

**Anthropology 430**  
**Zooarchaeology**

Department of Anthropology  
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
Spring 2012

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Office hours: WRF 11-12 or by appointment  
Class time: TuTh 12:30-1:45

**Course Description:** The goal of this course is to introduce students to the methods and theories of zooarchaeology, the archaeology of animal remains. We will discuss zooarchaeological methods of recovery and identification, and we will discuss the interpretation of zooarchaeological assemblages. There is a significant lab component in this course: the student will learn to identify the remains of animals commonly found on archaeological sites in Illinois using a comparative collection. The student will be tested on bone identification with and without a comparative collection. ANTH 360B is a prerequisite because the student should know the human skeleton *before* taking this course. Generally, Tuesdays will be lecture days, while Thursdays will be lab days.

**Course texts:** There is one required text for this course, which is available at Textbook Rental. It is:

*Zooarchaeology* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition), by Elizabeth J. Reitz and Elizabeth S. Wing

Additional readings may be assigned as necessary.

**Course requirements:** You are expected to read assigned readings, attend class, ask questions, and participate in class discussions. *You are expected to spend time outside of class in the lab studying and drawing the bones.* There will be four bone quizzes and a final bone exam. You will write five essays and a final take home essay exam. The final grade will be broken down as follows:

Class attendance: 5% (5 points)  
Essays: 25% (25 points)  
Final take home essay exam: 15% (15 points)  
Bone quizzes: 20% (20 points)  
Final bone exam: 20% (20 points)  
Skeletal drawings: 15% (15 points)

Class attendance: I want you present in body and spirit, so keep up with the readings and be ready to talk about them. Have the readings for each day read *before* class, take notes, and jot

down any questions you may have. Absences may be excused with a doctor's note. Each unexcused absence will result in the deduction of one point from your attendance grade. *If you miss four class periods in a row, I reserve the right to notify the dean of students and withdraw you from the course. However, if you want to withdraw from the course, please make sure you do so by Week 13.*

Essays: The five essays are each worth 5 points. Each is to be 2-3 pages, typed with normal fonts (size 12) and double-spaced with one-inch margins. These essays will be based on class readings and discussions; an assignment sheet for each will be handed out in class. Your essay should have proper grammar, spelling, sentence structure, organization, etc. *If you need help bring me a typed draft of your essay during my office hours. If your essay is not handed in on time, one point (20%) will be deducted for each day it is late.*

Final take home exam: The final take home exam will consist of three essays based on class readings and discussions; each essay will be 2-3 pages and worth five points. This exam will be typed with normal fonts (size 12) and double-spaced with one-inch margins. Your exam essays should have proper grammar, spelling, sentence structure, organization, etc. The take home exam will be handed out during the last week of class, and will be due at the time of the final bone exam. *If your exam is not handed in on time, three points (20%) will be deducted for each day it is late.*

Bone quizzes: There will be four in-class bone quizzes; each will be worth 5 points. These quizzes will consist of bone identification (to species, element, side, etc.). Please bring a pencil and a red pen on quiz days. Please note that quizzes will be taken on Thursdays at the start of class and will take approximately 20 minutes. *Students arriving late for a quiz will **not** be given extra time, so be punctual. Missed quizzes may be taken with a doctor's note, but you must notify me of your illness by phone or e-mail **on the day** of the missed quiz.* Please note that if you are allowed to make up a missed quiz, you will not be given the same quiz that was given in class.

Final bone exam: The final bone exam will be taken during finals week; it is worth 20 points. The final bone exam will be cumulative: that is, it will cover bones of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Please bring a pencil and red pen to the final bone exam. *Students arriving more than 20 minutes late for the exam will **not** be allowed to take the exam. Missed exams may be taken with a doctor's note, but you must notify me of your illness by phone or email **on the day** of the missed exam.* Please note that if you are allowed to make up a missed exam, you will not be given the same exam that was given in class.

