



THE AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY OF ROME

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The American University of Rome Archaeology & Classics Program

Course Title:	Bodies and Burials
Course Number:	ARC 308
Credits & hours:	3 credits
Pre/Co-Requisites:	A level 200 archaeology course or permission of the instructor
Professor:	Pier Matteo Barone
Office Hours:	After Class and By appointment
Email address:	p.barone@aur.edu

Course description

This is an upper level archeology course which explores funerary archeology including the symbolism of graves and the grave goods, the new technological and forensic advances in burial archeology and cultural sensitivities concerning the study and excavation of human remains. The course will have a particular focus on the burials of the Etruscans and the Romans and will include field trips to visit archaeological sites, museums and archaeological laboratories. Students will be required to pay their own entry fees to museums and archaeological sites which will cost approximately €50.

This course satisfied general education requirement for Information Literacy and Oral Presentation.

Please note: coursework will involve looking at images of burials and may involve handling human skeletal material. Students who are uncomfortable with either of these activities are advised not to take this course.

Required Textbook

D.L. **Martin**, R.P. **Harrod**, V.R. **Pérez**, *Bioarchaeology: An Integrated Approach to Working with Human Remains*, Series: Manuals in Archaeological Method, Theory and Technique, Springer, 2013 ISBN 978-1-4614-6378-8

Recommended Readings

A list of readings will be provided during the course.

Entry Fees

Approximately €10

Course Learning Objectives

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the range of contemporary attitudes to the recovery and analysis of human remains
2. Evaluate the scientific techniques used in analyzing human remains
3. Analyze the characteristics of burials especially Etruscan and Roman burials

Course Learning Activities

- Lectures and class discussions based on readings CLO 1,2,3
- On-site visits to archaeological sites and laboratories CLO 2,3
- Independent research paper. Either CLO 1 or 2 or 3
- Oral presentation. Either CLO 1 or 2 or 3

Assessment tools

Midterm exam	30%
Final exam	30%
Independent research paper	30%
Oral presentation	10%

Midterm exam (30%): This will consist of three short essays out of choice of five. Exam scheduled **16th October**.

Final exam (30%): This will consist of three short essays out of choice of five. It will be cumulative. Exam scheduled **December 9th 4-6pm**.

Oral Presentation (10%): A list of topics is included below. Presentations should be 15 minutes long. The presentation will be in classroom and it should be accompanied by a powerpoint presentation. Presentation scheduled **2nd and 4th December**.

Independent Research Paper (total of 30%): A list of suitable topics will be supplied, but students may choose another topic if the instructor agrees to this beforehand.

ALL PHASES TO BE SUBMITTED VIA MyAUR.

The paper will be developed in three phases:

1. area of interest, thesis statement, and essay outline 7%. About 250 words describing the general area that the student wishes to research and culminating in a thesis statement that s/he intends to prove. A list of paragraph topics in note form – no sentences. Due date for Phase 1: 25th September.

2. bibliography 3%. An annotated bibliography of library and electronic sources that the student intends to use. This must contain a minimum of 12 peer-reviewed sources. Please, use ZOTERO free software to help you. **The thesis statement must be included. Due date for Phase 2: 30th October.**
3. Final Essay 20%. A complete draft of the final research paper, taking due account of the comments and amendments made on the first three phases. **Due date for Phase 4: 1st Decemeber.**

The final paper must conform to the following requirements (please, use ZOTERO free software to help you):

- incorporate a minimum of 12 peer reviewed sources ('incorporate' means more than put them in the bibliography – it means use them in the text)
- a minimum of 3000 words
- 12 point New Times Roman font
- double spaced with margins of one inch
- appropriate references and credit should be contained in the form of footnotes using MLA or Chicago style
- a full bibliography of all sources used in alphabetical order.

Papers that do not conform to these requirements may be returned. **All four phases are required to be submitted – you may not skip over a phase.** You are encouraged to make full use of illustrative materials, maps, diagrams, photographs, etc. but these do not substitute the minimum word requirement.

PLEASE NOTE THAT A CLEAN DESK POLICY IS IN OPERATION DURING THE MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAMS. NOTHING SHOULD BE ON YOUR DESK EXCEPT THE PEN YOU ARE WRITING WITH. YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO LEAVE THE ROOM DURING THE MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAM, IF YOU DO SO YOUR PAPER WILL BE COLLECTED AND YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ADD ANYTHING TO IT.

