



**Dr. Nancy E. Todd**

OFFICE: 10 Sachem St., 010

OFFICE HOURS:

M: 11:30-12:30 PM

**SUMMER 2018**

Mon, Wed, Fri. 9:15-11:30 AM

Email: [Nancy.Todd@mville.edu](mailto:Nancy.Todd@mville.edu)

**Syllabus is subject to change by Instructor**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is a hands-on introduction to forensic anthropology, using laboratory training, lectures, and case studies. Introduction to basic skeletal anatomy and to the use of recovered skeletal materials to assess a deceased individual's age, sex, height, ancestry, time of death, bone trauma, and disease. Additional topics include techniques for recovering human skeletal remains, reconstruction of faces, genetic identification, and medicolegal contexts of forensic anthropology. 1 Credit. Session B: July 2-August 3.

**CLASS TEXTS:**

Byers, Steven. 2010. *Introduction to Forensic Anthropology* (4th Edition). Prentice Hall. # ISBN-10: 0205790127 | ISBN-13: 978-0205790128

Nafte, Myriam. 2016. *Flesh and Bone: An Introduction to Forensic Anthropology*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Carolina Academic Press. # ISBN-10: 1594603006. # ISBN-13: 978-1594603006.

Ethier, Bryan. 2009. *True Crime: Connecticut*. Stackpole Books. # ISBN-10: 0811735613. # ISBN-13: 978-0811735612.

**OPTIONAL**

Bass, William M. 2005. *Human Osteology: A Laboratory and Field Manual* [Spiral-bound] (5<sup>th</sup> Edition). Missouri Archaeological Society. # ISBN-10: 0943414962. # ISBN-13: 978-0943414966.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Reading: Chapters from the text must be read before coming to the scheduled lecture covering that material. There may also be additional handouts or reading assignments to accompany the reading and lecture material.

Attendance and Class Participation: Students are required to attend all class sessions each week. Good attendance is required and will be noted. Students are expected to answer questions and offer discussion when appropriate.

Reports and bone quizzes: There will be several quizzes and 3 projects: odontology, fingerprinting and facial reconstruction.

Final Exam: group exam

**LAB SAFETY:** All students working in the laboratory must abide by Yale University's lab safety rules and conduct.

**CANVAS:** Yale University uses CANVAS as its electronic classroom. Assignments and communication will be done through CANVAS.

- **CLASS CONDUCT:** Students are expected to do their own work on the exams, written work and lab reports. All students must read, print and sign the Honor Code Contract. **Even though the lab projects will be done in teams or groups, each student is responsible for his/her own write-up of the project. Copying or plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the class.**
- **PLAGARISM AND OTHER ACADEMIC DISHONESTY** will result in an immediate **failing grade** for the class. All students must read, print and sign the Honor Code Contract, and return to the Dr. Todd at the end of the first week of class.
- **THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP EXAMS OR LABS.** If you are going to miss a lecture or lab exam, you must contact Dr. Todd or the lab instructor **before** the exam or lab takes place, and you must produce a written excuse from the dean's office. If you miss an exam or lab and **do not** contact the professor beforehand, you will receive a **zero (0)** for that exam or lab exercise.
- **NO LATE WORK will be accepted.**
- **Grades will not be changed, and will not be contested** unless there is an obvious mathematical or clerical error. Grade breakdown is listed in the syllabus and expectations will be clearly outlined on all work.
- This course is INTENSIVE. There are many topics, assignments, terms and much memorization. Students should keep up with the schedule and make extra time for studying each week. Students are expected to read the book chapters on their own time. PPT lectures will be posted but students are expected to be capable of taking notes efficiently from the lectures.
- **Cell phones, blackberries, iphones and all other small, handheld cellular devices are not permitted in class or lab.** These devices should be turned OFF during lecture and lab times, if they ring they will be confiscated until class is over. Students are **NOT** to leave lab to talk on the phone or send text messages.
- Laptops will be allowed to take notes and to use during the class exercises.

