

Anth 474 / 574: *Human Paleopathology*

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Instructor: John R. Lukacs; x 6-5112; <jrlukacs@uoregon.edu>
Office: 356 Condon Hall
Office Hours: 9:30 - 11:00 Tues; 14:00 - 15:00 Thurs, or by appointment
Class Meetings: 12 noon - 13:20 UH, 313 Condon Hall

Scope and Objectives:

The course introduces the field of human paleopathology. Readings, discussions, labs, and demonstrations focus upon methods and techniques of paleopathology, the disease process and how hard tissues are affected by them, and pivotal anthropological issues in which paleoanthropology plays a key role. Students should come to this course with an introductory background in bio-anthropology, human osteology, and prehistory.

Organization:

This course is organized around the main categories of disease recognizable in the human skeleton. Readings and lecture will follow the sequence of chapters and topics in the course textbook: *Archaeology of Disease* (3rd edition). An initial review of methods and basic concepts of bone histology and diagnosing pathological bone lesions will be followed by a survey of how major categories of disease - congenital, nutritional, infectious, metabolic, degenerative and traumatic - affect the human skeleton, and how specific lesions are differentially diagnosed. The final week of the course will focus on specific anthropological problems or issues in paleopathology. These will include the focus of your choice:

- collapse of the classic Mayan civilization
- trauma, violence, and warfare
- subsistence change (transition to agriculture)

Required Assignments & Assessments:

Thursdays will be devoted to an orientation-type lecture serving to introduce students to the week's reading and research topic. Weekly essays will be presented orally and discussed by the class during Tuesday's seminars.

Undergraduate (CRN: 16777). Course grade is based on three forms of assessment: a) quizzes (20%), b) midterm (20%), and c) essays (60%). Your final grade is the sum of points from all three types of assessment.

- a) **quizzes:** these are designed to evaluate your comprehension of key terms and concepts in human paleopathology. Ten points each, one before (Thurs, Oct 13th) and one after the mid-term (Thurs, Nov 17th).

b) **mid-term exam:** in two parts:

- i) in class identification, definition and compare and contrast (10 pts; Oct 25th)
- ii) take home essay (10 pts; due Nov 1st)

c) **essays:** five essays on the 'topic of the week'. Essays consist of either: a summary and reaction to a professional journal article **OR** a compare and contrast with 'collateral' supplemental reading (12 points each = 60 pts). Each essay should be an average of 5 double-spaced pages in length. Summarize key features of a journal article or recommended reading and describe how it is similar to or different from the textbook's treatment of the topic. The final essay is mandatory, students select 4 other topics / weeks for essay presentation / submissions; see sign-up sheet for details.

Due Dates: Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22; and Dec 9th (final essay).

Graduate (CRN: 16778). Course grade is based on a series of four critical essay assignments and one final paper (20 pts ea = 100 points). Grad essays will demonstrate deeper understanding of issues, greater synthesis and an appreciation for relevance of a topic to broader issues in anthropology. Your contribution to the seminar will be considered along with your written work in determining your final grade for the course.

Due Dates: Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22; and Dec 9th (final essay).

End of term assignment:

submit by e-mail attachment (MS Word / PDF)

<jrlukacs@uoregon.edu>

deadline: Friday, December 9th - NOON.

Textbook:

Roberts, CA & Manchester, K (2005). *The Archaeology of Disease*. 3rd edition. Ithaca (NY): Cornell University Press. (reprinted: 2010 The History Press: Gloucestershire). (RM)

Supplemental & recommended reading:

Iscan, MY and Kennedy, KAR (1987) *Reconstruction of Life from the Skeleton*. New York: Alan R. Liss, Inc. (IK)

Ortner, D and Putschar, WJ (1981) *Identification of Pathological conditions in Human Skeletal Remains*. Smithsonian contributions to anthropology ; no. 28. Washington (DC): Smithsonian Institution Press. (OP)

Pinhasi, R and Mays, S (2008). *Advances in Human Palaeopathology*. Chichester: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. (PM)

Waldron, T (2009). *Palaeopathology*. Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Week	Date	Lecture/Discussion Topic	Reading
1	Sept 27	Intro to Paleopathology: History Method & Theory.	RM: ch 1&2 OP: 1-54 (review)
2	Sept 29 - Oct 4	Congenital Disease: Recognition and Significance	RM: ch 3 PM: ch 15
3	Oct 6 - 11	Dental Disease: Developmental & Degenerative (Quiz 1: Oct 13)	RM: ch 4; PM: ch 13 Waldron: 12; OP: 436-456
4	Oct 13 - 18	Trauma: Diagnosis, Social & Ecological Significance	RM: ch 5; PM: ch 14 Waldron: 8; OP: 55-103
5	Oct 20 - 25	Degenerative Joint Disease: Osteoarthritis, Activity & Climate	RM: ch 6; Waldron: 3, 4 OP: 399-435
In class 'mid-term': Thursday, Oct 25			
6	Oct 27 - Nov 1	Infectious Disease: The Spread of Disease - New and Old World	RM: ch 7; Waldron: 6 PM: ch 12; OP: 104- 234
7	Nov 3 - 8	Metabolic & Endocrine Disease I: Anemias	RM: ch 8; Waldron: 7 PM: ch 11; OP: 235-322
8	Nov 10 - 15	Metabolic & Endocrine Disease II: Nutritional Deficiencies (Quiz 2: Nov 17)	IK: ch 11 (Stuart- Macadam, 1989)
9	Nov 17 - 22	Neoplastic Disease (tumors)	RM: ch 9; Waldron: 9 PM: ch 12
Nov 24th Thanksgiving Holiday (no class)			
10	Dec 1 - 3	Collapse of the classic Maya Violence, Warfare & Trauma Subsistence transition to farming	W&W, 1996 Walker, 2001 Larsen, 1995
Final essay due on: Friday, December 9th, NOON			

Abbreviations:

IK: Iscan & Kennedy; OP: Ortner and Putschar; PM: Pinhasi & Mays; RM: Roberts & Manchester, W&W: Wright & White.

Final Exam Week: December 5 - 9, 2011