Academic Integrity

Integrity is fundamental to the academic enterprise. It is violated by such acts as borrowing or purchasing assignments, including but not limited to term papers, essays, and reports; lending to or producing assignments for others (either for or without payment); using concealed notes or crib sheets during examinations; copying the work of others and submitting it as one's own; and otherwise misappropriating the knowledge of others. Such acts are both dishonest and deceptive: the work submitted to instructors is not the work of the person whose name it bears. In consequence, the sources from which one derives one's ideas, statements, terms, and facts, including internet sources, must be fully and specifically acknowledged in the appropriate form. Failure to do so, intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes plagiarism. An act of plagiarism will be reported to the Registrar's office and noted in the student's file. After three incidents of plagiarism, the student will be suspended from the University for at least one semester.

Cyber bullying

AUR has a zero-tolerance policy regarding cyber bullying. Cyber bullying is defined by the U.S. National Crime Prevention Council as, "the intentional and aggressive process of using the Internet, cell phones or other devices to send or post text or images intended to hurt or embarrass another person." The very nature of education depends upon the free exchange of ideas, and the university classroom is a safe space where ideas are explored and debated in a respectful and thoughtful way. Because cyber bullying attacks the fundamental tenets of intellectual inquiry, any student found guilty of cyber bullying another student or a professor will be immediately suspended from the university.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Date		Location	Meeting Place	Costs	Topic
2	Sept		AUR		<i>Introduction to course, orientation, and research topics – Part 1</i>
4	Sept		AUR		<i>Introduction to course, orientation, and research topics – Part 2</i>
9	Sept		AUR		<i>Studying Human Remains and Burials – Part 1</i>
11	Sept		AUR		<i>Studying Human Remains and Burials – Part 2</i>
16	Sept		AUR		<i>Studying Human Remains and Burials – Part 3</i>
18	Sept		AUR		<i>Studying Human Remains and Burials – Part 4</i>
23	Sept		AUR		<i>Mummies Alive! – Part 1</i>
25	Sept	Homework : Phase 01			<i>Homework: area of interest, thesis statement, and essay outline</i>
30	Sept		AUR		<i>Mummies Alive! – Part 2</i>
2	Oct		AUR		<i>Mummies Alive! – Part 3</i>

7	Oct		AUR		<i>Mummies Alive! – Part 4</i>
9	Oct	On-site	Subway A – “Repubblica”	10 Euros	<i>National Roman Museum of Diocletian Baths – The Protohistoric Museum</i>
14	Oct	On-site	Subway B – “EUR Palasport”	Free	<i>Laboratory of Bioarchaeology – National Museum “Luigi Pigorini”</i>
16	Oct		AUR		<u><i>Midterm Exam</i></u>
28	Oct	Homework : “Sky Burials”			Watch the video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=240_5W_0GGg and read the article: “Class 14 and 15 Homework”
30	Oct	Homework : Phase 2			<i>Homework: annotated bibliography</i>
4	Nov		AUR		<i>Sciences applied to Bodies and Burials – Part 1</i>
6	Nov		AUR		<i>Sciences applied to Bodies and Burials – Part 2</i>
11	Nov		AUR		<i>Sciences applied to Bodies and Burials – Part 3</i>
13	Nov		AUR		<i>Sciences applied to Bodies and Burials – Part 4</i>
18	Nov	On-site	Subway B – “Sant’Agnese-Annibaliano”	Free	<i>Saint Agnese Church and Mausoleum of Saint Costanza</i>

20	Nov	On-site	AUR	Free	<i>Saint Pancras Catacombs</i>
25	Nov		AUR		<i>Bodies, Burials, and Thanksgiving – Part 1</i>
27	Nov		AUR		<i>Bodies, Burials, and Thanksgiving – Part 2</i>
2	Dec		AUR		<u><i>Oral presentation 1</i></u>
4	Dec		AUR		<u><i>Oral presentation 2</i></u>
9	Dec (4-6pm)		AUR		<u><i>Final Exam</i></u>

Examples of topics for Oral Presentation

#	Topic
1	Analyze Egyptian burial beliefs through evidence from the pyramids and mummies
2	Analyze Kurgan burials and what they tell us about social stratification
3	Analyze the controversy around Kennewick Man and what it tells us about the application of NAGPRA in the 21 st century
4	Analyze the controversy surrounding the African Burial Grounds site in New York
5	Analyze the New Zealand Te Papa repatriation movement. Can the lessons learned here be applied elsewhere?
6	Why was the Spitalfields cemetery excavation important for research into human remains? What were the conclusions?
7	What does new research tell us about the origins of syphilis?
8	How can leprosy be identified in human remains? What was the history of the disease in Europe? Analyze theories about why it was so prolific in the medieval period but died out rapidly?
9	What has recent research told us about the Black Death that devastated Europe in the medieval period? What light does this throw on modern incidence of bubonic plague?
10	What is the 'out of Africa' theory of human evolution? What is the evidence for it? How does it differ from the multiregional theory?
11	Analyze the iconography of pagan sarcophagi in Palazzo Massimo. You are advised to choose 2 or 3 particular sarcophagi.
12	Analyzing a sarcophagus. You are advised to choose 2 or 3 particular sarcophagi from any period.
13	What are the precedents for the Mausoleum of Augustus? What are the theories concerning Augustus' choice of place and style for his mausoleum?
14	Analyze the iconography of the mosaics at Saint Costanza and the sarcophagus of Saint Costanza

