

The Anthropology of Aging: A Bioarchaeological Case Study



Jennifer Sharman, PhD

Have you ever wondered how the technicians on CSI or Bones can determine how old a skeleton is? Or, have you considered how governments and health care systems might have to evolve to suit the changing needs of an aging population? While these two questions have seemingly nothing in common, in fact they are united by the study of anthropology, which takes a holistic view of the juncture between culture and biology.

Dr. Jennifer Sharman will present a bioarchaeological case study that will highlight how anthropology can help us better understand and respond to the variation across the population that occurs with aging. She analyzed over 800 adult skeletons from four countries and various time periods to evaluate whether skeletal aging rates varied by population and how the presence (or absence) or certain diseases, such as osteoarthritis, might help improve skeletal age-at-death estimates. She will also discuss the implications of her findings for policy-makers and the future of anthropology and aging research here in Canada – as well as shedding some light on the skeletal magic that you see on TV!

Refreshments will be provided.

WHEN

Thursday, May 14, 2015
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

WHERE

Sheridan Centre for Elder Research
Room J102
1430 Trafalgar Road, Oakville

PLEASE RSVP

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