Anth 750(G)
Research Seminar in Physical Anthropology
Global Health in the Pacific: Skeletal Indicators

Monday 9 - 11:30
Saunders 329
Professor Michael Pietrusewsky
Office Hours: Wednesday 9-11, or by appointment
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Course Description

The focus of this graduate seminar is an examination of health in past populations of the Pacific (Polynesia, Micronesia, New Guinea, and island Melanesia) using skeletal and dental remains from archaeological contexts. The organization and conceptual framework of the seminar with follow the Global History of Health Project (Steckel and Rose 2002).

Several skeletal and dental indicators of biological stress/health (linear enamel hypoplasia (LEH), porotic hyperostosis, infectious disease, dental caries and tooth loss, adult stature, trauma, osteoarthritis, etc.) will be examined in detail. A major component of the seminar will involve the recording and standardization previously recoded data from the literature for the Pacific region using the Data Collection Codebook and Data Coding Scheme of the Global History of Health Project (GHHP), including the development of a numerical index of well being (adaptation) from skeletal data. Studies in bioarchaeology and paleopathology of Pacific skeletal and dental remains will be surveyed in this seminar.

Visit these websites for more information on the Global History Project:

http://global.sbs.ohio-state.edu/western_hemisphere_module.htm
http://global.sbs.ohio-state.edu/docs/data.pdf
http://global.sbs.ohio-state.edu/cd-contents/Ch3.pdf

Prerequisites: Anth 215, 215L; Anth 384, 384L; and consent of instructor.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Become familiar with the Global History of Health Project.
2. Gain an in-depth understanding of the theory and methods associated with the use of indicators of health recorded in the skeleton including the calculation of the health index.
3. Acquire the skills necessary to record the indicators of health for the GHHP using online facilities.
4. Become familiar with previous studies of skeletal remains from the Pacific and closely familiar with one particular region of the Pacific.

Course Readings:
1. Required books (available at the UH Mānoa Bookstore in the Campus Center):


2. Required journal articles and chapters from books:

Most of the readings listed on the "Schedule of Lectures and Readings" (see pp. 4-9) will be available through electronic reserves on the UH Voyager libraries database.
Most of the readings can also be found in hard-copy form on the shelves in Hamilton Library or through independent searches.

**Course Requirements and Grade Distribution:**

1. **Class Participation (15 pts.)**

   The normal format of this course will consist of lectures, demonstrations, and discussions based on the readings. You should keep up with the readings so that you will be prepared to participate in and contribute to class discussions. Because class participation is 15% of the final grade, attendance is extremely important. Each member of the seminar is expected to read ALL of the assigned readings. However, to facilitate the oral discussion of these, each student will prepare a written summary of the specific articles assigned to them each week, which the student will then use to lead the discussion that will include the formulations of general questions to engage group discussion. Written summaries (one half to one page in length) should be distributed to the other members of the seminar on the day of the seminar and/or sent at an attachment to all members of the seminar group.

2. **Assignment #1 (10 pts.)**

   Prepare an annotated bibliography for at least 5 key articles (e.g., journal articles and chapters in books) that pertain to one of the indicators of health from the list that follows [these will be assigned during the first meeting of the class]. The works to be included in an annotated bibliography should include any ‘classic’ studies on your topic as well as the most recent contributions. Provide comments and notes on how each work listed in the bibliography pertains to your topic. Also include a 1 page (250 words max.) general review that includes what you found in the literature and how this relates to your skeletal/dental indicator. Consult the guidelines on referencing styles and how to prepare an annotated bibliography that will be distributed.

   **Indicators of Health**
   - Subadult Growth and Adult Stature
   - Linear Enamel Hypoplasias (LEH)
   - Porotic Hyperostosis and Anemia
   - Infectious Disease
   - Osteoarthritis
   - Dental Caries and Tooth Loss
   - Trauma

   **Due Date:** Feb. 9

3. **Assignment #2 (15 pts.)**

   Prepare an annotated bibliography for at least 5-8 key articles (e.g., journal articles and chapters in books) that pertain to studies in bioarchaeology and paleopathology for one key region of the Pacific listed below [these will be assigned during the first meeting of the class]. Provide comments and notes on how each work listed in the bibliography pertains to your topic. Also include a 1 page (250 words max.) general review that includes what you found in the literature and how this relates to your region of the Pacific. Consult the guidelines on referencing styles and how to prepare an annotated bibliography that will be distributed.

