

Introduction to Human Osteology in Archaeology

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Irish Archaeology (inc. Archaeology of Death)

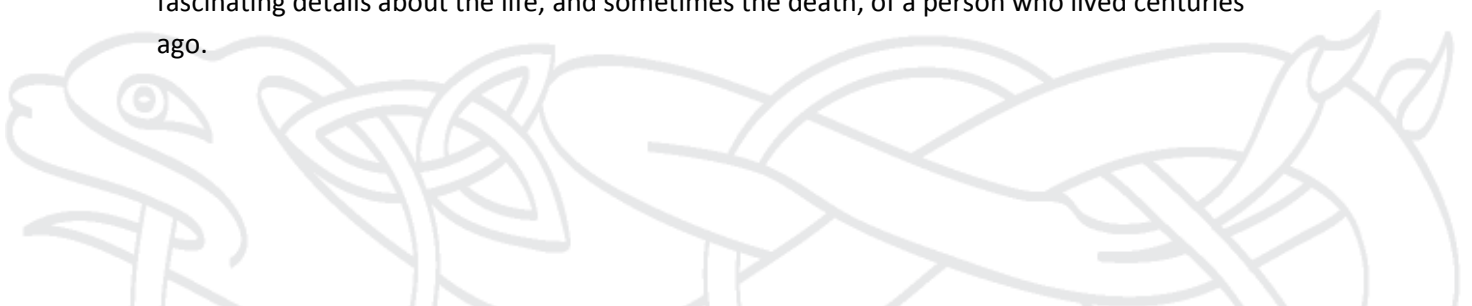
The human body, and particularly the skeleton, has always been a source of fascination, providing inspiration to artists and being a necessary learning aid for medical students over the centuries. Archaeologists have long experienced a rise in public interest when skeletons are found on an excavation site, not only from schoolchildren wanting to hear the gory details of the deaths of these people, but also from the local community who are amazed to find that their ancestors were closer than they thought. Students from all areas, young and old, continue to find human bone fascinating. It seems that once an interest is sparked, and the depth of information that can be revealed from reading a skeleton is realised, then the osteology student is hooked for life.

With ADS Training, you will be getting the highest quality of instruction from practising professional archaeologists. The 'Introduction to Human Osteology in Archaeology' and 'Irish Archaeology' courses are an invaluable source of knowledge for those seeking an introduction to the study of human remains in archaeology and, in a broader context, the archaeology of death in Ireland. The training provided will be of interest to many who work in archaeology, including current students of archaeology as well as professionals who seek to learn more about this specialised area within archaeology. The courses have been developed with the aim of providing participants with practical training of the highest professional standard.

COURSE OUTLINE

Course **Option 1** 'An Introduction to Human Osteology in Archaeology' consists of a series of lectures and laboratory work. Students will have the opportunity to examine the human skeleton in detail, learn to identify the different bones and discover the wealth of information they contain.

The story of a person's life can be told through their bones. Periods of childhood illnesses, times of nutritional stress, how tall they grew, and whether they died young or lived to old age can be determined from a complete skeleton. Injuries, whether accidental fractures or as a result of conflict, might tell something about the type of society the individual was from. Chronic illnesses also leave their affect on bone; some of these may have been so debilitating that it would have necessitated care from the community. These are some of the questions that can be answered by those with the skills to read bones, and they can reveal fascinating details about the life, and sometimes the death, of a person who lived centuries ago.



The course outline is as follows:

- Introduction to the skeleton and skeletal development
- Determination of Sex, Age and Living Stature
- Congenital Developmental Abnormalities
- Post-mortem or ante-mortem bone changes
- Palaeopathology of Skeletal Remains

Option 2 is designed to give the student a broad understanding of 'Irish Archaeology', including the Archaeology of Death, with illustrated lectures and field trips to inspire those with an interest in Ireland's past. Topics covered will include:

- Treatment of the dead through the ages (Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Early Christian, Viking, Medieval)
- Burial traditions
- Graveyards

MISSION STATEMENT

ADS is dedicated to the dissemination of knowledge within archaeology and related disciplines. Through research, education and a multi-disciplinary approach, it is possible to reveal exciting new information about our ancestors, and how they interacted with their environment.

The aims of ADS in delivering these courses are:

- To equip participants with the specialist skills to bring work, research, and development within their discipline, to higher levels.
- To work with community groups, state heritage bodies, educational authorities, and the archaeological communities worldwide to develop and improve upon methods of archaeological investigation and theory.
- To enhance the understanding of Irish Archaeology.

ADS follows the European Association of Archaeologists Code of Conduct.

BOOKING A PLACE

To book a place on either of the courses, follow the guidelines below. Early booking is advisable, as places are limited.



