

Anthropology 3PP3 Paleopathology

Winter Term

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Lecture: [Lecture days/times]

Office: CNH 518
Office Hours: Mon.1.30-2.30pm & Tue.
12.00-1.00pm

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Course Description

The focus of the course will be archaeological human remains and interpretations of past human health through the research on paleopathology (the study of ancient diseases and their origins). Course reading will also include current clinical literature to enable a bioarchaeological approach to be taken to the interpretation of past human health.

The Lab

All laboratory activities are under the authority of Bonnie Kahlon, the lab co-ordinator. Because of the practical emphasis in this course, most students find it extremely helpful to take advantage of additional time in the lab. Bonnie will announce these times and we encourage you to attend. Students must abide by the rules of the lab for their own safety and for the preservation of the skeletal collection. Failure to do so can lead to loss of laboratory privileges

Course Objectives

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Recognise and describe pathological lesions on skeletal remains and demonstrate an understanding of the changes that occur in bones and teeth in response to different diseases and forms of trauma.

Required Materials and Texts

- Roberts, C. and Manchester, K. (2007) *The Archaeology of Disease*, 3rd ed.
- White, T. D., and P.A. Folkens (2005) *The Human Bone Manual* **OR** equivalent

Class Format

The combined lecture and laboratory format gives the student a comprehensive overview of the pathological processes of bone, enamel and dentine as well as experience with the methods used recording pathological lesions in archaeological human remains. Attendance at weekly labs is essential for this course.

Course Evaluation – Overview

1. **Mid-term exam - 20%, date Feb. 3**
2. **Poster assignment, 25%, due March 2nd 9am**
3. **Is it pathological? Practical Test, 20%, March 16th**
4. **Final (take home) exam, 35%, due April 1st 9am**

Course Evaluation – Details

Assignment/test 1 (20%), due Feb. 3

Consists of a written exam composed of, comprehension, short-answer and pictorial questions related to material from the lectures, labs, and independent reading. This test will be open book.

Assignment/test 2 (25%), due March 2nd

Each student will sign up for a skeletal element (or small group of elements) that has some kind of pathological or traumatic change. Basic information on the geographical and temporal origin of the material will be provided. Students are required to take a biocultural approach to analysis undertaken and provide a differential diagnosis for the lesions recorded. Information on the methods used and findings should be presented as a poster in the style of posters as presented at meetings of organisations such as the Paleopathology Association (PPA) and the Canadian Association of Physical Anthropologists (CAPA). A letter sized version of the poster will be submitted online. Full instructions on format of the poster and grading scheme will be provided

Assignment/test 3 (20%), due March 16th

Deciding if a bone is human, damaged due to taphonomic processes, within the range of what might be considered normal or pathological is one of the hardest decisions in paleopathology. In this practical test students will have to determine which items are just damaged post mortem, which are normal and which pathological. For those considered pathological basic information will need to be provided on changes recorded. This test will be open book

Assignment/test 4 (35%), due April 1st 9am

This will be based on all in-class work, lectures, labs, discussions, and assigned readings. It will consist of a series of essay questions. The exam will be handed out on in class and advice on the writing essay style questions and length formatting requirements provided.

Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings

Week 1

Jan 6th – Course introduction, treatment of archaeological human remains, review of the skeleton and introduction to bone biology

Readings: Chapter 1 Roberts & Manchester. The Archaeology of Disease.

Week 2

Jan 13th – History of paleopathology, theoretical considerations and disease classification.

Readings: Chapter 2 Roberts & Manchester. The Archaeology of Disease.

Notes: **Poster sign up**

Week 3

Jan 20th – Congenital disease and dental disease

Readings: Chapter 3. Roberts & Manchester. The Archaeology of Disease.

Readings: Chapter 4. Roberts & Manchester. The Archaeology of Disease.

Week 4

Jan 27th – Trauma, fractures, weapons injuries and other types of injury

Readings: Chapter 5. Roberts & Manchester. The Archaeology of Disease.

Week 5

Feb 3rd – Mid-term exam

Week 7

**Feb 7th – Metabolic and endocrine disease Readings: Guest Contributor
Brienne Morgan**

Readings: Chapter 8. Roberts & Manchester. The Archaeology of Disease.

Week 8

Feb 17th – Reading/Recess Week

Week 9

Feb 24th – Joint disease

Readings: Chapter 6. Roberts & Manchester. The Archaeology of Disease.

Week 10

March 2nd – Infectious disease and non-diagnostic changes

Readings: Chapter 7. Roberts & Manchester. The Archaeology of Disease.

Notes: **Poster hand in**

Week 11

March 9th – Neoplastic disease. Review of pathological conditions covered.

Readings: Chapter 9. Roberts & Manchester. The Archaeology of Disease.

Week 12

March 16th – Is it pathological? test

Week 13

March 23rd – The future of paleopathology including non-human pathology

Readings: Chapter 10. Roberts & Manchester. The Archaeology of Disease.

Week 14

March 30th – Information and hand-out of the final take home exam

Notes: [ie. Assignment due, April 1st 9am]

Course Policies

Submission of Assignments

[Avenue to Learn in format specified]

Grades

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

MARK	GRADE
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

Late Assignments

Lateness penalty for unapproved lateness: 15% per day including weekend days until a mark of 0 is reached. A deduction of 15% will be made for any part of an assignment that is over the specified length.

Absences, Missed Work, Illness

If you miss an assignment, written confirmation, approved by your Faculty office, is required in order to make up the marks. *Students are responsible for contacting the instructor.*

Marks allocated to elements of assessment that have a set date on which they have to happen that are missed will be added to weighting given to the final take home examination, so the final take home exam will account for a greater percentage of the final grade.

Avenue to Learn

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available

information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

Turnitin.com

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal plagiarism. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically to Turnitin.com and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work to Turnitin.com must still submit a copy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please to go [Academic Integrity](#).

University Policies

Academic Integrity Statement

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behavior in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behavior can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at [Academic Integrity](#).

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail

sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University's Policy for [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#).

Religious, Indigenous and Spiritual Observances (RISO)

The University recognizes that, on occasion, the timing of a student's religious, Indigenous, or spiritual observances and that of their academic obligations may conflict. In such cases, the University will provide reasonable academic accommodation for students that is consistent with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Please review the [RISO information for students in the Faculty of Social Sciences](#) about how to request accommodation.

Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

Privacy Protection

In accordance with regulations set out by the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act, the University will not allow return of graded materials by placing them in boxes in departmental offices or classrooms so that students may retrieve their papers themselves; tests and assignments must be returned directly to the student. Similarly, grades for assignments for courses may only be posted using the last 5 digits of the student number as the identifying data. The following possibilities exist for return of graded materials:

1. Direct return of materials to students in class;
2. Return of materials to students during office hours;
3. Students attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with assignments for return by mail;
4. Submit/grade/return papers electronically.

Arrangements for the return of assignments from the options above will be finalized during the first class.

Course Modification

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.