ANTHRO 588: FIELD AND LABORATORY METHODS IN BIOARCHAEOLOGY AND FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY

May 16 – June 24, 2015 (Class will run M-F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with no class on Memorial Day)

Dr. Ventura Perez, Director

$500/credit @ 6 credits

Course Description:
This course introduces students to the role of the biological anthropologist, archaeologist and forensic scientist in excavations of human remains.

The course will be divided into three units. The first unit will introduce students to field and laboratory techniques, including familiarity with the human skeletal system, recognizing what constitutes bioarchaeological or forensic data, and violence theory. The second unit will consist of excavations of a pseudo-crime scene and pseudo-archaeological burial. The third unit will focus on laboratory techniques used to analyze the data generated from these two excavation sites, and the design and build the following year’s burial sites. Throughout the course we will explore key concepts in ethics, repatriation, medicolegal death investigation and regulations regarding unmarked burials.

Enrollment is by permission of the instructor. Students wishing to enroll must submit an application by April 1, 2016, to Dr. Ventura Perez, Department of Anthropology, 215 Machmer Hall, 240 Hicks Way, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA 01003. Email applications are accepted:

bioarch@anthro.umass.edu. Applications are available at the UMass Amherst Anthropology Department website: http://www.umass.edu/anthro/fieldschool_files/maininfo.html