Skeletal drawings: Drawing bones and making note of their distinctive landmarks will help you learn them. Please make your drawings on blank white paper or graph paper with pencil and focus on major elements of common taxa. Be sure to label the element and taxon (both Latin and common names), and label any landmarks that will help you identify the element. Also please indicate the scale of your drawings (1:1 is preferred). Drawings will be graded on *quantity* and *quality* rather than artistic ability; I expect you to draw common elements of different species from all major taxonomic classes (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish). You should **not** trace or otherwise copy your drawings from a bone manual such as those by Gilbert or

Oleson: **if you copy or trace someone else's drawing without citing the appropriate reference, this is an act of plagiarism.** You should assemble your drawings in an orderly fashion in a folder or notebook; they are due to me at the time of the final exam. If they are late, you will lose three points (20%) for each day they are late.

**NOTE: 75 minutes per week in the lab is not enough time to learn (and draw) these bones; therefore, students are expected to spend additional time in the lab every week outside of class. At least two hours outside of class per week is recommended.** Open lab hours will be posted at the entrance to the lab.

Final course grades: 100-90% = A, 89-80% = B, 79-70% = C, 69-60% = D, <60% = F.

**Course policies:** Students with disabilities will be happily accommodated, but students must show me their ID CARD from Disability Support Services and make all arrangements through DSS. Bone exams must be taken in the lab.

*Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated.* As stated in the SIUE Student Academic Code, the minimum penalty for academic misconduct beyond failure for an assignment and/or for a course is disciplinary probation. Falsifying attendance records is considered cheating. **Students caught cheating, plagiarizing, copying bone drawings, or falsifying attendance sheets will receive an F for the course and will be reported to the offices of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the Provost of the University.**

**Classroom behavior:** Punctuality is preferred, but I would rather you came late to class than not at all. If you arrive late, please seat yourself quietly. ***There is NO eating or drinking (except for water) in the lab.*** Laughing at my jokes is good, participating in class discussions is great, but please refrain from unnecessary private conversations. And please refrain from sleeping!

Week	Lecture	Lab	Read
1/10-12	What is zooarchaeology?	Large mammals	R&W ch. 1
1/17-19	Taxonomy & anatomy	Medium-small mammals	R&W appendices 1-2
1/24-26	Zooarchaeology history & theory <b>ESSAY #1 DUE TUESDAY</b>	Medium-small mammals	R&W ch. 2
1/31-2/2	Biology	Small-very small mammals	R&W ch. 3
2/7-9	Ecology	<b>BONE QUIZ #1: Mammals</b>	R&W ch. 4
2/14-16	Taphonomy and recovery <b>ESSAY #2 DUE TUESDAY</b>	Birds	R&W ch. 5

2/21-23	Primary data <b>ESSAY #3 DUE TUESDAY</b>	Birds	R&W ch. 6
2/28-3/1	Secondary data	<b>BONE QUIZ #2:</b> Birds	R&W ch. 7
3/6-8	Spring break!	Lab closed!	Have fun!
3/13-15	Hunting and fishing <b>ESSAY #4 DUE TUESDAY</b>	Reptiles and amphibians	R&W ch. 8
3/20-22	Animal domestication <b>ESSAY #5 DUE TUESDAY</b>	<b>BONE QUIZ #3:</b> Reptiles and amphibians	R&W ch. 9
3/27-29	Environmental reconstruction	Fish	R&W ch. 10
4/3-5	The future of zooarchaeology	Fish	R&W ch. 11
4/10-12	Making and maintaining a comparative collection	Fish	R&W appendix 3
4/17-19	Measuring/describing/recording bones	<b>BONE QUIZ #4:</b> Fish	R&W appendix 4
4/24-26	Pathologies	Review	
Tuesday, May 1	TAKE HOME FINAL DUE 12:00 pm	SKELETAL DRAWINGS DUE 12:00 pm <b>FINAL BONE EXAM</b> 12:00-1:40 pm	

ANTHROPOLOGY 430  
STUDENT DATA SHEET

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student email: \_\_\_\_\_

Year in school (freshman, sophomore, etc): \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list other biological anthropology/archaeology/anatomy courses taken:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Why are you taking this course? (Be honest; it's OK). \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Anything else you want me to know or would like to ask me? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please sign and return this sheet by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of classes to indicate that you have received and read this syllabus. If you do not return the sheet, I will assume you wish to drop the course.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_