

ANTH 472/572: Zooarchaeology and Taphonomy
Spring Semester 2011 (Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30-1:45PM)
Arizona State Museum, Room 309

Instructor: Dr. Barnet Pavao-Zuckerman
Office: Arizona State Museum (North), Room 215
Hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10:00-11:00AM, or by appointment
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Course Description: Anthropology 472/572 is an advanced undergraduate and graduate course on laboratory methods in zooarchaeology and taphonomy. Class work emphasizes hands-on experience with faunal remains and will teach students how to identify vertebrate skeletal remains from archaeological sites. Other topics include taphonomic processes and assemblage formation, and human use of animals in the past. No prior training is necessary; however, experience in archaeology and/or biology (especially anatomy, taxonomy, and osteology) is helpful. A final research project will include the identification and analysis of a zooarchaeological assemblage.

Course Requirements: There will be four lab practicals, one exam, and one research report this semester. The practicals (combined), exam, and paper are each worth 30% of your final grade. The remaining 10% of your grade will be determined by class participation and laboratory skills.

Required Text and Additional Readings: The required text for the class is *Zooarchaeology, 2nd Edition*, by Elizabeth Reitz and Elizabeth Wing. It is available in the bookstore. Additional readings are assigned from *Vertebrate Taphonomy*, by R. Lee Lyman. The Lyman readings are available to download as pdf's on the course website (see below). Most of the readings are assigned toward the end of the course, but I STRONGLY recommend that you begin reading the text assignments now, so that you are not too pressed for time at the end of the semester.

Lab Practical: Four in-class practical examinations are worth 30% of your total grade, combined. The practicals are cumulative, although you can expect greater emphasis on new material. The practicals are composed of timed identification "stations" with one or more bones at each station. No makeup tests will be given.

Exam: There is one (final) exam in the course. The exam will be held during finals week on **Wednesday, May 11, 1-3PM** in ASM Room 309. This exam will cover materials from the lectures, and readings as well as osteological materials, analysis, and quantification techniques. The exam may include essay, short answer, multiple choice, or identification questions. The exam is worth 30% of your final grade. No makeup exams will be given.

Research Report: The research report will be worth 30% of your grade in the class. Each student will be responsible for the identification and analysis of a zooarchaeological assemblage. The paper should represent a professional product in every respect, including timeliness and accuracy. Rough drafts are encouraged. Follow the *American Antiquity* style guide (available on the web at saa.org, or in print Vol. 57(4)1992), and the papers should be typed. Additional information on report preparation will be given at a later date. Paper topics must be approved by

March 31. Data tables are due April 19, and the report is due May 6. If you turn the paper in via the D2L Dropbox (preferred), the deadline is midnight on the 6th. If you turn in a hard copy, the paper must be submitted to my office **by 4PM** (the Museum's doors are locked at 4:30). No late papers will be accepted.

Laboratory Skills and Class Participation: This is a subjective evaluation of your performance in the class. Class attendance, participation in class discussions, and your ability to work accurately, independently, and in a timely fashion will be considered. This portion of your grade also includes an evaluation of your responsible use of the collections, both archaeological and the modern comparative materials (see attached). Failure to respond to a warning about inappropriate use of either comparative or archaeological materials will result in dismissal from the class and a failing grade.

Graduate Students: Graduate student papers should include a more thoughtful, thorough, and theoretical treatment of the studied assemblage. Graduate students may also be asked additional or more difficult questions on exams and practicals. Study samples will be provided for all students who need them, but I encourage graduate students to work on their own projects in class, provided that the assemblage relates to your research interests.

Attendance Policy: Because this is an upper-level class, attendance will not be taken. However, do not expect to do well in the course if you miss class, and 10% of your grade depends in part on class participation. Failure to attend class does not excuse students from adhering to changes in the course schedule. No makeup lab practicals or exams will be given.

Academic Honesty: Students are encouraged to read the University's academic honesty policy. All papers submitted electronically will be screened through Turnitin.com. Cheating, giving or receiving answers, and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any violations of the code of academic integrity will be reported to the Dean of Students Office, and will result in a failing grade in the class.

Course Website: A course website has been established using D2L (<http://d2l.arizona.edu>). On the website you will find useful links, files, readings (except the text), and the gradebook. You can also use the D2L Dropbox to turn in assignments. To access this course on D2L you must have a UA NetID and be officially enrolled in the course for at least 24 hours. On the D2L site, click "Content" to get to the Syllabus, Readings, study tools, etc. for the course, "Grades" to see your grades for the class, "Dropbox" to submit assignments electronically, and "FAQ" for frequently asked questions about the final project.

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary. Any changes to this syllabus will be announced during class. Failure to attend class does not excuse students from adhering to these changes.

Class Schedule: ANTH 472/572, Spring 2011

Date	Exams / Deadlines	Lecture/Lab Topic	Readings
<u>Section 1: Taxonomy, Anatomy, and Osteology</u>			
R 13-Jan		Introduction: Taxonomy and Histology	ReitzWing Ch. 1, App. 2, 3
T 18-Jan		Mammalian Osteology	ReitzWing Ch. 3
R 20-Jan		Mammalian Osteology	
T 25-Jan		Mammalian Osteology	
R 27-Jan	Practical I: Mammals	Functional and Comparative Anatomy	
T 1-Feb		Avian Osteology	
R 3-Feb		Avian Osteology	
T 8-Feb		Avian Osteology	
R 10-Feb	Practical II: Birds	Herpetile Osteology	
T 15-Feb		Herpetile Osteology	
R 17-Feb		Herpetile Osteology	
T 22-Feb	Practical III: Herpetiles	Fish Osteology	
R 24-Feb		Fish Osteology	
T 1-Mar		Fish Osteology	
<u>Section 2: Data Collection and Analysis</u>			
R 3-Mar	Practical IV: Fishes	Primary Data	ReitzWing Ch. 6
T 8-Mar		Secondary Data	ReitzWing Ch. 7
R 10-Mar		Research Project: Data Collection	
SPRING BREAK			
T 22-Mar		Research Project: Data Collection	
R 24-Mar		Research Project: Data Collection	
T 29-Mar		Research Project: Data Collection	
R 31-Mar	Report Topic DUE	Research Project: Data Collection	
T 5-Apr		Research Project: Data Collection	
R 7-Apr		Research Project: Data Collection	
T 12-Apr		Research Project: Data Collection	
<u>Section 3: Theory and Interpretation</u>			
R 14-Apr		History and Theory of Zooarchaeology	ReitzWing Ch. 2
T 19-Apr	Data Tables DUE	Ecology	ReitzWing Ch. 4
R 21-Apr		Taphonomy: First Order Changes	Lyman Chs. 1,2
T 26-Apr		Taphonomy: Second Order Changes	ReitzWing Ch. 5
R 28-Apr		Hunting and Domestication	ReitzWing Chs. 8, 9
T 3-May		Environmental Reconstruction	ReitzWing Chs. 10, 11
F 6-May	Research Reports DUE (by 4PM for hard copies, or midnight for electronic)		
R 11-May	FINAL EXAM: 1-3PM, ASM 309		