

# ANTHROPOLOGY 352 – On-Line Lecture & Laboratory INTRODUCTION TO MODERN HUMAN OSTEOLOGY

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*INSTRUCTOR:* Dr. Ranald Donaldson

## Course Description and Objectives

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, and the closure of the University of Victoria to most face-to-face classes, the presentation of this course has been altered for September to December, 2021.

It is not possible to provide a 'hands-on' osteology laboratory experience because of public health social-distancing requirements. Students will be required to purchase a plastic model skeleton or hemi-skeleton for study purposes. There is no assigned textbook. The Instructor will provide all required course notes on Brightspace in a pdf PowerPoint format.

Anthropology 352 is an intensive introduction to the study of modern human osteology through both web-based lectures and web-based laboratory studies. Topics will include: primary morphology of the entire human skeleton; human variation; relevant musculoskeletal anatomy, physiology, and histology. Plastic human bone models will be studied. This course provides a foundation for advanced osteology courses such as bioarchaeology, forensic osteology, and palaeoanthropology. This course is a prerequisite to the Anthropology 452 series of courses such as Bioarchaeology, Introduction to Human Forensic Osteology, and Selected Topics in Human Skeletal Disease.

This course builds upon the osteology foundation presented in Anthropology 250. EPHE 141 (University of Victoria) is also an acceptable pre-requisite for this course. Transfer courses in introductory physical anthropology and/or anatomy from other colleges or universities may be acceptable pre-requisites – please contact the instructor prior to the beginning of the course to discuss this. An introductory university or college level biology course will also prove useful. Assessment of the lecture and laboratory portions of the course will be by way of short answer and multiple-choice questions.

## Skills Development

Through regular review of human bone models, students will become familiar with the detailed macroscopic identification of the bones of the human skeleton, and with the requisite descriptive and reporting skills. The functional anatomy of the skeleton and an appreciation for its variation will be emphasized, particularly as it may apply to biological anthropology, evolution, and musculoskeletal action. Students will acquire a large descriptive and functional osteology vocabulary.