

Human Remains and Environmental Evidence

Module Code:	ARC5012-B
Academic Year:	2018-19
Credit Rating:	20
School:	School of Archaeological and Forensic Sciences
Subject Area:	Archaeology
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 5
Module Leader:	Dr Jo Buckberry

Additional Tutors:

Dr Julie Bond, Dr Gillian Thompson, Mr Robert Janaway, Dr Andrew Wilson, Dr Hannah Koon

Pre-requisites:

Co-requisites:

Contact Hours

Type	Hours
Lectures	18
Tutorials	6
Laboratory	27
Directed Study	149

Availability Periods

Occurrence	Location/Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 2 (Feb - May)

Module Aims

To provide an overview of the analysis of human, faunal, pollen and insect remains within a forensic context and to acquire basic skills in the identification of such remains.

Outline Syllabus

Lectures: Introduction; Bone structure and development; Sex assessment of human skeletons; Adult age estimation of human skeletons; Sub-adult age estimation of human

skeletons; Animal bone identification (anatomy and taphonomy); Faunal bone modification (butchery, bone working, burning and diagenesis); Identification of insect remains (anatomy, influence of microclimate and developmental stages); Identification and interpretation of pollen profiles in a criminal justice context; applications and case studies.

Laboratories: Human bone identification 1; Human bone identification 2; Sex assessment of human skeletons; Adult age estimation of human skeletons; Sub-adult age estimation of human skeletons; Identification of faunal remains; Bone modification in faunal remains (butchery, breakage, bone weathering); Insect remains identification;

Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to...

- 1 Assess critically the theoretical and practical issues surrounding the preservation, recovery, analysis and interpretation of biological materials that are commonly encountered within forensic contexts.
- 2 Diagnose human remains and recognise common pollen, insect and faunal remains recovered from forensic scenes. This will include identification to element of a selection of more robust and common remains from selected human and environmental assemblages.
- 3 Integrate evidence drawn from diverse sources to assess forensic contexts.
- 4 Defend conclusions based on biological data.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Context information and the foundations of diagnostic and identification skills for biological remains will be delivered in lectures. The appreciation of ecofactual evidence will be taught and trained in practical sessions. During Directed Study hours students are expected to undertake reading to consolidate and expand on the content of formal taught sessions; research and prepare for assessments and undertake specific elements of reading as directed. Assessment forms a portfolio of work (3 submissions) carried out during and after practical classes and will probe identification and diagnostic skills. Informal feedback is provided during practical classes.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting	Final Assess'
Summative	Coursework	Portfolio of Practical Work	800 word equivalent	20%	No
Summative	Coursework	Portfolio of practical work	1200 word equivalent	30%	No

Summative	Coursework	Portfolio of practical work	2000 word equivalent	50%	Yes
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Legacy Code (if applicable)

AR-4309D

Reading List

To view Reading List, please go to [rebus:list](#).