

**San José State University**  
**Social Sciences/Anthropology**  
**ANTH 156, Bioarchaeology, Section 1, Fall 2016**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Elizabeth Weiss
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	TR 1045 – 1145 (or by appointment)
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	TR 0900 – 1015
<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 Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

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**

**Textbook**

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

Book is available at the University bookstore.

## Other Readings

Additional readings, which will be provided to students free of charge, may be assigned throughout the semester.

## Course Requirements, Assignments, and Grades

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		25%
	TOTAL	100%

- There will be extra credit opportunities, which will be based on preparedness for the review sessions.
- Read the assignments before class and ask questions when something is unclear.
- Make sure to come to class; in class activities are essential to preparation for quizzes and the final.
- 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.

### **Classroom Protocol**

I consider my students adults. Attendance is optional, but in class activities are essential to preparation for quizzes and the final. When one attends lecture, one should arrive on time, behave appropriately, stay until the end of class, and pay attention. If one feels that they conduct themselves in this manner (for whatever reason), then one should not attend class. 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.

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.

### **University Policies**

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

## **ANTH156 / Bioarchaeology, Fall 2016, Course Schedule**

*This schedule is subject to change with fair notice; any changes will be announced in class.*

### **Course Schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
1	8/25	Introduction to Course; History of Bioarchaeology
2	8/30	Bone biology; Chpt. 1
2	9/1	Nature of Assemblage; Chpt. 2
3	9/6	Nature of Assemblage; Chpt. 2
3	9/8	Sex and Age Determination; Chpt. 3
4	9/13	Sex and Age Determination; Chpt. 3
4	9/15	Quiz 1 Review
5	9/20	<b>Quiz 1</b>
5	9/22	Metric Variation in the Skull; Chpt. 4
6	9/27	Metric Variation in the Skull; Chpt. 4
6	9/29	Metric Variation in the Post-cranial Skeleton; Chpt. 5

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
7	10/4	Metric Variation in the Post-cranial Skeleton; Chpt. 5
7	10/6	Non-metric Variation; Chpt. 6
8	10/11	Non-metric Variation; Chpt. 6
8	10/13	Quiz 2 Review
9	10/18	<b>Quiz 2</b>
9	10/20	Bone Disease; Chpt. 7
10	10/25	Bone Disease; Chpt. 7
10	10/27	Dental Disease; Chpt. 8
11	11/1	Dental Disease; Chpt. 8
11	11/3	Traces of Injury on the Skeleton; Chpt. 9
12	11/8	Traces of Injury on the Skeleton; Chpt. 9
12	11/10	Miscellaneous Trauma: Cannibalism and Surgery
13	11/15	Quiz 3 Review
13	11/17	<b>Quiz 3</b>
14	11/22	Stable Isotope Analyses; Chpt. 10
14	11/24	THANKSGIVING - NO CLASS
15	11/29	Study of DNA from Skeletal Remains; Chpt. 11
15	12/1	Cremated Remains; Chpt. 12
16	12/6	Ethics; Chpt. 13
16	12/8	<b>Review for the Final</b>
Final Exam	12/16, Friday	WSQ 004, 0715-930