Bioarchaeology

Module Code: ARC5011-B
Academic Year: 2016-17
Credit Rating: 20
School: School of Archaeological Sciences
Subject Area: Archaeology
FHEQ Level: FHEQ Level 5
Module Coordinator: Dr Gillian Thompson

Contact Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Study</td>
<td>152</td>
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Availability Periods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occurrence</th>
<th>Location/Period</th>
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<tr>
<td>BDA</td>
<td>University of Bradford / Semester 2 (Feb - May)</td>
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Module Aims

To provide the bioarchaeological context of analysing human, faunal and floral remains from the archaeological record and to acquire basic skills in the identification of such remains.

Outline Syllabus
Lectures:

Bioarchaeological analysis and the context of human remains

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)

Ageing and sexing of animal bones; applications and case studies

Pathology and bone modification (butchery, bone working, burning and diagenesis)

Domestication (plants and animals)

Common plant materials; preservation and identification of wood and cereals

Resource use and the reconstruction of subsistence strategies (Hunter gatherers, farmers, pastoralists, etc)

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 and ageing of faunal remains

Pathology and bone modification in faunal remains (butchery, breakage, bone weathering)

Plant remains identification (wood and cereals)

Module Learning Outcomes

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

1 1.1 Assess critically the theoretical and practical issues surrounding the preservation, recovery, analysis and interpretation of ancient human, botanical and zoological evidence.
1.2 Justify the reconstruction of hunting, herding and urban economies, and the interpretation of foodways and human nutrition.

2 2.1 Diagnose human remains and recognise common botanical and faunal remains recovered from archaeological sites. This will include identification to element of a selection of more robust and common remains from selected human assemblages, domesticated cereals and livestock.

3 3.1 Integrate evidence drawn from diverse sources to assess ancient economic and dietary strategies.
3.2 Defend conclusions based on bioarchaeological data.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Context information and the foundations of diagnostic and identification skills for bioarchaeological 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; revise material from formal taught sessions; and undertake specific elements of reading as directed. Assessment includes a portfolio of work carried out during and after practical classes and will probe identification and diagnostic skills. The module includes a formal class based feedback session, informal feedback is provided during practical classes.

Mode of Assessment

<table>
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<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Length</th>
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<tr>
<td>Summative</td>
<td>Coursework</td>
<td>Portfolio of practical work</td>
<td>0-2000 words</td>
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<td>Portfolio of Practical Work</td>
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Legacy Code (if applicable)

AR-4308D

Reading List

To view Reading List, please go to rebus:list.