1. **Option 1** 'An Introduction to Human Osteology in Archaeology' runs from July 13th to July 24th, 2009.

Option 2 'Irish Archaeology' (inc. Archaeology of Death) runs from July 27th until July 31st, 2009.

Note: these courses can be taken concurrently.

2. A deposit of 50% of the fee secures your place on a course.
3. Payment is only accepted in Euro (€). Accepted payment methods are: cheque or Electronic Funds Transfer. See details on the Booking Form.
4. Complete ALL sections of the Booking Form. If you have any questions, please contact us via email.
5. Complete the Health Information Form.
6. Send the completed Booking Form, Health Information Form, and booking deposit to:

Archaeological Development Services Ltd
110 Amiens St
Dublin 1
Ireland

Tel: 00353 1 8849114

Fax: 00353 1 8849222

Email: info@adsireland.ie

COURSE FEES

Fees for **Option 1**, the two-week course, are €2,100.00 including self-catering accommodation, tuition, and any course-related travel from Monday to Friday during the course.

Fees for **Option 2**, the one-week course, are €1,400.00 including self-catering accommodation, tuition, and any course-related travel from Monday to Friday during the course.

Accepted payment methods are: cheque or Electronic Funds Transfer. See details on the Booking Form.



Upon receipt of deposit, Booking Form, and Health Information Form, your application will be assessed to determine your suitability for the course. Occasionally, a telephone interview may be conducted if any further clarification is required on any part of the application. Successful applications will be confirmed in writing.

The balance of the fee is due four weeks before the start date of your chosen course. Failure to pay fees in full by this date will result in your place being lost and deposit retained. When payment is received in full, you will be sent an information pack containing further information about the course.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

ADS firmly believes that Health and Safety is everyone's responsibility, and while we go to great lengths to ensure the highest levels of safety for everyone in our concern, we cannot overstate the importance of personal responsibility in this regard.

A certain degree of physical fitness is required in archaeology. While this course does not involve any strenuous field work, some walking will be necessary while out on Field Trips, and it should be noted that some of the lectures are located on the first floor of the building, which is accessible by stairs. Therefore, reasonable levels of physical and mental health are required.

If you are affected by any illness or any condition which you feel may compromise your ability to fully participate in the course activities please bring it to our attention before registering.

Cost Basis

The course fees include tuition, self-catering accommodation, field trips, and the provision of all equipment for use while in attendance. All prices are quoted in Euro (€). It is important to note what is not included in the fee:

- Travel to and from the course location point
- Meals
- Passport/Visa expenses
- Insurance
- Personal items
- Any other items not specifically outlined as included.



GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Fees must be paid in full at least four weeks prior to the commencement of your chosen course.
- Neither ADS, nor any of our working partners, is liable for any loss, theft or damage to any item belonging to participants during the course. Participants are reminded that personal possessions are carried at their own risk, and ADS recommends that participants take out sufficient health and personal insurance to cover any eventuality.

COURSE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- A 50% deposit must be submitted with the Booking Form.
- The balance of fees must be received at least four weeks prior to the start date of your chosen course.
- Cheques should be made payable to: Archaeological Development Services Ltd
- Cancellations made more than four weeks prior to the start date of the chosen course will be refunded, less an administration fee of 15%. In the case of cancellations **within four weeks** of the start date of the chosen course, the deposit will be retained.
- ADS, and its working partners, are not responsible for any injuries sustained, or loss or damage to belongings while attending the courses, or en route to the courses.
- ADS recommends that participants take out sufficient health and personal insurance, prior to commencing the course, to cover any eventuality.
- A current Tetanus vaccination is advisable.
- Any participants requiring special storage for medication should notify ADS prior to arrival to ensure adequate facilities are available.

Deposits, Cancellations, Itinerary Changes, and Refunds

- All cancellation notices must be received in writing and will become effective as of the date received. Handling fees for cancellation prior to the final payment date are 15% of the course fee. Cancellations after the final payment date of a program will result in forfeiture of all money paid.
- Failure to pay the final balance by the date due can result in your reservation being cancelled.



- No refund will be made for leaving a program in progress.
- ADS reserves the right to withdraw, without penalty, any announced course (in such a case, a full refund of the cost will be made) or to make necessary changes to a course or course schedule.
- ADS reserves the right to cancel courses while in progress and to take action as needed on an individual or group basis, when in ADS's sole opinion, it is deemed as necessary for the health, safety, or well-being of participants. ADS's only obligation shall be to refund to any such person that portion of his or her payment allocated to unused services. Refunds are not otherwise granted for unused services.
- ADS is not responsible, in the event of cancellation or alteration of a course, for any airline or other commercial transportation cancellation penalty incurred by purchasing a non-refundable or restricted ticket.
- Additional terms and conditions may apply to some programs and will be provided in writing prior to commencement of a course.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Location of the courses

Both courses are based at the ADS purpose-built post-excavation facility in Kells, Co. Meath. The premises include dedicated areas for research, lectures, and laboratory analysis, and are fully furnished with storage, canteen, washrooms and reception facilities.

