

**University of Northern Colorado**  
**College of Humanities and Social Sciences**  
**Office of Extended Studies**  
**Summer 2010**  
**ANT 330-633: Forensic Anthropology (3 cr)**

**Course advisor:** Alan Price, MA, SCSA  
Adjunct Faculty, University of Northern Colorado  
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**Phone:** 970-353-7008

**Invited Guest Lecturers:**

- (1) Frederick J. Snow, Ph.D., President, Forensic Anthropology Consulting Services, Inc.  
Knoxville, Tennessee
- (2) Hillary Parsons, M.A., Doctorial Graduate Student, University of Tennessee

**Location:** New Orleans, Louisiana  
**Class Building & Room:** Hotel Provincial, 1024 Rue Chartres, New Orleans, LA 70116  
Special lodging rates will be provided to students.  
**Dates and Times:** July 26-31, 2010, 8-5pm daily. Additional time in the evening will be allotted for students to work within study groups.

**Required Texts:** A workshop book and study reference guide will be provided to each student for this course as part of the cost of the tuition.

**Notice**

The Office of Extended Studies reserves the right to cancel or reschedule courses based upon enrollment. Enrolled students will be contacted with information of any change. Prior to making long-distance travel arrangements, please confirm with UNC that sufficient enrollment is in place before making final travel commitments.

**Course Description:**

This intense one-week course provides the attendee with the principles of forensic anthropology and crime scene documentation techniques as applied in criminal investigations. The fundamentals determining the biological profile from the human skeleton as well as determining trauma from the skeleton will be examined, thus providing the student with an understanding of how identifications are made using only bones. Also, the principles of forensic archaeology will be presented and how they are frequently used in the excavation of clandestine graves. This course is a combination of lecture, lab exercises, and practical exercises. Each attendee will learn the major skeletal elements of the human body and their importance in a forensic context. The importance of maintaining a chain of custody and other principles essential to a successful prosecution will be discussed. This course is an intense and methodical examine of the human skeleton designed for persons who may be responsible recovering human remains and recognizing, identifying and documenting antemortem, perimortem and post-mortem trauma, and identifying various disease processes. This course is designed for persons who may be responsible for documenting crime scenes or historical sites where human remains are present. This might include law enforcement personnel, medical examiner staff or college students.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Attendees will learn the principles of determining sex, ancestry, and age from human skeletal remains as well as the basics of determining trauma.
2. Attendees will learn the principles of locating, recovering, and analyzing human skeletal remains.
3. Attendees will excavate a mock clandestine grave using archaeological principles.
4. Attendees will complete a crime scene sketch and photograph the clandestine grave.
5. Attendees will give a presentation of how the mock clandestine grave was located, how it was excavated, evidence found within the grave, and how evidence found will be used for subsequent prosecution of the perpetrator.
6. Attendees will learn the most common mistakes made by crime scene investigators during human remains recoveries and how to avoid them.

7. Attendees will learn why a forensic anthropologist is preferable to a medical examiner in analyzing human skeletal remains.
8. Attendees will learn specialized skills such as the excavation of wells, mass graves and disaster scenes for the recovery of human remains.

**Outline of Course Content:**

Principles forensic anthropology  
 Determination of the biological profile (sex, ancestry, age, stature) from the human skeleton  
 Determination of trauma from the human skeleton  
 Search methods for locating clandestine graves  
 Lab exercises in determining the biological profile and trauma  
 Principles of forensic archaeology  
 Determining forensically significant remains from those that are not forensically significant  
 Common mistakes made by crime scene investigators and how to avoid them

**Class Presentations:**

Students will be expected to submit the written results of their group's analysis of several actual human skeletons examined throughout the week. Each student will contribute to an oral presentation as to the final analysis of the specimens assigned to their respective group for analysis.

**Extra Credit:**

No extra credit is structured into this class.

