

# ANTHROP 741

## Term 1

**Instructor:** Dr. Megan Brickley  
**Email:** brickley@mcmaster.ca  
**Seminar:** Monday 10:00am – 12:40pm  
(EST)

**Office:** Chester New Hall 518  
**Office Hours:** Zoom By appointment

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## **Course Description**

This year the course will move beyond the metabolic bone diseases and also consider some additional conditions where paleopathology can provide a longer term perspective on current health. (As in previous years) this course explores the way in which information on the current occurrence of these conditions contributes to understanding factors operating in past societies. Information used in the course is derived from both clinical/biomedical sources on contemporary health problems and paleopathology/bioarchaeology. The course allows students to focus on issues linked to past occurrence of disease for understanding either past or current community health.

## **Course Objectives**

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Have a knowledge of paleopathology and be aware of key debates linked to longer-term perspectives on the key group of diseases covered in the course.
- Be aware of current ideas in both biomedical/clinical and bioarchaeology/paleopathology research on the conditions.
- Be able to work both independently and as part of a team to introduce and lead discussion on topics.
- Develop an independent research project and present the results as a paper written in the style of a journal article.

## **Required Materials and Texts**

- Weekly readings available through McMaster library or uploaded on A2L.

## **Class Format**

The course is organized as a 2 hour and 40 minute seminar with no formal lectures by the course facilitator. Each week a condition is covered students should find a paper that can be used to contribute to discussion in class (a schedule with allocation of Paleopathology/Bioarchaeology, Clinical/Biomedical, and Medical anthropology papers will be distributed at the start of term). Papers should be uploaded to the Avenue to Learn Discussion folder by 9AM EST on the Friday before the class. Each class will start with a twenty minute introduction by allocated member(s) of the course followed by discussion to selected papers to open discussion. Student letter allocations will be drawn randomly in the first class.

## **Course Evaluation – Overview**

1. Presentations/leading discussion – 15% (both individual and teamwork will be considered with a 50:50 split – 7.5% individual, 7.5% teamwork)
2. In-class participation – 20% (ongoing throughout course)
3. Research proposal – 15% due on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> by 9am EST

4. Research paper – 50% likely to be due by Dec 16<sup>th</sup> by 9am EST (TBC)

## **Course Evaluation – Details**

### **Presentations and Leading in-class discussion (15%)**

Each student will lead two discussions throughout the course. The first individually (7.5%) and the second as part of a team (7.5%). Students will be assigned their discussion weeks in the first class.

### **In-class participation (20%), Ongoing throughout course**

Students are expected to come prepared to class ready to actively participate in group discussions.

### **Research proposal (15%), due September 27<sup>th</sup> by 9am EST**

This should set out the basic aims of the research topic and the research questions to be explored. Bullet points can be used to set out information. Word limit 1500 words + a bibliography of items cited.

### **Research paper (50%), likely to be due by 9am EST December 16<sup>th</sup> 2020 (TBC)**

Choice of final paper topics is open and assistance will be provided on developing ideas based on the proposal submitted; With COVID-19 restrictions students should plan for a project based on online material (published [available] papers, books or data sets/digital collections). Students can select a project related to their own research interests as long as they fall broadly within the scope of the course. Word limit of 6000 words, information included in a Table or Appendix and the list of literature cited do not count towards the word limit. Figures may be used.

## **Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings**

### **Week 1 (Sept 13<sup>th</sup>)**

**Sept 13<sup>th</sup> – Introduction to the Seminar. Origins and potential of Paleopathology to provide a long-term perspectives on current health**

Readings: Grauer, A. L. (2018). A century of paleopathology. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 165(4), 904-914. DOI: 10.1002/ajpa.23366

### **Week 2 (Sept 20<sup>th</sup>)**

**Sept 20<sup>th</sup> – How do we study health and disease in past and present groups? Practical and theoretical underpinnings and approaches.**

Readings: TBC

**Week 3 (Sept 27<sup>th</sup>)**

**Sept 27<sup>th</sup> – Skeletal growth and development: A foundation for understanding past disease.**

Readings: TBC

Notes:

**Week 4 (Oct 4<sup>th</sup>)**

**Sept 29<sup>th</sup> – Metabolic and endocrine diseases.**

Readings: TBC

Notes: First draft research proposal due 9am EST.

