



Class Location & Time: Heritage Hall 318 (lab); M/W 11:30-12:45  
Instructor: Christine Jones, PhD  
Office: Heritage Hall 204C  
Office Hours: By appointment, both face-to-face on campus or virtual via webex  
Contact me: [Bioarchjones@tamuct.edu](mailto:Bioarchjones@tamuct.edu)

### Catalog Course Description:

The foundation of biological anthropology is the study of the human skeleton. In this course, students will learn concepts and methods used by anthropologists to identify, describe, and analyze human skeletal remains from forensic and archaeological contexts. Classes will be a combination of lecture and laboratory.

### Mode of instruction and course access:

This course meets face-to-face, with some supplemental course materials made available online. Check Canvas daily for any course announcements or schedule changes.

### 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.

### 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:
  - [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

### Required Textbook/Readings:

- 1) Tim White, Michael Black & Pieter Folkens (2011) *Human Osteology*, Third Edition. ISBN: 9780123741349
- 2) H. Wayne Sampson et al.(1991) *Atlas of the human Skull*. Second Edition. Texas A&M University Press: College Station, TX. ISBN: 9780890964880
- 3) "OsteologyLandmarks.pdf" will be on Canvas and will handed out on the first day. **\*\*Bring this booklet to every class\*\***

**Materials Needed:**

Student LAB COAT. A reusable type of these is on sale in our bookstore for approximately 10 dollars. You can also get them on online quite inexpensively. If you are having trouble getting a lab coat please let me know ASAP.

**Recommended but not required:**

Tim White (2005) Human Bone Manual. This is a softcover and shortened version of our main text. It is great for quick studying on the go but NOT a replacement for the main text.

**IMPORTANT. A NOTE ABOUT LIBRARY RESERVES:** ALL of our textbooks are available through the library either online (our main textbook is also an ebook) or in person at the reference desk. Not having your book is not a good reason to fall behind in your studying. Visit the library front desk and they can help you.\*\*\* **Additionally, the library offers a complete disarticulated skeleton (including skull) for study purposes. I encourage you to use this resource at times the lab skeletons are not available for studying. \*\*\***

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students will learn:

- Human bone and tooth development and anatomy
- The differences between juvenile and adult skeletal and dental anatomy
- How to identify every bone of the human skeleton using skeletal form, features and landmarks
- How to complete a full bone inventory and skeletal identification lab report
- Methods of skeletal analysis used in both forensic and archaeological context

**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, Mon. Jan 30. 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 and weekly online folders: Readings from the textbook are listed in the course schedule below.
3. Lab assignments: We’ll have four labs spread out throughout the semester, worth 25 points each or 10% of the course. Some of these labs may have a typed component, which you will work on at home and then bring into class (hard copy only) by the next class day.
4. Quizzes: Four **surprise** quizzes will be given over the semester. The two highest quiz grades will count for 10% of the final grade (two lowest quiz grades will be dropped). Quizzes are similar in content and structure to the practical exams but have fewer questions.
5. Practical exams: Four practical exams will be given over the course of the semester, each worth 20% of the final grade. Practical exams are mainly comprised of stations

with labeled specimens for students to identify but will also include a minor written component. Tests are cumulative, however, the emphasis for each will be on new material covered since the previous test.

**Grade posting:** All grades will be posted online; it usually takes about 1 week for me to grade your work. Be assured that I am grading your work as fast as I possibly can.

Assignment	Points
Labs (4 @ 25 points)	100
Quizzes (4 total BUT lowest 2 scores are dropped... so 2@ 50 pts)	100
Exams (4 @ 200 each)	800
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>

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

### Course Policies

**Modification of the Syllabus:** This syllabus may be revised in minor ways at the discretion of the instructor. The student is responsible for noting any changes in the syllabus. If a change in the syllabus occurs a revised course schedule will be posted online with an announcement.

