

ARCHAEOLOGY 417

ZOOARCHAEOLOGY

FALL 2008

Instructor: Brian Kooyman
Office: ES 806/818
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Office Hours: M 13:00-16:00, or by appointment
Lecture/Lab: TR 14:00 – 16:50 ES 859

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course encompasses the study and analysis of animal remains from archaeological sites, primarily as these relate to the reconstruction of prehistoric subsistence strategies of hunter gatherers. A major objective of the course is to develop an ability to identify animal species from archaeological remains, and to develop an ability to identify the various bone elements of vertebrate species. Here the emphasis will be on mammals, particularly Bison, but other groups such as fish and birds will also be included. The main component of the course will be a study of the techniques that may be employed to analyze animal bones once they have been identified. Techniques discussed include various quantification techniques, aging and sexing analysis, butchering pattern analysis, techniques for studying the season of occupation, and a consideration of the various cultural and natural taphonomic factors that effect archaeological remains. The implications these analyses have for assessment of social phenomena such as status will also be discussed.

TEXTS

REQUIRED

- 1) Elizabeth Reitz and Elizabeth Wing. 2008. **Zooarchaeology (Second Edition)**. Cambridge University Press.
- 2) J.C. Kasper. 1980. **Skeletal Identification of California Sea Lions and Harbour Seals for Archaeologists**. San Diego Museum of Man (photocopy reprint).
- 3) Debbi Lee Cannon. 1987. **Marine Fish Osteology: A Manual for Archaeologists**. Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University.

SUGGESTED

- 1) Cheryl Forner and Echo Miller. 2002. **Osteological Guide to the Bison, Burbot, and Ring-necked Pheasant**. (CD purchased from Archaeology Department).
- 2) Chris Savage. 2005. **Bisonline**. (CD purchased from Archaeology Department)

GRADING:

Lab (bone identification) Quizzes (4, each for 5%)	20%
Aging/Sexing Lab	10%
Butchering Analysis Project (Portions due November 7 and 14)	40%
Faunal Analysis Project (Portions due December 3 and 4)	30%

Grading Scheme

A/A+	87-100%	C	63-66%
A-	83-86%	C-	59-62%
B+	79-82%	D+	55-58%
B	75-78%	D	50-54%
B-	71-74%	F	<50%
C+	67-70%		