



Forensic Anthropology

Forensic anthropology is burgeoning and so is student awareness of the discipline. A minor in forensic anthropology complements any existing major. Majors in criminal justice and anthropology will certainly benefit from the coursework and experience this minor offers.

The minor will accommodate those with an interest in law enforcement, students who intend to work as crime scene technicians, and students who are planning to pursue post-graduate education in legal or forensic science fields. The minor will also prepare students for graduate work specifically in forensic anthropology or another specialization in bioanthropology.

Forensic anthropology is the application of bioanthropology to the legal system and humanitarian matters. Forensic anthropologists apply standard scientific techniques to locate and recover suspicious remains, then work to evaluate the age, sex, ancestry, stature, and other individualizing characteristics of a decedent from the skeleton. Forensic anthropology students will gain firsthand experience in the basics of forensic anthropology and put that knowledge to work with actual human remains in a laboratory setting. The focus is on the discovery, recovery, and interpretation of material evidence, emphasizing the significance of context.

The application of these findings as evidence in legal cases is pertinent to the curriculum. The required courses build on the traditional knowledge of anthropology and criminal justice. Students are also provided with a range of relevant options in criminal justice and anthropology to generate greater intellectual and applied breadth and also to situate forensic anthropology in a broader disciplinary context.

TOTAL CREDITS: 24

Track 1 (Criminal Justice Majors)

Designed for students majoring in criminal justice

Core Forensic Anthropology Courses (12)

Students may take either the criminal justice or anthropology courses listed below:

- CJ 322 or ANTH 322 Forensic Anthropology (4)
- CJ 328 or ANTH 328 Forensic Osteology (4)
- CJ 443 or ANTH 443 Advanced Forensic Anthropology (4)

Choose three of the following courses (12):

- ANTH 214 Physical Anthropology (4)
- ANTH 215 Archaeology (4)



A FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY MINOR

opens doors to fieldwork opportunities, as well as participation in law enforcement practices and forensic lab experiences.

Forensic anthropology skills are also in demand in educational settings, museums, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), law enforcement agencies, medical examiner and coroner offices, private companies, or as part of federal level response teams such as a Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT).

PROFESSORS: Vivian Djokotoe • Terry Gingerich

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS: Scott Tighe • Misty Weitzel

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS: Miyuki Arimoto • Mari Sakiyama • Taryn VanderPyl • Omar Melchor-Ayala



- ANTH 216 Cultural Anthropology (4)
- ANTH 311 Human Evolution (4)
- ANTH 313 North American Prehistory (4)
- ANTH 324 Anthropological Theory (4)
- ANTH 392 Applied Anthropology (4)
- ANTH 432 Human Rights (4)
- CJ 321 Principles of Forensic Investigation (4)
- CJ 333 or ANTH 333 Forensic DNA Analysis (4)
- CJ 372 or ANTH 372 Social Constructions of Race (4)
- PSY 336 Intro to Forensic Psychology (4)

Track 2 (Anthropology Majors)

Designed for students majoring in anthropology

Core Forensic Anthropology Courses (12)

Students may take either the criminal justice or anthropology courses listed below:

- CJ 322 or ANTH 322 Forensic Anthropology (4)
- CJ 328 or ANTH 328 Forensic Osteology (4)
- CJ 443 or ANTH 443 Advanced Forensic Anthropology (4)

Choose three of the following courses (12):

- ANTH 311 Human Evolution (4)
- ANTH 313 North American Prehistory (4)
- ANTH 392 Applied Anthropology (4)
- ANTH 432 Human Rights (4)
- CJ 219 Ethics and Leadership in Criminal Justice (4)
- CJ 321 Principles of Forensic Investigation (4)
- CJ 333 or ANTH 333 Forensic DNA Analysis (4)
- CJ 372 or ANTH 372 Social Constructions of Race (4)
- CJ 427 Quantitative Methods in Criminal Justice (4)
- PSY 336 Intro to Forensic Psychology (4)

Track 3

Designed for students majoring in areas other than criminal justice or anthropology

Core Forensic Anthropology Courses (12)

Students may take either the criminal justice or anthropology courses listed below:

- CJ 322 or ANTH 322 Forensic Anthropology (4)
- CJ 328 or ANTH 328 Forensic Osteology (4)
- CJ 443 or ANTH 443 Advanced Forensic Anthropology (4)

Choose three of the following courses (12):

- ANTH 214 Physical Anthropology (4)
- ANTH 215 Archaeology (4)
- ANTH 216 Cultural Anthropology (4)
- ANTH 311 Human Evolution (4)
- ANTH 313 North American Prehistory (4)
- ANTH 324 Anthropological Theory (4)
- ANTH 392 Applied Anthropology (4)
- ANTH 432 Human Rights (4)
- CJ 213 Introduction to Criminal Justice (4)
- CJ 219 Ethics and Leadership in Criminal Justice (4)
- CJ 321 Principles of Forensic Investigation (4)
- CJ 327 Research Methods in Criminal Justice (4)
- CJ 333 or ANTH 333 Forensic DNA Analysis (4)
- CJ 372 or ANTH 372 Social Constructions of Race (4)
- CJ 427 Quantitative Methods in Criminal Justice (4)
- PSY 336 Intro to Forensic Psychology (4)

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