

MINOR IN FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY

Forensic anthropologists provide expert analysis of the skeleton in a medicolegal setting by utilizing methods developed in skeletal biology, archaeology, and the forensic sciences. Forensic anthropologists play critical roles in identifying victims of mass fatalities, homicides, and distinguishing cause and manner of death. Forensic anthropologists provide information on the identity of the deceased and the circumstances of their death. They also assist in the search, recovery, and identification of human remains.

The forensic anthropology minor is interdisciplinary with electives in archaeology, biological anthropology, sociology, biology, and biomedical sciences. Students that complete the minor will acquire skills that are valuable to careers in law enforcement and crime scene investigation. These skills are also in demand in medical examiner and coroner offices, educational institutions, museums, and state and federal agencies.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion, students will be able to:

1. Describe the medicolegal system and the role of forensic anthropology within this system.
2. Differentiate between human skeletal remains and non-human skeletal remains in whole or fragmentary pieces.
3. Evaluate the efficacy of anthropological methods used in forensic science.
4. Visually differentiate and classify trauma and pathology by type and interpret the timing of when those events occurred.
5. Analyze skeletal remains and apply proper standards, guidelines, and appropriate methods.
6. Create a forensic case report.
7. Implement and adhere to personal and professional forensic ethical standards.

To declare this minor, please email department Academic Success Coordinator Keri Canada: Keri.Canada@colostate.edu.