Kells is a large town and has some of Ireland's most famous archaeology on its doorstep: Kells monastic site, Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth megalithic tombs, the Hill of Tara, Trim Castle.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **How do I get to the Course Centre?**

Participants are expected to make their own way to the assembly point: the Headfort Woods Hotel, Kells, Co. Meath, at 9.00am on the morning the course commences. Travel to the course centre will be arranged.

Information on transport options and ticket purchase can be found at www.buseireann.ie and www.irishrail.com . Please note that ADS accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of information on either of the above mentioned websites.



- **In what language is the course taught?**

The course is taught in English.

- **Do I have to be studying Archaeology to participate in the osteology course?**

Due to its specialised content, the 'Introduction to Osteology in Archaeology' course is intended for those who have completed at least one year of study at third level, **or** have built up the requisite knowledge through fieldwork experience. The course is also suitable for professional archaeologists or scientists who are new to osteology.

- **Is there a minimum age for participants?**

The minimum age is 18.

- **Is there a maximum age for participants?**

There is no maximum age, once you can satisfy the health requirements.

- **What is the accommodation?**

The accommodation provided is self-catering which means that participants have the responsibility of preparing their own meals. Accommodation is close to the amenities of the town, including shops and restaurants. If you wish to upgrade, at a surcharge, to B&B or hotel based accommodation please note your interest on the booking form.

- **Is it possible to gain ECTS/university credits for taking this course?**

University accreditation is pending.

- **What are the working/instruction hours?**

The working day is 09.00am to 16.45pm, Monday to Friday, with half an hour for lunch, and two coffee breaks; one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

- **Is there anything to do outside of course hours?**

There are bars, cafes and leisure facilities in the town of Kells. Participants are free to pursue their own interests outside of the course. However, participants are reminded that this should not interfere with their course participation. Any disruption to the courses as a result of outside activities will not be acceptable.

- **Can Friends/family visit me?**

Your friends and family are welcome to visit you outside of course hours. Visits to ADS Kells facility must be by prior appointment with ADS. Kells offers a good selection of accommodation including a hotel and B&Bs.

- **Is there a bank or ATM in Kells?**

There are banking facilities and ATMs in Kells.

- **Are there shops nearby?**

Kells is a large town and has all of the following:

- Supermarkets
- Pharmacies
- Medical facilities i.e. doctors, dentists.



- **What type of clothing and equipment do I need to bring?**

Irish weather has a reputation for being very changeable, so come prepared! For the most part, participants on these courses will be indoors, however for Field Trips or outdoor pursuits we would recommend bringing a selection of clothing to suit all weathers.

- Protective Sun cream
- Selection of warm and cold weather clothes
- Rain gear for field trips
- Hardwearing boots for walking (e.g. hiking boots)
- Second pair of shoes
- Towels and toiletries
- All course materials will be provided

- **Can I travel independently while on the course?**

Participants are free to travel independently while attending the course. ADS accepts no responsibility for participants while undertaking such trips.

- **Can I bring my own car?**

Yes, but participants do so entirely at their own risk. It must be emphasised that ADS accepts no responsibility for any damage, accidents, or injuries arising from incidents involving participants' private vehicles during the course.

- **Is food provided during the course?**

No. Food arrangements are on a self-catering basis. The accommodation provides cooking facilities, and supermarkets are within close proximity.

- **Do I need insurance?**

ADS strongly recommends that participants ensure they have appropriate health, travel, personal insurance to cover illness, injury or any other incident. Please check with your insurance provider in plenty of time prior to the course to ensure necessary amendments/provisions are in place – this is especially important for participants who will be travelling to Ireland.

- **Photography and Recording**

ADS reserves the right to use or reproduce, for any purpose, any photograph, audio or video recording that is taken of participants by, or on behalf of, ADS and it is understood that participants agree that ADS, or parties acting on their behalf, may do so without compensation. Any such photo or recording will be owned only by ADS and may be used in various print and online media for research, educational and promotional purposes. Data transfer, personal photography or audio/visual recording, by any means, is not permitted.

- **Other information**

If you have a question(s) that have not been answered in this document, please contact us at info@adsireland.ie and we will do our best to address it. While every effort has been taken to ensure this document has been compiled according to best practice; the information herein is subject to change and /or update.

