

**OHLONE COLLEGE**  
**Ohlone Community College District**  
**OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE**

**I. Description of Course:**

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| <p>1. <b>Department/Course:</b> <u>ANTH - 108</u></p> <p>2. <b>Title:</b> <u>Introduction to Forensic Anthropology</u></p> <p>3. <b>Cross Reference:</b></p> <p>4. <b>Units:</b> <u>3</u><br/><b>Lec Hrs:</b> <u>3</u><br/><b>Lab Hrs:</b><br/><b>Tot Hrs:</b> <u>54.00</u></p> <p>5. <b>Repeatability:</b> <u>No</u></p> <p>6. <b>Grade Options:</b> Letter Grade, May Petition for Pass/No Pass (GP)</p> <p>12. <b>Catalog Description:</b><br/>This course introduces the field of forensic anthropology through a study of the history and methods of forensic anthropology and the role it plays in the medico-legal system. Topics include the human skeletal system, forensic archaeology, recovery and techniques for analyzing human skeletal remains.</p> <p>13. <b>Class Schedule Description:</b><br/>Methods used by forensic anthropologists to recover and analyze human skeletal remains.</p> <p>14. <b>Counselor Information:</b><br/>This course provides both occupational training in forensic work, as well as an introductory course for physical anthropology majors.</p> | <p>7. <b>Degree/Applicability:</b><br/>Credit, Degree Applicable, Transferable - CSU (T)</p> <p>8. <b>General Education:</b></p> <p>9. <b>Field Trips:</b> <u>May be Required</u></p> <p>10. <b>Requisites:</b><br/><b>Advisory</b><br/>ENGL 151B Fundamentals of Composition<br/>ENGL 163 Techniques of College Reading</p> |
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**II. Student Learning Outcomes**

The student will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of methodologies developed by anthropologists to explain human variation
2. Identify and categorize human remains
3. Recognize markers for different types of pathology and trauma
4. Assess types of evidence and demonstrate an understanding of the legal process with regards to the presentation of forensic evidence.

**III. Course Outline:**

- A. Introduction to forensic anthropology. Definitions, the history forensic anthropology. The role of the anthropologist in death investigations.
- B. Evidence and the Judicial System: The Medico-Legal System. Types of Evidence. Testifying and presenting forensic evidence.
- C. Human Osteology: The human skeletal system, including the axial skeleton and the appendicular skeleton. Osteometry and craniometry.

D. The Identification Process: Distinguishing between human vs. nonhuman remains. Estimating sex, age, ancestry and stature. Identifying occupation stress and other markers.

E. Pathology and Trauma: Types of trauma. Trauma vs. animal activity and trauma vs. medical procedures. Evidence of disease.

F. Forensic Archaeology and Recovery. Locating remains. Processing crime scenes and recovering remains.

G. Forensic Taphonomy: Determining interval since death. Transformational processes. Mechanisms of transport.

H. Conclusions: Apply anthropological skills in the real world. The role of forensic anthropologists. Career options.

#### IV. **Course Assignments:**

##### A. Reading Assignments

1. Textbook readings
2. Supplemental readings distributed to the class or placed on hold in the library
3. Online reading assignments related to the study of specific cultural groups

##### B. Projects, Activities, and other Assignments

1. Assigned class discussions
2. Group discussions, followed by a summary presentation to the class
3. Lab assignments
4. Student presentations of lab assignments and research findings
5. Film viewing and content analysis

##### C. Writing Assignments

1. Term project developing and responding to a hypothetical crime scene.

#### V. **Methods of Evaluation/Assessment:**

- A. Essay exam
- B. Lab exam, basics of osteology and identifying remains
- C. Research project
- D. Labs

#### VI. **Methods of Instruction:**

- A. Lecture
- B. Laboratory
- C. Discussion
- D. Demonstration
- E. Audiovisual
- F. Computer Assisted Instruction

#### VII. **Textbooks:**

##### Recommended

1. Steven N. Byers *Introduction to Forensic Anthropology* 1st Edition, Allyn and Bacon, 2002 ISBN: Boston

##### Supplemental

## **VIII. Supplies:**

CID 3205