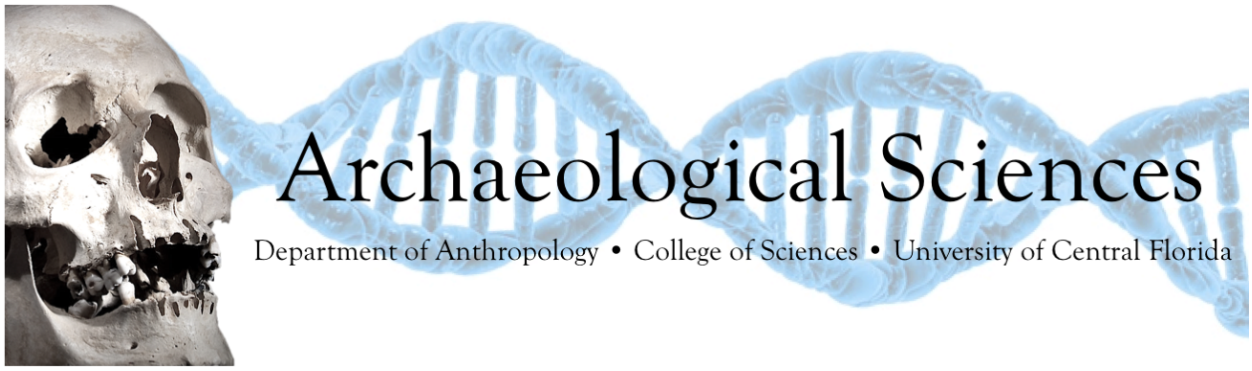

ANT4183 (0001) Archaeological Sciences Syllabus

Spring/2018 • 3 credit hours

Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:00-4:15pm • HPA 112

Professor Contact

Professor: Dr. Sandra Wheeler
Office: Howard Phillips Hall 309F (Main Campus)
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30-2:30pm and by appointment
Contact: Sandra.Wheeler@ucf.edu or Inbox in Webcourses

Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) Contact

GTA: Samuel Martin
Office Hours: TBA
Contact: Discussions or Inbox

University Course Catalogue Description

Methods and instrumentation routinely used in archaeology and forensic archaeology as applied to crime scenes.

Course Description

This is an interdisciplinary course that discusses a variety of topics relevant to law enforcement and Forensic Archaeology. This course will use examples from a number of disciplines such as Criminal Justice, Forensic Science, Forensic Anthropology, and Archaeology. Examples presented in this course will be of particular interest to students who, in the future, may work with materials recovered from forensic or field archaeology contexts. Please be aware that this is an advanced course. You are expected to keep up with the course materials and readings.

Archaeologists extensively 'borrow' methods used in the natural sciences when working with material remains. Throughout the course we will evaluate the many ways that archaeological science contributes to our knowledge about forensic, historic, and ancient material remains. First, we will discuss the latest techniques and instrumentation used to locate sites, identify areas for excavation and methods of recovery. We will then look at the burial environment and the changes that take place in organic and inorganic materials over time. The remainder of the course will emphasize the instrumentation and analytical techniques needed to extract information embedded in archaeological and forensic evidence.

We will explore these various topics through assigned readings as well as through lectures and films. You will be assessed through Case Study responses and exams. The syllabus may be modified, as determined by your professor. All changes will be announced in class or on Webcourses.

Learning Objectives

The objectives of this course are to:

- Identify how various methods and instrumentation used in natural sciences intersect with materials science in archaeology.
- Discuss basic field methods for locating and identifying sites for excavation and recovery.
- Understand methods and instrumentation routinely used in archaeological prospection and kinds of materials that may be located
- Use case studies to learn how data produced with these scientific techniques can address major research questions in forensic and field archaeology.

Required Texts

There are no required texts for this course. I will provide you weekly readings electronically on Webcourses. Woo!

