

ANTH 352

Human Osteology

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Alison Murray

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

In this course, the primary objective is to examine the anatomy and functioning of the human musculoskeletal system as a foundation for further studies in areas such as bioarchaeology, forensic anthropology, paleopathology, and paleoanthropology, among others. Students will learn to identify the elements of the human skeleton and major skeletal landmarks, skeletal muscle anatomy, skeletal growth and development, and basic skeletal biology and histology. The ethical considerations of studying human remains will be a consistent theme. The lecture component will focus predominantly on the biological, developmental, and functional components of the musculoskeletal system, while weekly lab sessions will enable students to engage in hands-on activities aimed at identification of the skeletal structures and an appreciation for human skeletal variation.

Skills Development

Student will have the opportunity to develop skills relating to the handling and identification of human skeletal remains. The keeping of lab notebooks will emphasize the development of observational skills. Written exams and bell-ringer format tests will be the primary assessment methods.

NOTE: Mandatory lab sessions are part of this course and must be enrolled in separately.