

# WCU

*A UNC Campus on the Move!*



## Forensic Anthropology Minor

### ***What majors does this minor complement?***

Western's Minor in Forensic Anthropology can complement any major. As a forensic science, majors in Biology (forensic biology), Chemistry (forensic chemistry), Applied Criminology, and Clinical Laboratory Science will find the greatest benefit from the coursework and experience this minor offers.

### ***What are students in the program doing?***

Forensic anthropology students gain firsthand experience of what the field can offer. In the classroom they learn the basics of forensic anthropology. In the laboratory forensic anthropology students put that knowledge to work with actual skeletons and human remains.

The Western Carolina Human Identification Laboratory is North Carolina's only dedicated forensic anthropology laboratory. Along with forensic casework the laboratory is home to one of only two decomposition research facilities in the United States.

### ***What are the professors like?***

The professors are active forensic scientists, including one of only 58 board certified forensic anthropologists in the nation. Collectively they have over 35 years of experience working with law enforcement, medical examiners, and other governmental agencies. Their experience in homicide investigations, the recovery of human remains, and participation in mass disasters such as 9-11 is an invaluable component of what they bring to the classroom.

### ***How many hours and what courses does this minor require?***

The Forensic Anthropology Minor is open to all students and requires 21 hours including:

- Anth 250 Archaeology and Bioanthropology  
The study of human prehistory and evolutionary biology
- Anth 260 Cultural and Social Anthropology  
The study of human societies
- Anth 251 Introduction to Forensic Anthropology  
Principles of forensic anthropology
- Anth 364 Human Osteology  
Basics of the human skeleton
- Anth 400 Advanced Topics in Human Osteology  
Applications of age, sex, race and forensic investigation of the human skeleton

### ***The University***

A campus of the University of North Carolina system, WCU is located in a beautiful valley between the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky mountains, with convenient access to a region that offers tremendous opportunities for outdoor research and recreation. Western is an hour's drive west of Asheville, N.C., and 2.5 hours northeast of Atlanta.

About 9,000 students are enrolled at Western, including about 1,700 graduate students. Some classes are available online for distance education, but most are offered in person on the main campus in Cullowhee, in Asheville, and at other locations throughout Western North Carolina. A combination of service learning and engagement in the community by faculty and students is a critical part of Western's tradition of academic excellence.

### ***Contact***

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