

## Zooarchaeology

Archaeology 340

Section: D100

Term: 2011 Fall

Instructor: Dr. Bob Muir

Office: EDB 9615

Phone: 778.782.6773

email: bmuir@sfu.ca

Office hours: TBA

Discussion Topics: Zooarchaeology is concerned with the analysis of animal remains from archaeological sites. This course covers two major aspects of zooarchaeology: development of practical skills in identifying animal remains, and understanding the method and theory of interpretation of archaeological faunal assemblages. Lectures will focus on zooarchaeological method and theory including: animal taxonomy, taphonomy, quantification methods, estimation of age, sex and seasonality, environmental reconstruction, hunting, and domestication. The study of human social organization, economics, and ideology through zooarchaeology will also be discussed. The course also has a significant laboratory component during which students will become familiar with fish, mammal, bird, and shellfish remains.

Weekly quizzes will be used to evaluate identification skills, and comprise a major component of the course grade. The students will also be expected to maintain and submit a laboratory notebook containing sketches, diagrams, and notes concerning animal osteology. Early in the semester, each student will be required to prepare a short article review. This review will then be expanded into a research paper (term paper) and be re-submitted at the end of the semester. Papers on human bone or forensic science are not acceptable in this course.

Grading: Laboratory Notes 10%

Quizzes 35%

Article Review 10%

Term Paper 20%

Final Exam 25%

Required Texts: Elizabeth Reitz and Elizabeth Wing. 2008. Zooarchaeology, 2nd edition. Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology, Cambridge University Press.

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite: ARCH 201

Notes: Students requiring accommodations as a result of a disability must contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities 778.782.3112 or csdo@sfu.ca

All students are expected to read and understand SFU's policies with regard to academic honesty and student conduct (S10). These policies are

**Zooarchaeology**

available at the following web address:  
<http://www.sfu.ca/policies/Students/index.html>

Deferred grades will be given only on the basis of authenticated medical disability.

This outline is derived from a course outline repository database that was maintained by SFU Student Services and the University's IT Services Department. The database was retired in 2014 and the data migrated to SFU Archives in 2015.