ATTENDANCE POLICY

In keeping with AUR's mission to prepare students to live and work across cultures, the University places a high value on classroom experience. As a result attendance is expected in all classes and attendance records are maintained. The University's attendance policy is as follows:

1.0. Minimum Attendance Requirement: Students must attend a minimum of 70% of a course in order to be eligible to be considered for a passing grade.

1.1. Automatically Accepted Absences

Students will not be penalized for one absence from classes meeting once a week;

Students will not be penalized for three absences from classes meeting twice a week;

Students will not be penalized for four absences from classes meeting more than twice a week, as in the case of some intensive courses.

1.2. If further absences are recorded, grade penalties will be applied according to the Instructor's specific attendance policy, as stated in the syllabus, and following the institutional parameters given in the Note* below.

1.2.1. If the Instructor does not specify an attendance policy, there will be no grade penalty other than that attached to the minimum attendance requirement, and any penalized absences recorded above the basic 70% attendance requirement for the course will be invalidated.

1.3. During Summer sessions where courses are taught more intensively over a shorter period the following applies:

- Students will not be penalized for two absences from class.

2.0. Tolerated Absences

Certain categories of absence will not be penalized but they will be counted as an absence (for a 3-credit course meeting twice a week). These absences are:

- The Model United Nations (MUN);
- Permit to Stay,
- SG's "Ambassador Program" (Student Government initiative)
- Religious Holidays

The American University of Rome makes all reasonable efforts to accommodate students who must be absent from classes to observe religious holidays. (Please verify with the Dean's Office for the list of accepted absences for religious holidays)

Not attending a class due to the observance of a religious holiday will not be penalized but will be counted as an absence. Students who will need to miss class in order to observe religious holidays must notify their Instructors by the end of the Add/Drop period (first week of classes), and must make prior arrangements with their Instructors to make up any work missed.

2.1. The list does NOT include academic field trips because these (including arrangements for travel) must not overlap with other classes.

3.0. Cases of prolonged absences caused by an emergency or a medical condition may require students to withdraw from some or all of their courses. Under such circumstances students should first consult their academic advisors.

*Note: No instructor may penalize a student more than one-third of a letter grade for each absence beyond the tolerated limit (e.g. from A- to B+).

Grade Point Average

A student's grade point average (GPA) is computed by multiplying the quality points achieved by the number of credits for each course. The result is then divided by the total number of credit hours taken. The Cumulative or Career Total Grade Point Average (CGPA) is the grade point average for all credit hours taken at the University and at approved study abroad programs. The GPA and CGPA are calculated by truncating after the second digit after the decimal point. Transfer credits have no effect on the CGPA at The American University of Rome.

Grades

Grades are posted on a secure area of the University's official website and are mailed to AUR degree students only upon written request. Grades are mailed to the various study abroad programs. Grades computed in the (GPA) reflect the following grade equivalents:

GRADE		GPA	
A	Excellent	4.00	94 – 100 points
A-		3.70	90 – 93.99 pts
B+	Very Good	3.30	87 – 89.99
B	Good	3.00	83 – 86.99
B-		2.70	80 – 82.99
C+		2.30	77 – 79.99
C	Satisfactory	2.00	73 – 76.99
C-	Less than Satisfactory	1.70	70 – 72.99
D	Poor	1.00	60 – 69.99
F	Failing	0.00	59.99 – 0
WU	Unofficial withdrawal counts as an F	0.00	
P	Applicable to development courses	0.00	
<i>Grades not computed into the grade point average are:</i>			
W	Withdrawal		
AUDIT (AU)	Only possible when the student registers for a course at the beginning of the semester as an audit student		
I	Incomplete work must be completed within the ensuing semester. Failure to do so results in automatically converting the I grade to the default grade, which is then computed into the grade point average		
P	Pass grade is applicable to courses as indicated in the catalog.		
WIP	Work in progress		