Grading Scale (+/- letter grades)

A	94-100%	B+	87-89%	C+	77-79%	D	60-69%
A-	90-93%	B	84-86%	C	70-76%	F	59% or below
		B-	80-83%				

Important Things About Your Grade!

This course is a requirement for Criminal Justice certificates. Many programs require you to earn a “C” or better for this course to count towards your degree! Lucky for you, I don't assign C-!

Student Evaluation

Case Study Responses (10)	40% (10 points each)	Responses to case studies in forensic archaeology and archaeological sciences
Exams (3)	60% (100 points each)	True/False, multiple choice, short answer

Attendance: Be here. Attendance is not taken in class, HOWEVER it is essential to doing well in this course (well, in any course, really). An overwhelming majority of the course material you will see on your exams is introduced and discussed in class, so regular attendance is highly recommended. Also, I have some really cool guest speakers lined up so you won’t want to miss those!

Case Study Responses: I will post a number of articles for you to read and I will provide you with questions that you will answer. Although there will be a number of readings, you are only required to turn in **10** of these. You may choose any **10** you like, but you must turn in each online by their respective due dates. All reading responses will be run through TurnItIn.com, so make sure you turn in your own work *in your own words*. No late work will be accepted. Case study responses are worth 40% of your final grade.

Exams: There are **3** exams in this course. Exams are written in class and are made up of true/false, multiple choice, short answer and fill-in-the blank questions. There will be **no make-ups** for exams without proper documentation (this means a doctor’s note etc.). Exams are worth 60% of your final grade! **The final exam is scheduled by UCF and is on THURSDAY APRIL 26 from 1:00-3:50pm! The final is not cumulative.**

Important Information

Important Things: First and foremost, read the syllabus. This document is your guide so that you can keep up with the scheduled readings, assignments and exams. There are many due dates for the case study responses, so you have to stay on top of this as **no late work will be accepted**. Second, if you email me or your TA using your Knights account, include **ANT 4183** or **Arch Sciences** in the subject heading and don't forget to include your full name so we know who you are. Otherwise, use the Inbox function in Webcourses to contact us. Lastly, read the syllabus, it really is like your best friend for this course.

Other Important Things: Classes start: **Jan 12**; Drop/swap deadline: **Jan 15**; Add deadline: **Jan 16**; Spring Break: **Mar 9-14**; Withdrawal deadline: **Mar 24**; Classes end: **Apr 27.** Check out UCF's Academic Calendar for other important dates.

Really Important Information: We are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, **YOU MUST TAKE THE GETTING STARTED QUIZ BY FRIDAY JANUARY 12.** Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid. And no one wants that. These quiz points will be added to your Exam points, so you might as well take the free points.

This course will be supplemented with materials posted on Webcourses, so it is important to have reliable access to the Internet. Lucky for you, there are computers available for your use all over campus.

To do well in this course, you will need to:

- Check Webcourses regularly and keep up with the course materials
- Attend class regularly
- Complete all readings, assignments, and exams by their due dates
- Attend class regularly

Academic Responsibility

Time management, problem solving, responsibility and personal accountability are among the most important things you can learn in college. To be successful in this class (and in college in general), you will need to attend regularly, keep up with assigned readings, and make every effort to complete assignments on time and in a professional manner.

Academic honesty: Plagiarism and cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" or "Z" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the UCF Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the UCF Golden Rule for further information. I will assume that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, **don't cheat** by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. Also, please keep in mind while the Internet is an excellent source of *quick* information, it is not necessarily an excellent source of *valid* information and may also be a source of plagiarism in its own right.

I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change or expect me to change your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone. This is particularly the case when it comes to final grades, so do not ask.

Respect for diversity: This class will be conducted in a way that respects all aspects of diversity. It is expected that everyone show respect for one another and the diverse issues and topics that will be discussed in class.

