

Detail Syllabus

Subject: ANTH 3205.3 Forensic Anthropology

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| 1. | Code of the Course Unit | ANTH 3205.3 |
| 2. | Title of the Course Unit | Forensic Anthropology |
| 3. | Number of Credits | 03(Notional Hours 105/Contact Hours 45) |
| 4. | Coordinator of the Course Unit | Prof. Charmalie Nahallage |
| 5. | Rationale (Introduction) <p>Forensic anthropology is the application of the science of physical/biological anthropology to the legal process. Forensic Anthropology is more accurately viewed as an applied subfield within the discipline of Anthropology and is most reliant on the knowledge, theories, methods, and techniques of the sub disciplines of Biological Anthropology and Archaeology. The identification of skeletal and other decomposed human remains is important for both legal and humanitarian reasons.</p> <p>Within this context, Forensic Anthropologists have applied osteological techniques to aid in the analysis of significantly decomposed or skeletonized remains known or suspected of being human with the primary objectives of identifying unknown individuals and providing information to conclude the cause and manner of death. Regardless of the context of their involvement, forensic anthropologists are members of a multidisciplinary team and, as such, work closely with forensic experts in numerous fields including, crime scene investigators, forensic odontologists, forensic pathologists, forensic entomologists, trace evidence examiners, and firearms and tool marks examiners.</p> | |
| 6. | Pre-requisites | ANTH 3104 |
| 7. | Course Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore the roles and responsibilities of forensic anthropologists in death investigations. To learn and practice the basic skills used by forensic anthropologists in general and specifically those applied during: a) the location and recovery of human remains and associated physical evidence, b) the process of crime scene documentation, c) the analysis of skeletonized human remains, d) the written and oral presentation of the results and interpretations of the case analysis. To assess and evaluate the codes of ethical conduct established by relevant professional anthropological and forensic science associations (scientific foundation of techniques, qualifications, and expert testimony). | |
| 8. | Expected Main Learning Outcomes <p>Upon completion of this course, the students should be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the many responsibilities of a forensic anthropologist within the criminal | |

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| | justice system. • Define the many situations human remains are found in that warrant the involvement of a forensic anthropologist and illustrate the role(s) of a forensic anthropologist in each context. • Apply the appropriate techniques to determine the sex, age-at-death, ancestry, and living stature of human skeletal remains. • To evaluate the scientific foundation and reliability of the techniques commonly applied during the analysis of human remains • Identify the various “stakeholders” that have a vested interest in any forensic case and their involvement in the case as a forensic anthropologist, the basis of their interest, and any “agenda” they may have relative to the case. • Compare and contrast the ethical guidelines adopted by the different professional associations and identify specific points of concurrence and contradiction. • Identify the techniques used in determining trauma and/or pathological conditions of the human skeleton • Conduct themselves ethically and with respect for human rights | | | | |
| 9. | Content (Main Topic) | Sub Topics | Mode of Delivery¹/(Way of Delivery²) | No. of Hours | Integrated Soft Skills |
| 1stwk | Introduction to Forensic Anthropology | Basic introduction to history and technical terms used in FA | Lecture/ Discussion/ Video (PPT) | 02 | Oral communication skills |
| 2ndwk | Introduction to Forensic science | Introduction to Physical evidences Collection and reporting methods | Lecture/ Discussion (PPT) | 02 | Oral communication skills Analytical skills |
| 3rdwk | Field Methods | Field preparation methods Burial location and scene investigation | Lecture/ Discussion (PPT) | 02 | Critical thinking skills |
| 4thwk | Field Methods | Burial classification Assigning duties for field method Excavation method | Lecture/ Discussion (PPT) | 02 | Critical thinking skills |
| 5thwk | Laboratory Analysis | Organization and Preparation for Laboratory Analysis | Lecture/ Discussion (PPT) | 02 | Oral communication skills |

¹ Lectures/Practical/Tutorials, any other mode (Please specify)

² Power point presentation& Oral Lecture/Oral Lecture/OHP, any other way (Please Specify)

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| | | | Practical | 01 | Creative thinking skills | |
| 6 th wk | Laboratory Analysis | Skeletal Analysis and Biological profiling Determination of Sex and Age | Lecture/ Discussion/ Demonstration (PPT) | 02 | Oral communication skills Analytical skill | |
| | | | Practical | 01 | Logical thinking skills | |
| 5 th wk | Laboratory Analysis | Skeletal Analysis and Biological profiling Race, Stature and Handedness | Lecture/ Discussion/ Demonstration (PPT) | 02 | Analytical skills | |
| | | | Practical | 01 | Analytical skills | |
| 6 th wk | Forensic Pathological Identification | Exhumations Identification and Classification of Injuries | Lecture/ Discussion/ Demonstration (PPT) | 02 | Application skills | |
| 7 th wk | Forensic Pathological Identification | Wounds Complex Injuries | Lecture/ Discussion/ Demonstration (PPT) | 02 | Oral communication skills | |
| 8 th wk | Mid semester evaluation Group Practical Class (03 hours) | | | | | |
| 9 th wk | Forensic Pathological Identification | Contusions Lacerations | Peer Review | Lecture/ Discussion/ Demonstration (PPT) | 02 | Logical thinking skills |
| 10 th wk | Forensic Pathological Identification | Cut Injuries Stab Injuries | | Lecture/ Discussion/ Demonstration (PPT) | 02 | Logical thinking skills |

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| 11thwk | Forensic Pathological Identification | Fractures Burns | Lecture/ Discussion/ Demonstration (PPT) | 02 | Oral communication skills |
| 12thwk | DNA finger printing | Methods and applications in DNA finger printing | Lecture/ Discussion (PPT) | 02 | Application skills |
| 13thwk | Face reconstruction Human Rights Applications | Methods used in Facial reconstruction Application of human rights | Lecture/ Discussion/ Demonstration (PPT) | 02 | Logical thinking skills |
| 14thwk | Practical class in JMO office | Post mortem | Practical | 05 | Application and Analytical skills |
| 15thwk | Practical class in Department of Fingerprinting | Visit to a Department of Fingerprinting | Lecture/ Discussion/ Demonstration on Practical | 06 | Logical thinking skills Analytical skills |

Student feedback form collection

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| 10 | Field trips/practical classes (<i>Expected soft skills to be evaluated</i>) Visit to Department of Fingerprints The students were expected to coordinate the visit and related activities at the Department of Fingerprints as a result they will enhance their decision making skills, organization and planning skills and time management kills and team work |
| 11 | No of Notional Hours - 105 |
| 12 | Evaluation and Assessment |
| | In Course Evaluation (Mid Semester evaluation)<i>Expected soft skills to be evaluated</i> Group Practical : 20% Group Presentation: 20% Analytical skills Planning and Organizing Skills Team Working Skills |
| | End of Course Evaluation (End Semester evaluation) Question paper: 03 hour question paper with multiple, structured and essay type questions: 60% |
| 13 | Recommended Reading (Harvard Method) BASS, W.M. 1987. Human Osteology - A Laboratory and Field Manual. 3rd edition. Missouri Archaeological Society. BURNS, K.R. 1999. Forensic Anthropology Training Manual. Prentice –Hall, Inc. USA. NATH, S. 1989. Introduction to Forensic Anthropology. Gian Publishing House. New Delhi. HAGLUND, W.D. 1996. Forensic Taphonomy- The post mortem Fate of Human Remans. CRC Press. |