Rubric for the Independent Research Paper

	Excellent (A)	Good (B)	Satisfactory (C)	Poor (D)	Failing (F)
Appropriate and rigorous research methodology					
Initiative and creativity in developing the research project					
Analysis and evaluation of arguments					
Ability to synthesize arguments					
Covered all points comprehensively and in appropriate depth					
Appropriate and helpful visualization particularly in presentation of data					
Accurate and appropriate use of printed and electronic sources.					
Good English and presentation skills					
Good communication with supervisor and punctuality in submitting drafts					

Appropriate and rigorous research methodology: your thesis is a piece of research that seeks to answer specific research questions and your methodology must be appropriate to this task. This will involve an extensive literature research, the collection and/or analysis of qualitative and/or quantitative data. The precise methodology is something you need to discuss with your thesis supervisor.

Initiative and creativity in developing the research project: your research needs to be focused but you are encouraged to be bold and to use your initiative in your research, rather than choosing a safe subject that has already been well studied. Your topic should be aligned with your goals for after you graduate. This may require you to learn some new skills and/or topics. Do not be over-ambitious, you must be able to complete your thesis in the time available, but it is good to push yourself outside of your comfort zone.

Analysis and evaluations of arguments: the topic you have chosen has been studied by scholars before. Ideas develop through time and may differ between different countries, academic disciplines or scholars. In your literature review you need to compare and contrast different opinions and evaluate the validity of the arguments. You should try to analyze why scholars disagree, what is the basis of their differences? You should not try to gloss over the arguments superficially but should actively explore their points of conflict.

Ability to synthesize arguments: when you read books and articles scholars will develop their arguments in great depth. It is your job to sum up their arguments accurately in a few sentences.

Covered all points comprehensively and in appropriate depth: it is important that you make every attempt to find out about your topic and to become familiar with the work of scholars who had studied this topic before.

Appropriate and helpful visualization: you should include graphs, tables, diagrams, photographs, maps, drawings, reconstructions etc. as appropriate. If visual effect is an important component of your research then it is essential to pay due attention to this aspect.

Accurate and appropriate use of printed and electronic sources: you must cite correctly using footnotes and include a complete bibliography at the end. Failure to cite your sources constitutes plagiarism and may result in your dissertation being failed. Further instructions are given below.

Good English and presentation skills: your essay should be written in grammatically correct formal English. It must be presented in accordance with the instructions detailed above.

Good communication with supervisor and punctuality in submitting drafts: your supervisor is there to guide you and will ask for parts of your thesis at regular intervals. Failure to produce these will result in downgrading of the final thesis. The onus is on you to ensure that you keep appointments with your supervisor and that you seek out your supervisor if you hit difficulties.

RUBRIC FOR ORAL REPORTS

VERBAL SKILLS			
AUDIBILITY	Volume well suited to room	Reasonable, occasional difficulty in hearing	Poor, difficult to hear, under projected
CLARITY	Most words clear	Occasional lapses but communication not impaired	Poor, difficult to decode
PRONUNCIATION	No marked lapses which interfere with communication	Occasional lapses but communication not seriously impaired	Very frequent lapses, communication impaired
LANGUAGE USE AND ACCURACY	Wide range, appropriate to topic, accurate	Adequate to task, somewhat limited, some inappropriate usage	Limited range, communication impaired
NON-VERBAL SKILLS			
INTONATION	Varied range	Range limited, reduces communication	Lack of range, greatly restricted
EYE CONTACT	Looked at most of the audience much of the time	Looked at some of audience but rather fixed	Hardly looked at audience, no real contact
USE OF GESTURES / FACIAL EXPRESSIONS	Helpful, enhanced communication	Helpful for audience	Unhelpful, distracting
CONTENT			
INTRODUCTION	Clear, helpful, assisted audience	Reasonably clear, gave some direction	Muddles audience
DEVELOPMENT	Logical, easy to follow, helpful links	Some difficulty in following some links	No apparent development, little linkage
USE OF EXAMPLE ILLUSTRATIONS	Stimulating, helpful, clear, interesting	Reasonably useful and helpful for audience	If used, unhelpful, difficult to see relevance
USE OF VISUALS (if relevant)	Stimulating, clear, enhanced presentation	Helpful, reasonably clear, assisted presentation	Unhelpful, muddled, distracted
QUESTIONS	Handled well, clear, confident, fully answered	Some awkwardness, reasonable, mostly answered	Muddled, no real answers
CONCLUSION	Well planned, effective ending	Some effort to wind up talk	Petered out, audience puzzled, no ending
DURATION	Kept to agreed limits	Strayed a little from agreed limits	Far too long, too short, audience unhappy

COMMENTS: