

**San José State University**  
**Social Sciences/Anthropology**  
**ANTH156, Bioarchaeology, Section 1, Fall 2014**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Elizabeth Weiss
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	TuTh 1045 – 1145 (or by appointment)
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	TuTh 1330 – 1445
<b>Classroom:</b>	WSQ004

### **Course Description**

Bioarchaeology is the study of human skeletal remains from archaeological sites to aid in reconstructing the biology and culture of past populations. This course is an overview of bioarchaeological theory, methods, and applications with an emphasis the most common methods and their complications. This class will focus on current theoretical and methodological issues in bioarchaeology. There will be an emphasis on the potential of skeletal analyses for the uncovering disease and trauma, subsistence patterns as well as biological relatedness, physical activity and the diverse reactions to stressors. Hands-on labs will be integrated into the regular class sessions.

### **Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives**

Anth 156 has several specific learning objectives. By the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Think critically about issues regarding skeletal material in the archaeological record;
- Recognize a testable hypothesis;
- Recognize the difficulties in reconstructing past lifestyles;
- Understanding methodologies used in interpreting skeletal remains;
- Understand complexities of separating causes and correlations;
- Understand the biology and culture of human diversity as seen in skeletal materials.

## Required Texts/Readings

The Archaeology of Human Bones 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. 2010. Routledge. Simon Mays. ISBN-10: **0415480914** | ISBN-13: **978-0415480918**

## Recommended Readings

Old Bones: A Brief Introduction to Bioarchaeology. 2012. Elizabeth Weiss. Sold on Amazon.com for 2.99 as a Kindle ebook; you do not need a Kindle to download the book.

**Classroom Protocol:** Please respect your neighbors & refrain from newspaper reading; using electronics; utilizing computers for anything other than taking notes. Any behavior deemed disruptive to the instructor or other students may result in being asked to leave the classroom or being referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University.

## Assignments and Grading Policy

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

## Grading

Your grade will be based on four tests: three quizzes and a final.

Quizzes	3 X 25	75%
Final		<u>25%</u>
	TOTAL	100%

- There will be extra credit opportunities.
- Read the assignments before class and ask questions when something is unclear.
- I will not answer questions regarding study guides, exams or grades in emails.
- The final will be **comprehensive** and will be given at the **scheduled exam time**.

Grading is as followed:

A	B	C	D	F
97% - 100% = A+	87-89% = B+	77-79% = C+	67-69% = D+	59% and Below = F
91-96% = A	81-86% = B	71-76% = C	61-66% = D	
90% = A-	80% = B-	70% = C-	60% = D-	

### Make-up Work

If you know in advance that you should be unable to attend an exam, it is your responsibility to contact me immediately by either e-mailing or telephoning me, leaving a message for me at the main department office, or coming by during my office hours. Only students with a valid documented excuse will be able to take a make-up exam.

### Taking tests for my classes:

- 1) Make sure to read each question carefully.
- 2) Make sure to arrive on time.
- 3) Put everything except your writing tools away.
- 4) Once I have handed out the first test and until the last test is turned in, there will be no talking permitted.
- 5) Always keep your eyes on your own papers.
- 6) Spelling counts. Misspelled answers will be marked as incorrect.
- 7) During the test, you can ask me questions if you need clarification on the question. To do this, please raise your hand and I will come over to you. If you have a question about the answer or about the meaning of a word that you should know (e.g., it is in your reading or I have used it in class), I will not answer the question.
- 8) Once you are finished, turn in your test and then you are free to leave.
- 9) Tests will be passed out the next class period and then we will review the answers. If you miss class, make sure to pick up the test the subsequent class period or during office hours.

### ELECTRONICS

No electronics (which includes cell phones and laptops) will be allowed out in class. Before class begins, you must turn off all electronics and put them out of sight. Rare exceptions may be made if the student has signed up with the Accessible Education Center (EAC), comes to see me regarding the issue, and has specific recommendation from the EAC for laptop use rather than a note-taker or other accommodation. Discussions regarding student accommodations must be done in my office during office hours or at a scheduled appointment time.

## Departmental Goals

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Learn about the goals of the anthropology department and how it can benefit your education.

**Goals**   <http://www.sjsu.edu/anthropology/departementinfo/goals/index.html>

### Credit Hours

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

## University Policies

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Here are some of the basic university policies that students must follow.

### Dropping and Adding

Find the procedures and deadlines for adding and dropping classes.

**Catalog Policies**   <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>.

**Add/drop deadlines**   [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/)

**Late Drop Policy**   <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>

### Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

All students must obtain the instructor's permission if they wish to record lectures or distribute materials from the class.

**University Policy S12-7**   <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>

### Academic integrity

Learn about the importance of academic honesty and the consequences if it is violated.

**University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2**   <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf>

**Student Conduct and Ethical Development website**   <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>

### Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

Here are guidelines to request any course adaptations or accommodations you might need.

**Presidential Directive 97-03**   [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf)

**Accessible Education Center**   <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec>

## Resources

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The university provides resources that can help you succeed academically. Just look here.

**Academic Success Center**   <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/>

**Peer Connections website**   <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu>

**Writing Center website**   <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>

**Counseling Services website**   <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>

## ANTH156 / Bioarchaeology, Fall 2014, Course Schedule

*List the agenda for the semester including when and where the final exam will be held. Indicate the schedule is subject to change with fair notice and how the notice will be made available.*

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/26 8/28	Introduction to Course; History of Bioarchaeology Bone biology; Chpt. 1
2	9/2 9/4	Nature of Assemblage; Chpt. 2 Sex and Age Determination; Chpt. 3
3	9/9 9/11	Reconstructing Activities: Cross-sectional Data; Chpt. 5: 137-151 Reconstructing Activities: Non-metric Traits; Chpt. 6: 170-175
4	9/16 9/18	Reconstructing Activities: Joint Disease; Chpt. 7: 185-189 Reconstructing Activities, Stress Fractures; Chpt. 9: 258-263
5	9/23 9/25	Quiz 1 Review Quiz 1
6	9/30 10/2	Osteological Paradox and Disease; Chpt. 7: 189-200 Health & Disease: General Indicators of Stress: Stature, Harris Lines, Bone Mass; Chpt. 5: 126-137
7	10/7 10/9	Health & Disease: Rickets and Anemia; Chpt. 7: 184-185, 206-213 Health & Disease: Infectious Disease; Chpt. 7: 179-182, 213- 216
8	10/14 10/16	Health & Disease: Syphilis and other specific infectious diseases; Chpt. 7: 199-206; Health & Disease: Miscellaneous Diseases; Chpt. 7: 178-179, 182-184
9	10/21 10/23	Health & Disease: Dental Disease; Chpt. 8: 217-234 Quiz 2 Review
10	10/28 10/30	Quiz 2 Trauma, Accidental vs. Violence; Chpt. 9: 236-257
11	11/4 11/6	Miscellaneous Trauma: Cannibalism and Surgery Diet: Occlusal Wear and Isotopes; Chpt. 3: 71-76; Chpt. 10
12	11/11 11/13	No Class Environmental Impacts on the Crania; Chpt. 4: 91-101
13	11/18 11/20	Biological Relatedness and the Skeleton; Chpt. 4: 101-125; Chpt. 6: 153-170 Quiz 3 Review
14	11/25 11/27	Quiz 3 No Class
15	12/2 12/4	aDNA; Chpt. 11 Ethics; Chpt. 13
16	12/9	Final Review
Final Exam	12/17	Wednesday at 1215-1430

