

Evidencias de actividad en restos óseos humanos de poblaciones pasadas

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Carga horaria: 30 horas, cinco clases semanales de tres horas (Lunes a Viernes).

Inicio: 5 al 16 de Agosto de 2024.

Fundamentación:

La organización social, política y económica de una población permea todos los aspectos de la vida cotidiana de los individuos que la conforman. Una de las formas de aproximarnos a ella es a través de las actividades diarias. Dado que el esqueleto tiene la plasticidad suficiente como para adaptarse al entorno circundante, en los últimos años ha habido un creciente interés acerca de las marcas que dejan las actividades cotidianas en los restos óseos.

El objetivo de este curso es brindar los conocimientos para poder estudiar patrones de actividad física en poblaciones pasadas a partir de la morfología y morfometría de restos óseos humanos. Para esto exploraremos los diversos abordajes en la temática desde la medicina, biología y arqueología, haciendo hincapié en la metodología, alcances y limitaciones.

Objetivos del curso:

- 1) Que el estudiante adquiera las herramientas teóricas y metodológicas para poder analizar patrones de actividad en sociedades pasadas a partir de la morfología y morfometría del esqueleto postcraneal;
- 2) Que el estudiante comprenda las limitaciones y alcances de estos estudios arqueológicos.

Evaluación:

Se exigirá la aprobación de dos instancias obligatorias:

- 1- Presentación oral de un resumen de trabajos arqueológicos de distintos lugares del mundo sobre marcadores de actividad. Esta actividad tendrá lugar durante la última semana del curso.
- 2- Presentación de un trabajo final, luego de finalizado el curso, consistente en el desarrollo de cuatro preguntas-tema relacionados con los contenidos del curso.

Contenidos:

Unidad 1. Biología de los elementos óseos. Teoría de remodelación ósea frente al estrés mecánico.

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Unidad 2. Antecedentes de las ciencias médicas y biológicas sobre el impacto del estrés mecánico en poblaciones humanas y de animales actuales.

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Unidad 3. Los marcadores óseos de actividad en arqueología. Cambios entésicos. Osteoartritis. Exostosis auditiva. Geometría transversal de las diáfisis. Nódulos de Schmorl.

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Unidad 4. Metodologías de registro para los cambios entésicos, osteoartrosis, morfología de las diáfisis. Métodos estadísticos.

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4b. Métodos estadísticos

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Unidad 5. Limitaciones y soluciones en el análisis de los patrones de actividad. La importancia del sexo biológico, la edad, el tamaño corporal, el clima y el estado de conservación de las colecciones.

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