

Washtenaw Community College Comprehensive Report

ANT 265 Introduction to Forensic Anthropology

Effective Term: Fall 2014

Course Cover

Division: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

Department: Social Science

Discipline: Anthropology

Course Number: 265

Org Number: 11700

Full Course Title: Introduction to Forensic Anthropology

Transcript Title: Intro to Forensic Anthro

Is Consultation with other department(s) required: No

Publish in the Following: College Catalog , Time Schedule , Web Page

Reason for Submission: New Course

Change Information:

Rationale: Forensic Anthropology, as an applied sub-field of Physical/Biological Anthropology, is a growing field with applications not only within Anthropology, but also in Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement, and the Health Sciences. The skills taught within this course (skeletal and dental anatomy, hypothesis testing, crime scene investigation) fulfill not just elective credit in the social sciences, but will also prepare students for upper division course work in Anthropology, Archaeology, and Law Enforcement.

Proposed Start Semester: Fall 2014

Course Description: In this course, students will explore the role of the Forensic Anthropologist, the methods used to interpret dental and skeletal data, and the legal implications of applying scientific scrutiny to death investigation. The application of scientific methods in the investigation of homicides, mass disasters, and human rights cases means that the Forensic Anthropologist plays a crucial role in the analysis of evidence and the communication of these results to members of law enforcement.

Course Credit Hours

Variable hours: No

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: Instructor: 45 Student: 45

Lab: Instructor: 0 Student: 0

Clinical: Instructor: 0 Student: 0

Total Contact Hours: Instructor: 45 Student: 45

Repeatable for Credit: NO

Grading Methods: Letter Grades

Audit

Are lectures, labs, or clinicals offered as separate sections?: NO (same sections)

College-Level Reading and Writing

College-level Reading & Writing

College-Level Math

No Level Required

Requisites

General Education

MACRAO

MACRAO Social Science

General Education Area 5 - Social and Behavioral Science

Assoc in Applied Sci - Area 5

Assoc in Science - Area 5

Assoc in Arts - Area 5

Request Course Transfer

Proposed For:

Central Michigan University

Eastern Michigan University

Michigan State University

Oakland University

Wayne State University

Western Michigan University

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify what Forensic Anthropology is, how it differs from other disciplines, and how it has impacted the Forensic Sciences.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Exam

Assessment Date: Fall 2017

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections

Number students to be assessed: All students

How the assessment will be scored: Rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will provide correct responses on 75% or more of the exam questions.

Who will score and analyze the data: Department Faculty

2. Identify the methods used to determine the post-mortem interval (time since death) and identify appropriate methods for scene investigation/recovery.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Group Lab Activity

Assessment Date: Fall 2017

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections

Number students to be assessed: All students

How the assessment will be scored: Rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score 75% or higher

Who will score and analyze the data: Department Faculty

3. Identify human skeletal and dental elements used in the construction of a Biological Profile and differentiate human skeletal and dental elements from non-human skeletal and dental elements.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Lab Activity

Assessment Date: Fall 2017

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections

Number students to be assessed: All students

How the assessment will be scored: Rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score 75% or higher

Who will score and analyze the data: Department Faculty

4. Apply methods for determination/estimation of the Biological Profile, including sex, age, stature, ancestry, and identification of infectious and non-infectious disease.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Lab Activities

Assessment Date: Fall 2017

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections

Number students to be assessed: All students

How the assessment will be scored: Rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score 75% or higher

Who will score and analyze the data: Department Faculty

5. Test hypotheses regarding the identification of an individual from skeletal and dental remains and document conclusions reached through the application of methods.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Group Project

Assessment Date: Fall 2017

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections

Number students to be assessed: All students

How the assessment will be scored: Rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score 75% or higher on the group project

Who will score and analyze the data: Department Faculty

Course Objectives

1. Define what Forensic Anthropology is and describe how it can aid in death investigation.

Matched Outcomes

2. Describe the stages of the post-mortem interval, and explain how indicators from each stage can be used to estimate time since death.

Matched Outcomes

3. Identify the majority of human skeletal and dental elements and differentiate them from non-human elements.

Matched Outcomes

3. Identify human skeletal and dental elements used in the construction of a Biological Profile and differentiate human skeletal and dental elements from non-human skeletal and dental elements.
4. Apply methods used by Forensic Anthropologists for the construction of a Biological Profile; determination of sex, estimation of age, stature, and ancestry.

Matched Outcomes

5. Communicate conclusions reached through methods utilized by Forensic Anthropologists to both the Scientific Community and to Law Enforcement.

Matched Outcomes

5. Test hypotheses regarding the identification of an individual from skeletal and dental remains and document conclusions reached through the application of methods.

New Resources for Course

Two (2) dis-articulated human skeletons.

Reference skulls for males and females and from each of the three major geographic ancestries.

Course Textbooks/Resources

Textbooks

Byers, Steven N.. *Introduction to Forensic Anthropology*, 4th ed. Boston: Pearson Education, 2010, ISBN: 0205790127.

White, Tim; Folkens, Pieter. *The Human Bone Manual*, ed. Burlington: Elsevier, 2005, ISBN: 0120884674.

Manuals

Periodicals

Software

Equipment / Facilities

Level III classroom

<u>Reviewer</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Date</u>
Faculty Preparer: <i>Christopher Barrett</i>	<i>Faculty Preparer</i>	<i>Jan 09, 2014</i>
Department Chair / Area Director: <i>Randy LaHote</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Jan 27, 2014</i>
Dean: <i>Dena Blair</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Jan 27, 2014</i>
Vice President for Instruction: <i>Bill Abernethy</i>	<i>Approve</i>	<i>Feb 12, 2014</i>