Student Accessibility Services

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Accessibility Services, Ferrel Commons 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, or sas@ucf.edu before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Course Lecture and Assignment Schedule

Changes to the lecture, assignment schedules and occasionally, readings, are not expected but may occur. Your professor reserves the right to make reasonable adjustments to the assignment schedule. Any changes will be announced through Canvas. Due dates and required readings can be found in the table below.

Module	Topic and Readings	Due Dates
Module 1	**Crime Scenes and Forensic Archaeology** Read: • An Introduction to Archaeology for Forensic Scientists. M. Connor • Introduction to Forensic Archaeology. Dupras et al. • Crime Scene Investigation, Archaeology and Taphonomy: Reconstructing Activities at Crime Scenes. Groen and Berger	**Case Study 1 due JAN 19**
Module 2	**Understanding the Forensic Context and Applying Archaeological Methods** Read: • Applying Archaeological Methods in a Forensic Context. Dupras et al. • The Expert Witness and the Court of Law. M. Henneberg • The Contributions of Archaeology and Physical Anthropology to the John McRae Case: a trial and a retrial. Saur et al.	**Case Study 2 due JAN 26**
Module 3	**Search Methods for Locating Human Remains** Read: • Locating Buried Remains. M Connor • Search Techniques for Locating Human Remains. Dupras et al.	**Case Study 3 due Feb 2**
Module 4	**Methods of Geophysical Survey and Mapping** Read: • Methods of Geophysical Survey. Dupras et al. • Survey and Mapping Methods. Dupras et al.	**Case Study #4 due FEB 9**
	Exam #1 Written in Class THURSDAY FEB 15	
Module 5	**Excavation and Recovery** Read: • Excavating Human Remains. M. Connor • How to Do Forensic Archaeology under the Auspices	**Case Study 5 due FEB 23**

	of the United Nations and Other Large Organizations. Wright and Hanson	
Module 6	**Forensic Entomology and Botany** Read: • Collecting Botanical and Entomological Evidence. Dupras et al. • Taphonomy and Time: Estimating the Postmortem Interval. Love and Marks	**Case Study 6 due MAR 2**
Module 7	**Burial Environment and Taphonomy** Read: • Postmortem Changes to Bone. S. Byers • Taphonomic Changes to Blunt Force Trauma: A Preliminary Study. Clace et al. • History and Development of the First Anthropology Research Facility, Knoxville Tennessee. Vidoli et al.	**Case Study 7 due MAR 9**
Module 8	**Interpreting the Body Post-Recovery: Methods** Read: • Introducing Forensic Anthropology. D. Steadman • Multidisciplinary Approach to Human Identification in Homicide Investigation. Ubelaker et al.	**Case Study 8 due MAR 30**
	Exam 2 Written in Class THURSDAY MAR 22	
Module 9	**Mass Disaster and DMORT** Read: • The Role of the Anthropologist in Disaster Victim Identification: The Bali Incidents of 2002 and 2004. Briggs and Buck • Disaster Anthropology: The 2004 Asian Tsunami. S. Black • Forensic Anthropology in Disaster Response. P. Sledzik	**Case Study 9 due APR 6**
Module 10	**Forensic Archaeology, Human Rights and Mass Graves** Read: • Grave Challenges in Iraq. Congram and Sterenberg • Dealing with the Remains of Conflict: An International Response to Crimes Against Humanity, Forensic Recovery, Identification, and Repatriation in the Former Yugoslavia. Sterenberg • Blunt Force Cranial Trauma in the Cambodian Killing Fields. Ta'ala et al. • The Heroic and the Hidden Dead: Zimbabwe and Exhumations. Eppel.	**Case Study 10 due APR 13**
Module 11	**Guest Lecture** Read: • TBA	**Case Study 11 due APR 20**
Module 12	**Case Study in Forensic Archaeology** Read: • TBA	**Case Study 12 due APR 27**

Finals Week	**Exam 3 Written in Class THURSDAY APR 26 1-3:50pm!**	

*Schedule and readings subject to change as needed by your instructor. I will announce any changes to the syllabus on Webcourses.