

Analysis of Human Remains

Module Code:	ARC7008-B
Academic Year:	2018-19
Credit Rating:	20
School:	School of Archaeological and Forensic Sciences
Subject Area:	Archaeology
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 7 (Masters)

Pre-requisites:

Co-requisites:

Contact Hours

Type	Hours
Lectures	11
Seminar	4
Laboratory	36
Directed Study	149

Availability Periods

Occurrence	Location/Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 1 (Sep - Jan)

Module Aims

To provide the student with an understanding of the analysis of human skeletal remains by appreciating theoretical and practical issues studied through lecture and laboratory sessions.

Outline Syllabus

Lectures:

Introduction; Bioarchaeological approaches to human remains; Introduction to the skeleton and anatomical terminology; Growth, development and ossification; Introduction to ethics. Sexual dimorphism and sex assessment. Growth and development: Age estimation in non-

adults. Investigating longevity: Age estimation in adults. Age estimation and palaeodemography. Introduction to palaeopathology. Non-metric skeletal variation. Metric analysis and population variability. Excavating human remains. Skeletal taphonomy and the issue of biased samples.

Seminar: ethics in human osteoarchaeology.

Labs:

Bones of the skull. The postcranial skeleton. Identifying bone fragments and calculating NMI; compiling a dental inventory. Sex assessment. Ageing of the non-adult skeleton. Age-related changes in adult skeletons. Transition analysis. Recognising pathological conditions. Non-metric traits and assessment of ancestry. How, when and why you measure a skeleton. Cremated remains. Case studies.

Group presentations.

Module Learning Outcomes

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

- 1 Review the analysis of human skeletal remains within a bio-cultural context.
- 2 Identify human remains (both adult and non-adult) to an advanced level.
- 3 Analyse and interpret morphological and metrical characteristics.
- 4 Interpret the remains within their archaeological or biological context.
- 5 Critically assess data drawn from a wide variety of sources; demonstrate report writing skills

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Lectures cover theoretical issues and their content which are assessed in the skeletal report and group presentation. Laboratories develop practical skills which are assessed in the skeletal report; opportunity for detailed skeletal analyses is provided within the hours of directed study. Timetabled feedback sessions for coursework. Students will use Directed Study for reading of literature detailed in the module documentation; and for researching and preparing for coursework.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting	Final Assess'
Summative	Presentation	Group Presentation	20 minutes	30%	No
Referral	Presentation	Individual presentation	20 minutes	30%	Yes

Summative	Coursework	Skeletal report	-3000 words	70%	No
Referral	Coursework	Skeletal report	-3000 words	70%	Yes

Legacy Code (if applicable)

AR-7101D

Reading List

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