

ASU GRADUATE CURRICULUM IN BIOARCHAEOLOGY

Revised September 9, 2020

The Bioarchaeology Approach and the Center for Bioarchaeological Research in SHESC

The mission statement of the Center for Bioarchaeological Research (CBR) emphasizes gaining new knowledge about past peoples and their heritage, while also addressing significant contemporary problems with deep roots. Our unique vision and mission emphasize anthropological breadth, the identification of significant contexts for bioarchaeological problem-solving, and engagement with contemporary issues. We have an unprecedented number of bioarchaeologists (core and affiliated faculty), including Miguel Aguilera, Brenda Baker, Katelyn Bolhofner, Jane Buikstra, Kelly Knudson, Gary Schwartz, Chris Stojanowski, and Anne Stone. Numerous other ASU faculty have well-developed research interests that intersect with those of CBR scholars. The benefit of studying bioarchaeology at ASU lies in the density of faculty with different research interests (areal and topical) and areas of expertise (theoretical and technical).

The bioarchaeology graduate curriculum links the development of methodological knowledge explicitly with the development of critical thinking skills. Our goal is to focus student attention upon significant problems early in their graduate careers, as we provide them with the needed tools to develop appropriate research designs. Our curriculum thus embraces a focus on context while recognizing the tremendous potential our bioarchaeological breadth provides. In addition, students are exposed to problem-based seminars very early in the graduate careers in order to challenge them to identify significant anthropological research questions and develop research designs appropriate to their resolution.

Required Courses for all SHESC Graduate Students:

ASB 501 Professionalism. This 3-credit course is required of all students entering the graduate program in SHESC and should be taken in the fall semester of their first year.

One Quantitative Methods course. Course options include BIO 415 Biometry and ASM 565 Quantitative and Formal Methods in Archaeology, among others.

ASB/ASM 579 Proposal Writing. This course is to be taken after field statement approval to develop an NSF-style dissertation proposal.

Strongly Recommended Courses for Bioarchaeology Graduate Students:

ASM 591 Advanced Bioarchaeology. This course will be taught by Buikstra, typically in alternating spring semesters, and will focus on the history, themes, and contexts of bioarchaeology and bioarchaeologies. This course will establish for first year students that bioarchaeology is a special approach to general anthropological and, more broadly, social problems.)

Courses in Bioarchaeological Approaches to Innovative Questions. These courses are inspired by SHESC and CBR visions for the field and are developed around research areas and questions rather than techniques. These seminars are problem-based, explicitly linking data, and its limitations, to broad research questions that defy disciplinary circumscription. These

theoretically oriented courses should be taken in order to contextualize bioarchaeological research for students at the beginning of their graduate careers. Students will choose the courses that best fit their needs in consultation with their committee. These courses normally are offered by Bioarchaeology faculty during the fall semester. Such courses recently taught include the following; additional courses may be offered occasionally.

ASM 591 Social Identities in the Past

ASM 591 Children and Childhood in the Past

ASB 591 Biogeochemistry and Anthropology: Investigations in Archaeological Chemistry

ASM 555 Advanced Human Osteology. This 4-credit lab-based course will be taught by Baker approximately every third year. Although most entering bioarchaeology graduate students will take this course, students who have had similar coursework elsewhere may be exempt.

ASM 583 Field Methods, Kampsville Field School (9 credits for graduate students; <https://shesc.asu.edu/field-schools/kampsville>) or other bioarchaeological field school or comparable experience.

Courses in Bioarchaeological Methods and Applications

Students will choose the courses that best fit their needs in consultation with their committee.

ASB 553 Human Behavior through Bone Chemistry

ASB 591 Zooarchaeology & Paleoecology (I and II)

ASM 506 Clinical Gross Anatomy

ASM 546 Principles of Human Genetics

ASM 552 Dental Anthropology

ASM 580 Practicum: Forensic Anthropology

ASM 583 Field Methods in Bioarchaeology

ASM 598 Nubian Bioarchaeology: Bioarchaeological Collections Management

ASM 611 Paleopathology

ASM 591 Human Morphology and Microevolution

SHESC Graduate Courses for Bioarchaeology Students

Students will choose the courses that best fit their needs in consultation with their committee.

ASB 500 Economic Anthropology

ASB 507 Advanced Evolutionary Medicine

ASB 510 Biocultural Theories of Health

ASB 525 Material Culture

ASB 530 Ecological Anthropology

ASB 537 Topics in Mesoamerican Archaeology

ASB 541 Theory in Sociocultural Anthropology

ASB 555 Complex Societies

ASB 560 Theory and Archaeology

ASB 563 Hunter-Gatherer Adaptations

ASB 567 Southwestern Archaeology

ASB 572 Museum Collections Management

ASB 591 Anthropological Ethics

ASB 591 Chiefdoms
ASB 591 Ethnoarchaeology
ASB 591 Ethnographies Past and Present
ASB 591 Research Design
ASB 591 Stone Age of Africa
ASB 591 The Quality of the Archaeological Record
ASB 594 Reproductive Ecology
ASB 598 Maternal and Reproductive Health
ASM 530 Paleoanthropology
ASM 543 Primatology
ASM 568 GIS & Spatial Technologies
ASM 591 Models in Social Evolution
ASB 502 Political Ecology
SSH 591 Introduction to Epidemiology

Possible Courses in Other Units for Bioarchaeology Graduate Students

Students will choose the courses that best fit their needs in consultation with their committee.

College of Health Solutions

KIN 512 Biomechanics/The Skeletal System

School of Earth and Space Exploration

GLG 481/598 Geochemistry
GLG 581 Isotope Geochemistry
GLG 591 Geomorphology

School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning

GIS 598 GIS Methods for Non-Majors
GIS 601 Intro to Geographic Information Systems
GIS 602 Intermediate GIS
GIS 603 Spatial Statistics/Modeling

School of History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies

HST 590 American Indian History
HST 590 Colonial Latin America
HST 590 Premodern Asia
HST 591 Peoples of the North American West
HST 598 Andean Myth, Testimony and Historiography
HST 598 Settler Colonialism in Global Context
HST 598 Race and Ethnicity
HST 598 Key Issues in Latin American Colonial History
HST 643 Global History
HST 790 Premodern Southeast Asia
REL 591 Religion in the Anthropocene
REL 591 Rituals in History, Politics and Religion
REL 620 Anthropology of Religion

School of Life Sciences

BIO 415 Biometry

BIO 545 Population and Evolutionary Genetics