Course Description:

Understanding the lived experiences and variation of people in the past is often central to bioarchaeological research. To improve our understanding of diverse human experiences, studies focussed on investigating impairment, disability, and the provision of care have increased in recent years. This course investigates the history and current state of (dis)ability and care studies in bioarchaeology, grounding discussions in an understanding of contemporary disability theory. Evidence for difference, impairment, disability, adaptability, and care will be examined and critiqued in this seminar course. Through participation in discussions and activities, students will critically evaluate how human difference, disability, and care in the past have been interpreted, and work to identify gaps in the current research. Using their thorough and critical understanding of course content, students in this course will propose new directions and solutions to challenges in bioarchaeology of disability and care studies.

Class Schedule & Format:

Seminar:
Thursdays
11:30am-2:20pm
Location:
BSB 238

Custom Courseware
Includes weekly, required readings selected from peer-reviewed sources.
See following pages for additional details.
Learning Outcomes:

- **Discuss** the development and current state of bioarchaeological research into human difference, disability, and care.

- **Describe** how bioarchaeological interpretations may be influenced/affected by modern perceptions of (dis)ability and **discuss** the importance of context in our interpretations.

- **Recognise** and **describe** the importance of careful terminology when discussing human difference. Specifically, **distinguish** between and critique the concepts of disability and impairment.

- **Apply** and critically **evaluate** the Bioarchaeology of Care model.

- **Develop** and **propose**, through critical analysis, possible future directions for the bioarchaeology of difference, disability, and care.

This course is reading intensive. The weekly readings are required to be completed prior to the class in order to stimulate productive discussion. Your participation in group discussions and activities is expected and required.

### Assessments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Percent of Total Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation (assigned A2L discussions, in-class progress reports. etc.)</td>
<td>TBA throughout term</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography &amp; Proposal</td>
<td>October 4th</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index of Care Export</td>
<td>November 8th</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Critical Essay</td>
<td>November 29th</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Facilitation and Presentation</td>
<td>Weekly sign up</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assignments must be submitted via Avenue to Learn. Assignments submitted via email **will not be accepted**. No extensions will be given unless accompanied by written certification, approved by your faculty office, is provided.
Policy on missed exams and assignments:

You are responsible for completing all of the learning assessments on the dates for which they are scheduled. **Late Penalties:** Late assignments will be penalized at 15% per day. Late assignments will not be accepted after 5 days (including weekends) beyond the original deadline.

**In the event of missed course work and/or exam(s) for medical or other reasons,** the student must review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”. [https://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf/](https://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf/)

Rules governing the MSAF are as follows:

- The timeframe within which the MSAF is valid has been reduced from 5 days to 3 days.
- The upper limit for when an MSAF can be submitted has been reduced from ‘less than 30%’ to ‘less than 25%’ of the course weight.
- The ‘one MSAF per term’ limit is retained.
- As per the policy, an automated email will be sent to the course instructor, who will determine the appropriate relief. **Students must immediately follow up with their instructors. Failure to do so may negate the opportunity for relief.**

**Note:** All work in this class must be completed.

**GRADES IN THIS COURSE WILL NOT BE RE-WEIGHTED.**

Online elements:

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.

Course Materials & Avenue to Learn

**Please familiarize yourself with the Avenue to Learn website.** It can be accessed at: avenue.mcmaster.ca. Check Avenue to Learn frequently for course announcements.

Lectures will be delivered using PowerPoint. **Abbreviated PDF versions of the lecture PowerPoints will be posted on Avenue to Learn after each lecture.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Assessments</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
<th>Projected Active Plan</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sept 6</td>
<td>Course Introduction &amp; Expectations</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Byrnes &amp; Muller (2017) pgs 1-5 Cross (2007) (some background and in prep for next week)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sept 27</td>
<td>Bioarchaeology of Care</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Each student 2-3min presentation on their chosen article</td>
<td>Tilley (2016) Tilley &amp; Oxenham (2011)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Oct 11</td>
<td>Reading Week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nov 1</td>
<td><strong>Online Week</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Avenue-to-learn progress reports and reflections on using the Index of Care</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td>Attending CAPA Conference</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Nov 8</td>
<td><strong>Medical Intervention &amp; Convalescence</strong></td>
<td>Complete Index of Care Reports Due (15%)</td>
<td>Brainstorm for final essay</td>
<td>Jolly &amp; Kurin (2017) Micarelli et al. (2018)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Nov 29</td>
<td><strong>Review, Discussion, &amp; Development</strong></td>
<td>Final Critical Essay Due (25%)</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assigned Readings:

Sept 6 - Introduction


Sept 13 – Disability Studies Theory


Sept 20 – History of Disability in Biological Anthropology


Sept 27 – Bioarch of Care


Oct 4 – Applications of Bioarchaeology of Care


Oct 11 – READING WEEK
Oct 18 – Stigma & Physical Difference

Oct 25 – Cross-Cultural Studies

Nov 1 – Online Week (Canadian Association of Physical Anthropology conference)

Nov 8 – Medical Intervention

Nov 15 – Age, Ability, Care

Nov 22 – Adaptation & Ability
Note on modification to course materials:

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 their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Student Behaviour and Responsibilities:

Your learning – it is your responsibility to keep up with the readings – do not leave them until the night before the exams. Attendance in this class (both lectures and labs) is essential if you want to do well in this course. You are expected to think about the readings and integrate them into the information and concepts presented during lecture.

Classroom behavior – Please do not be afraid to ask questions or provide constructive comments! If you do not understand something, or if I have gone over a concept too fast, stop me and ask a question. Chances are if you do not understand something, other people in the class are in the same position.

Please ensure that cell phones are turned off (including text messaging, Facebook, Twitter, etc…) and arrive on time for class. If you have to leave class early, please sit near one of the exits.

Laptop computers may be used in class for taking notes, but students using their computers for any other purpose (e.g., checking Facebook) will be asked to turn their computers off.

Please be polite to your neighbours and keep conversation to a minimum.

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.
Email Forwarding in MUGSI: [http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/support/email/emailforward.html](http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/support/email/emailforward.html)

*Forwarding will take effect 24-hours after students complete the process at the above link (Approved at the Faculty of Social Sciences meeting on Tues. May 25, 2010)*

I will check my email throughout the work-week and will strive to respond within approximately **48 hours**. Please put **3W03 in the subject line** of your email and **include your name and student number** at the end of all correspondence.

---

**Academic dishonesty:**

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

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and 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 kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, Appendix 3, [www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm](http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm)

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g., the submission of work that is not one’s own for which other credit has been obtained. (Insert specific course information, e.g., style guide)
2. Improper collaboration in group work. (Insert specific course information)
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

---

**Turnitin.com (Avenue to learn)**

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 go to [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity)

---

**USE OF COMPUTERS:** Computer use in the classroom is intended to facilitate learning in that particular lecture or tutorial. At the discretion of the instructor, students using a computer for any other purpose may be required to turn the computer off for the remainder of the lecture or tutorial.
**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 requiring a RISO accommodation 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.

**Academic accommodation of students with disabilities:**

Academic Skills Counselling and Services for Students with Disabilities are available through the Student Accessibility Services (SAS)

Tel: 905-525-9140 x28652  
Email: sas@mcmaster.ca  
Website: [http://sas.mcmaster.ca](http://sas.mcmaster.ca)

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. For further information, consult McMaster University’s Policy for Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities.

**AODA:**

If you require this information in an alternate/accessible format, please contact Marcia Furtado at 905-525-9140 extension 24423 or email [furtam1@mcmaster.ca](mailto:furtam1@mcmaster.ca)