepted. Assignments include online lab assignments and the final report. Late work will receive a zero. Students may ask for an extension to have extra time to complete the work due to unforeseen circumstances, so long as the request is made 24 hours before the due date. The instructor may deny excessive extension requests at her discretion.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information, please visit our [Access & Inclusion](#) Canvas page (log-in required) [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University-Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the student conduct process](#), [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a referral](#), [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://federation.ngwebsolutions.com/sp/startSSO.ping?PartnerIdpId=https://eis-prod.ec.tamuct.edu:443/samlSSO&SpSessionAuthnAdapterId=tamuctDF&TargetResource=ht>

tps%3a%2f%2fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2fSubmit%2fStart%2f53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf) online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both virtually and in-person. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question, are interested in becoming a tutor, or in need of success coaching contact the Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion at (254) 501-5836, visit the Warrior Center at 212 Warrior Hall, or by emailing WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu.

To schedule tutoring sessions and view tutor availability, please visit [Tutor Matching Services](https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT) [https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT] or visit the Tutoring Center in 111 Warrior Hall.

Chat live with a remote tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Library & Archives

The University Library & Archives provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing

approximately 400,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 96,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams or in-person at the library. [Schedule an appointment here](https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956) [https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956]. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index]

University Writing Center

University Writing Center: Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via [WCOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Wellness and Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html>].

Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](#) online

[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](#) website for more information [<https://www.tamuct.edu/bit>]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5805.

Copyright Notice. Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas' Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

Copyright. 2022 by Christine Jones at Texas A&M University-Central Texas, College of Arts & Sciences; 1001 Leadership Place, Killeen, TX 76549; Bioarchjones@tamuct.edu.