#### Makeup exams:

There are no makeups for quizzes. If you miss an exam, you can **request a makeup** within 1 week of the missed exam. The instructor will evaluate makeup requests for missed exams due to serious illness or another legitimate reason on a case-by-case basis. Simply making a request does not mean that you will be permitted to makeup the missed exam. Students missing one exam and granted a makeup will be able to schedule a practical exam similar to the missed exam. If a student misses a second exam and is granted a makeup, the makeup will consist of a 3-page critical review of 3 articles on human skeletal biology from the American Journal of Physical Anthropology, formatted per AJPA guidelines.

#### Late Work (AKA turning in your lab assignment after it was due)

Usually lab work is completed in class. Sometimes the lab requires you to complete some work at home and turn in a typed assignment **the next time the class meets**. If you fail to turn in your lab the next time the class meets I will accept it late with the following deductions: 5 points for 1 day late, 10 points for 2 days late, 15 points for 3 days late. After 3 days the lab will not be accepted. Also these days are not class meeting days, they are consecutive days after the lab was due.

**Handling human skeletal remains in this course:** During every class students will be expected to handle a reproduction skeleton or actual human skeletal remains. We will review a number of rules regarding the handling of skeletal remains to ensure they are not damaged during the class. Failure to observe these rules can result in the instructor asking students to leave the classroom, which may affect their grade and participation in the course.

Course Schedule

Week	Day	Topics	Readings: White is W, Sampson is S
1	Jan 17 M Jan 19 W	No class MLK Jr. Day! 1.Introduction	W16, 17 W1,2,3; S pgs 1-40
2	Jan 24 M Jan 26 W	2. What is bone? 3. Neurocranium	W4 S pgs 40-98
3	Jan 31 M Feb 2 W	4. Neurocranium II 5. Viscerocranium	S pgs 40-98 S pgs 105-193
4	Feb 7 M Feb 9 W	6.Viscerocranium II *Lab 1*	S 105-193
5	<b>Feb 14 M</b> Feb 16 W	<b>Practical Test #1</b> 7.Dentition	W5, W p. 563
6	Feb 21 M Feb 23 W	8.Dentition 9. Dentition II	Teeth handout
7	Feb 28 M Mar 2 W	10. Vertebral column *Lab 2*	W6
8	Mar 7 M <b>Mar 9 W</b>	12. Catch-up and Review <b>Practical Test #2</b>	
☺	<b>Mar 14-18</b>	<b>Happy Spring Break!</b>	
9	Mar 21 M Mar 23 W	13. Ribs & Shoulder NO CLASS Mar 23!	W7 W8
10	Mar 28 M Mar 30 W	14. Shoulder & Arm 15. Wrist	W9 W10
11	Apr 4 M Apr 6 W	16. Hand *Lab 3*	
12	Apr 11 M <b>Apr 13 W</b>	Catch up and Review <b>Practical Test #3</b>	
13	Apr 18 M Apr 20 W	17. Pelvis 18. Pelvis II	W11, 18 W 19
14	Apr 25 M Apr 27 W	19. Thigh & Leg 20. Thigh & Leg II	W12 W 20
15	May 2 M May 4 W	21. Hindfoot & Forefoot *Lab 4*	W13 W23
16	May 9 M <b>May 11 W</b>	Catch up and Review <b>Practical test #4</b>	

**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.

### ***Tips for Success in Human Osteology***

- Attend every class. Arrive on time and don't leave early. This is a hands-on class — you must come to every single class to do well.
- Attend as many lab study sessions as possible.
- Study every day. Draw bones. Make Notecards. Use skeletal anatomy apps (essential skeleton 4 is great). Create a study group. *On one of your usual library visits check out the skeleton and skull on reserve!* Make this class part of your daily life this semester and you will do well.
- Read the textbook chapters *both before and after class*.
- When in doubt, ASK the prof.

#### UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

*All University resources, procedures, and guidelines are available online through the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] in the modules section.*

#### **Copyright Notice.**

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