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|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-----|
| <b>GRADED MATERIAL:</b> | Quizzes                            | 30% |
|                         | Final exam                         | 25% |
|                         | Odontology Project                 | 10% |
|                         | Ossuary Project                    | 10% |
|                         | Facial Reconstruction Project      | 15% |
|                         | Class attendance and participation | 10% |

### **COURSE PROFICIENCIES:**

Students will be able to use the scientific method to generate or evaluate a testable hypothesis. They will have the opportunity to interpret quantitative or qualitative data and use deductive reasoning to draw and/or evaluate conclusions relevant to a hypothesis.

Students will also demonstrate the ability to write clearly and with grammatical accuracy in English, engage critically with primary and secondary sources, and quote, paraphrase and cite this material ethically and correctly and employ the vocabulary, concepts and compositional techniques appropriate to the academic discipline.

### **GRADE SCALE:**

**Grades will be assessed according to the following grade scale. Grades will not be curved.**

| Points  | Letter Grade | Points  | Letter Grade |
|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|
| 93-100  | A            | 77-79.9 | C+           |
| 90-92.9 | A-           | 73-76.9 | C            |
| 87-89.9 | B+           | 70-72.9 | C-           |
| 83-86.9 | B            | 60-69.9 | D            |
| 80-82.9 | B-           | 0-59.9  | F            |

### **LECTURE SCHEDULE**

True Crime in CT: *Famous local cases – read along through the course*

***Schedule is subject to change by instructor***

| <b><u>Class Schedule</u></b>    | <b><u>Topics</u></b>   | <b><u>Reading</u></b>                                     |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| <b><u>WEEK 1:</u></b><br>Monday | Introduction<br>Skeletal terminology and bone structure                | Byers, Chap. 1, Chap. 2<br>(p. 46-48)<br>Nafte, Chap. 1-2 |
| Wednesday                       | Skull: Osteology<br>Age, Sex, Pathology                                | Byers, Chap. 2, 7-9 17-18<br>Nafte, Chap. 4-5             |
| Friday                          | Skull: Ancestry<br><i>Make Tooth Casts</i>                             | Byers, Chap. . 2, 7-9 17-18<br>Nafte, Chap. 4-5           |
| <b><u>WEEK 2:</u></b><br>Monday | Odontology<br><i>Quiz #1: History, Skeletal and Dental Terminology</i> | Byers, Chap. 2, 9, 18 (p. 364-371)<br>Nafte, Chap. 5      |
| Wednesday                       | Appendicular Skeleton: Osteology<br>Age, Sex, Ancestry                 | Byers, Chap. 2. 7-10<br>Nafte, Chap. 4                    |
| Friday                          | Facial reconstruction Project  | Byer, Chap. 17<br>Nafte, Chap. 7<br>Handouts              |

|                          |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| <u>WEEK 3:</u><br>Monday | Facial reconstruction Project<br><i>Practical Quiz #2: Skull</i>   | Byer, Chap. 17<br>Nafte, Chap. 7<br>Handouts     |
| Wednesday                | Appendicular Skeleton: Osteology<br>Age, Sex, Ancestry, mass grave analysis<br><i>Odontology Lab Report Due</i>  | Byers, Chap. 2. 7-10<br>Nafte, Chap. 4           |
| Friday                   | <i>Ossuary exercise</i>  |  |
| <u>WEEK 4:</u><br>Monday | <b>FIELD TRIP TO HENRY LEE INSTITUTE</b><br>Forensic Significance: Non-human bones<br>and preservation, Post-mortem changes to<br>bone - REVIEW ON YOUR OWN<br><i>Facial Reconstruction Lab Report Due</i> | Byers, Chap. 3-4, 16                             |
| Wednesday                | Bone blunt and sharp force trauma, Fire<br><i>Practical Quiz #3: Skeleton</i>  | Byers, Chap. 11-14, 16<br>Nafte, Chap. 6         |
| Friday                   | Bone blunt and sharp force trauma<br>Chain of Custody, recovery methods  | Byers, Chap. 3-6, 11-14, 16<br>Nafte, Chap. 3, 6 |
| <u>WEEK 5:</u><br>Monday | <b>FINAL EXAM Part I</b><br><i>Ossuary Exercise Due</i>  |  |
| Wednesday                | <b>FINAL EXAM Part II</b>  |  |
| Friday                   | Final Exam Due   |  |