**Examinations:**

Both a mid-term and final examination will be administered in compliance with University standards. **The Mid-term examine will be on Wednesday, and the Final Examination will be on the Saturday, at the conclusion of the class. Both examinations will only be administered on their respective dates.** Both the mid-term and final exams will be comprehensive of all topics presented in this course. Both the mid-term and the final examinations will include a written and laboratory analysis component.

**Quizzes:**

A daily quiz will be administered on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday of this course. Quizzes are generally fifteen points in value. Quizzes include a written and laboratory component.

**Participation and attendance:**

**Students cannot afford to miss any portion of this class in order to maintain a passing grade.**

Quizzes	= 15 – 20 points each
Midterm Exam	= 50 points
Final Exam	= 100 points
Written group summary and oral presentation	= 25 points

**Method of Evaluation**

This course is letter graded and will follow the grade level breakdown approved by the CJR faculty.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>% of Total Points</b>
A	93 – 100%
A -	90 - 92%
B+	88 – 89%
B	83 - 87%
B-	80 – 82%
C+	78 - 79%
C	70 – 77%
D	60 – 69%
F	0 – 59%

Percentages are based on the total accumulated points from the mid-term, final, any quizzes, the submitted paper and individual presentations.

### **Honor Code**

All members of the University of Northern Colorado community are entrusted with the responsibility to uphold and promote five fundamental values: *Honesty, Trust, Respect, Fairness, and Responsibility*. These core elements foster an atmosphere, inside and outside of the classroom, which serves as a foundation and guides the UNC community's academic, professional, and personal growth. Endorsement of these core elements by students, faculty, staff, administration, and trustees strengthens the integrity and value of our academic climate.

### **UNC's Policies**

UNC's policies and recommendations for academic misconduct will be followed. For additional information, please see the Dean of Student's website, Student Handbook link <http://www.unco.edu/dos/handbook/index.html>

### **Students with Disabilities**

Any student requesting disability accommodation for this class must inform the instructor giving appropriate notice. Students are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services at (970) 351-2289 to certify documentation of disability and to ensure appropriate accommodations are implemented in a timely manner.

### **Student Satisfaction Evaluation**

Participants will be asked to evaluate the workshop for instructors' knowledge, interest and enthusiasm as well as providing additional information on classes or topics which you would like to see developed as a future offering from UNC.

### **Portable Electronic Devices**

Please extend courtesy to your instructor and fellow students by turning off your portable electronic devices such as: cell phones, pagers, and iPods. Although not an audio issue, text-messaging is a distraction to other students and prevents you from full participation in class. You should keep your portable electronic devices in your backpack or purse during class. Your personal electronic devices should not be on your desks. If you know that you may need to accept an emergency phone call during class or if you have children in childcare or school, please let the instructor know. If you need to take a phone call during class, please step out of the classroom while you complete your call. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Course Withdrawal Information**

Due to the unique nature of this course, if you drop from this class on or after July 15, 2010, you will be legally responsible for payment of full tuition. In order to be eligible to receive any refund of tuition, you must contact the Office of Extended Studies at 1-800-232-1749 to formally withdraw from your class. Your refund, if applicable, will be based on the date of contact with our office. Withdrawals received via telephone during non-business hours will be processed and dated on the next working day. Failure to notify us will result in UNC tuition being owed even though student did not attend or complete the coursework.

### **Course Schedule**

#### **Monday**

8:00-9:00 a.m.	<b>Welcome and Introductions of Staff and Students</b> Staff, Alan Price and Dr. Waldrip
9:00-10:00 a.m.	<b>Methods of Postmortem Identification of Human Remains</b> (Dr. Snow)
10:00a.m –12:00p.m.	<b>Introduction to Forensic Anthropology</b> (Ms. Parsons)
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>
1:30 – 2:00 p.m.	<b>The "Do's and Don'ts of Handling Bones"</b> (Ms. Parsons)
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.	<b>"Name the Bones"</b> (Dr. Snow & Ms. Parsons) <b>"Human or Non-human?"</b> (Dr. Snow & Ms. Parsons)
4:00 – 4:30	<b>Quiz #1</b> (Alan Price)
4:30 – 5:00 p.m.	<b>Case Study</b> (Dr. Snow)