   **Regional Areas in the Pacific**
   - Hawaii
   - Marquesas
   - Tonga
   - Mariana Is. (Guam, Saipan, Tinian, Rota)
   - Fiji
   - Papua New Guinea
   - Lapita skeletons
   - Easter Island
Due Date: Mar 16

4. Assignment # 3 (50 pts.).

Part A. Record as many of the Indicators of Health in the GHHP for a skeletal series (to be assigned from the partial list below) for which data currently exist (either published or in raw form). (15 pts.)

Part B. Write a short (10-12 double-spaced pages) paper that summarizes the quality of life of this series as well as background information on the series (archaeology, dates, sample composition, major findings etc.). (35 pts.)

Skeletal Series
- Nebria, Papua New Guinea
- Sigatoka, Fiji
- Tonga (To-At-1,2; To-At-36; Paigamotu)
- Marquesas (Hane Dune and Ha`atautu)
- Hawaii (Honokahua, Anaecoomalu)
- Apurguan, Guam
- Tinian (various)
- Saipan (various)
- Lapita skeletons

Due Date: May 4

5. Assignment # 4 Oral presentation (10 pts.)

On the last day of classes (May 4) each student will present a 20 minute PPT presentation based on Assignment # 3.

Grade Evaluation:
Grades will be assigned using the following grading scale:
- 97-100 A+
- 94-96 A
- 90-93 A-
- 87-89 B+
- 84-86 B
- 80-83 B-
- 77-79 C+
- 74-76 C
- 70-73 C-
- 67-69 D+
- 64-66 D
- 60-63 D-
- 0-59 F

Consultation:
Please feel free to come to the instructor with any questions or concerns you have regarding the course material, your progress, grades, requirements, etc. Remember, if you are unable to meet during posted office hours, we can make an appointment to meet at another time. E-mail is a good way to reach me if you have brief questions. Please, as needed, make use of the many resources around campus designed to enhance your learning and campus experience. For those needing help with classes, research, study techniques, etc., you may wish to visit the Student Success Center at Sinclair Library (http://gohere.manoa.hawaii.edu/).

Academic Integrity:
See policies of the University on academic integrity in the University of Hawaii Manoa 2008-2009 Catalog, p. 565-566.
Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Note: This is a course outline only and subject to change as needed. Items marked with an "**" are available through electronic reserves on the UH Voyager libraries database (http://uhmanoa.lib.hawaii.edu/).

Refer to the distributed guidelines on essay/term paper writing and referencing styles and be consistent in your use of these guidelines. Include a full bibliography.

Week 1 (Jan 12): Introduction: organization; geography and prehistory of the Pacific

Reading:


Week 2 (Jan 26): Bioarchaeology, paleopathology, osteological paradox

Reading:


Week 3 (Feb 2): Indictors of health: overview

Reading:


Week 4 ( Feb 9) Paleodemography, sudadult growth, adult stature

Reading:


Week 5 (Feb 23) Dental Indicators: LEH, dental caries, AMTL etc

Reading:


**Week 6 (Mar 2) Porotic hyperostosis and infectious disease**

Reading:


**Week 7 (Mar 9) Trauma and osteoarthritis,**

Reading:


**Week 8 (Mar 16): Code Book, index of health**

Reading:
http://global.sbs.ohio-state.edu/docs/data.pdf


**Week 9 (Mar 30) Pacific skeletal series and Bioarchaeology: Mariana Islands & Western Pacific**

Reading


**Week 10 (Apr 6) Bioarchaeology: Tonga and Fiji**


**Week 11 (Apr 13) Bioarchaeology: Hawaii and Marquesas**

Reading:


**Week 12 (Apr 20) Bioarchaeology: Rapa Nui and New Zealand**

Reading:


**Week 13 (Apr 27) Bioarchaeology: Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu**

Reading:


**Week 14 (May 4) Oral Presentations**