**Week 5 (Oct 11<sup>th</sup>)**

**Oct 4<sup>th</sup> – Recess week No Class.**

**Week 6 (Oct 18<sup>th</sup>)**

**Oct 18<sup>th</sup> – Individual appointments to discuss proposals. No Class.**

Notes: Times to be arranged

**Week 7 (Oct 25<sup>th</sup>)**

**Oct 25<sup>th</sup> – Anemia and co-occurrence of nutritional disease**

Readings: Chapter 9

Notes: Student individual contributions

**Week 8 (Nov 1<sup>st</sup>)**

**Nov 1<sup>st</sup> – Congenital conditions: Parental links to child health.**

Readings: TBC

Notes: Student individual contributions

**Week 9 (Nov 8<sup>th</sup>)**

**Nov 8<sup>th</sup> – Infectious disease in past communities**

Readings: TBC

Notes: Student individual contributions

**Week 10 (Nov 15<sup>th</sup>)**

**Nov 15<sup>th</sup> – Fractures: Traumatic injury and underlying health problems**

Readings: TBC

Notes: Student individual contributions

**Week 11 (Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

**Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> – Paleo-oncology: How ancient are cancers?**

Readings: TBC

Notes: Student team contributions

**Week 12 (Nov 29<sup>th</sup>)**

**Nov 29<sup>th</sup> – The visible and the invisible. Joint disease in the context of diabetes.**

Readings: TBC

Notes: Student team contributions

**Week 13 (Dec 8<sup>th</sup>)**

**Dec 8<sup>th</sup> – Review of findings.**

Readings: N/A

Notes: Students will present their provisional findings for their research paper and get feedback prior to writing up their final paper

**Course Policies**

**Submission of Assignments**

Assignments (research proposal and final paper) should be submitted through Avenue to Learn

**Grades**

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

<b>MARK</b>	<b>GRADE</b>
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D

<b>MARK</b>	<b>GRADE</b>
50-52	D-
0-49	F

### **Late Assignments**

Lateness penalty for unapproved lateness: 10% per day including weekend days

### **Absences, Missed Work, Illness**

Will be discussed on a case by case basis taking into consideration individual circumstances and documentation.

### **Avenue to Learn**

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

### **Turnitin.com**

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal plagiarism. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically to Turnitin.com and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work to Turnitin.com must still submit a copy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please to go [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity).

## **University Policies**

### **Academic Integrity Statement**

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behavior in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behavior can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity).

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

### **Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities**

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail [sas@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sas@mcmaster.ca). For further information, consult McMaster University's Policy for [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#).

### **Religious, Indigenous and Spiritual Observances (RISO)**

The University recognizes that, on occasion, the timing of a student's religious, Indigenous, or spiritual observances and that of their academic obligations may conflict. In such cases, the University will provide reasonable academic accommodation for students that is consistent with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Please review the [RISO information for students in the Faculty of Social Sciences](#) about how to request accommodation.

### **Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy**

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

### **Privacy Protection**

In accordance with regulations set out by the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act, the University will not allow return of graded materials by placing them in boxes in departmental offices or classrooms so that students may retrieve their papers themselves; tests and assignments must be returned directly to the student. Similarly, grades for assignments for courses may only be posted using the last 5 digits of the student number as the identifying data. The following possibilities exist for return of graded materials:



1. Direct return of materials to students in class;
2. Return of materials to students during office hours;
3. Students attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with assignments for return by mail;
4. Submit/grade/return papers electronically.

Arrangements for the return of assignments from the options above will be finalized during the first class.

### **Course Modification**

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

## **CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS**

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the [Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#) (the “Code”). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, **whether in person or online**.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students’ access to these platforms.

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or [sas@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sas@mcmaster.ca) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University’s [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#) policy.

## **REQUESTS FOR RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC TERM WORK**

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF): In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”.

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS, INDIGENOUS OR SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCES (RISO)**

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the [RISO](#) policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office **normally within 10 working days** of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar’s Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

## **COPYRIGHT AND RECORDING**

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, **including lectures** by University instructors.

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

## **EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES**

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.