## **Tuesday**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	<b>Quiz # 2</b> (Alan Price)
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	<b>Determination of the Age of an Individual from Skeletal Remains</b> (Dr. Snow)
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.	<b>Determination of Gender of an Individual from Skeletal Remains</b> (Ms. Parsons)
11:00 – 12:00	<b>Determination of Physical Stature of an Individual from Skeletal Remains</b> (Dr. Snow)
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>
1:30 – 2:30	<b>Determination of Ethnicity of an Individual from Skeletal Remains</b> (Dr. Snow)
2:30 – 4:00	<b>Basic Forensic Anthropology Laboratory Session: Determination of the Gender, Ethnicity, Stature and Age of the Presented Specimens.</b> (Dr. Snow and Ms. Parsons)
4:00 – 4:30 p.m.	<b>Taphonomy: Decomposition Changes and Time Since Death</b> (Ms. Parson's Master's Research Project)
4:30 – 5:00 p.m.	<b>Case studies</b> (Instructional Staff)

## **Wednesday**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	<b>Quiz # 3</b> (Alan Price)
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	<b>Facial Reconstruction and Superimposition Techniques</b> (Dr. Snow)
10:00 – 12:00 p.m.	<b>Individual Characteristics Determined the Skeletal Remains</b> (Dr. Snow and Ms. Parsons)
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	<b>Basic Forensic Anthropology Laboratory: Review Specimens</b> <b>Demonstrating Forensic Taphonomy</b> <b>“Whose Skull I This?”</b> <b>“Whose Bones Are These?”</b> <b>“A Jungle Mystery”</b> (Teaching Staff)
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.	<b>Review of Laboratory Cases</b> (Teaching Staff)
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	<b>Mid-Course Exam (Monday and Tuesday material only – lecture and lab materials.</b> (Alan Price and Teaching Staff)

## **Thursday**

8:00 – 9:00	<b>Review of the Mid-Course Exam and Quiz # 3</b> (Alan Price & Teaching Staff)
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	<b>Recovery of Human Skeletal Remains from Various Scenes and Conditions</b> (Dr. Snow)
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	<b>Human Teeth and Dental Charting</b> (Dr. Snow and Ms. Parsons)
11:30 – 12:30 p.m.	<b>Bone Trauma and Bone Disease</b> (Dr. Snow)
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	<b>Basic Forensic Anthropology Laboratory:</b> <b>Identification of teeth</b> <b>Dental Exclusion Exercise</b> <b>“Whose Teeth Are These?”</b> <b>Review Bone Trauma Specimens</b> <b>Review Bone Disease Specimens</b>
3:30 – 4:30	<b>Case Studies</b> (Teaching Staff)

## **Friday**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	<b>Quiz # 4</b> (Alan Price)
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	<b>Testifying in Court as an Expert: Court Demeanor and Protocol</b> (Alan Price)
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.	<b>Collecting and Packing Bones as Evidence for Transport</b> (Dr. Snow and Ms. Parsons)
11:00 – 12:00 p.m.	<b>Group Presentations and completion of individual student reports on their respective case analysis.</b> (Teaching Staff)

12:00 -1:30 p.m.

**Lunch**

1:30 – 3:00

**Mock Court** (Alan Price)

3:00 – 5:00

**Review for Final with Laboratory Specimens and final preparation of individual student reports** (Teaching Staff)

**Saturday**

8:00 – 12:00 p.m.

**Final examination and submission of written anthropological case analysis.  
Awarding of Certificates of Completion**

For additional UNC policies, please access UNC's website at: [www.unco.edu](http://www.unco.edu). As an off-campus student taking courses from UNC, you should familiarize yourself with the academic regulations and procedures contained in the current UNC catalog: <http://catalog.unco.edu>. To view all of our off-campus offerings, please visit our website at: [www.unco.edu/extendedstudies](http://www.unco.edu/extendedstudies)