

Abigail Elaine Houkes
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Education

- 2022-Pr. Ph.D. in Anthropology, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)
Advisor: Dr. Cris Hughes
- 2020-2022 M.A. in Anthropology, Louisiana State University (LSU)
Advisor: Dr. Ginesse A. Listi
- 2016-2020 B.S. in Anthropology, Florida State University (FSU)
Minors in Biology and Crime Scene Investigation

Research Interests

Missing and Unidentified Persons Advocacy, Family DNA Reference Sample (FRS), Bioethics, Biocultural Approaches, Forensic Anthropology, Bioarchaeology, Identity, Ethnographic Approaches, Human Variation

Master's Thesis: The Utilization of 3D Computerized Tomography (CT) in the Analysis of Volume and Dimensions in the Maxillary Sinus to Evaluate Biological Sex and Population Affinity (Research location is in New Mexico)

Honors, Awards & Grants

- 2023 National Institute of Justice Research Fellowship (Applied to)
- 2023 UIUC Conference Travel Funding (\$75)
- 2022 Association on American Indian Affairs,
8th Annual Repatriation Conference Scholarship (\$200)
- 2022- Pr. UIUC Department of Anthropology Teaching Assistantship; per academic year
- 2022 FACES Laboratory AABA Travel Fund (\$500)
- 2021 IDEAS AABA Conference Honorarium (\$550)
- 2021 G&A Graduate Research Materials Award (\$318)
- 2020- 2022 FACES Laboratory Graduate Assistantship; per academic year (\$12,750)
- 2020 Latino Heritage Internship Program (\$4,400) + Living Costs (\$2,085)
- 2016- 2020 Bright Futures Scholarship (\$23,169)

Academic Appointments

- 2022- Pr. Teaching Assistant, UIUC
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|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| TA Courses: | ANTH 347 Human Osteology '23 |
| | ANTH 346 Forensic Anthropology '23 |
| Grader Courses: | ANTH 247 Forensic Sciences '22 |

- 2020-2022 Graduate Assistant, LSU
Forensic Anthropology and Computer Enhancement Services (FACES)
- Assisted in case intake, preparation (photography and note-taking), primary and secondary maceration, and analysis
 - Performed duties relating to donor transport, intake, and preparation at the donor facility
 - Completed PMI total body score/taphonomic assessment data forms and photographed donor for data collection at the donor facility
 - Led the new Repository data organization of old case files
 - Assisted in curating and maintaining donated remains
 - Performed teaching assistant duties in the forensic anthropology course and supervised student learners within the laboratory
 - Scanned skeletal elements with the FARO; X-Rayed remains from cases, 3D printed scanned skeletal elements
 - Monitored and posted informative information on past and current missing persons on the FACES Lab Facebook Page
- 2019-2020 Undergraduate Researcher, FSU
Advanced Osteological Assessment
- Completed biological profiles across different osteological collections within the department
 - Formed and implemented research projects concerning dentition etc.
 - Conducted statistical analysis and analyzed data results in comparison to contemporary studies
 - Curated osteological material
 - Tutored students on identifying skeletal elements
 - Created pathology and trauma reports of curated remains in collections
 - Led a research project focused on the dental health of 18th-century military diet on a population near St. Augustine

Professional Research Experience

- 2020 Intern, Latino Heritage Internship Program, National Park Service
Partnered Firm: Southeast Archeology Center
- Created, directed, and edited a Latino Conservation Week (LCW) interview series with Hispanic archaeologists to provide career advice for Hispanic youth
 - Designed an informational webpage for LCW and opportunities for Latinos
 - Participated and lead discussions regarding diversity and inclusion of Latinos in the National Park Service
 - Cataloged the comparative archaeological collections
 - Inventoried zoological collections and learned animal anatomy
- 2019-2020 Intern, IFAS North Florida Research and Education Center, University of Florida
- Reared insects for experiments
 - Collected data relating to insect succession
 - Prepped experiments by creating various chemical solutions and collecting the plant material needed for the experiments

- 2019 Intern, Forensic Anthropology, University of South Florida
- Participated in secondary maceration of donor remains
 - Completed PMI total body score/taphonomic assessment data forms and photographed donor for data collection at the donor facility
 - Assisted with Donor Database Management (e.g., updating records, photograph sorting, compiling data for research)
 - Collected biome, soil cores, and water samples of donors
 - Learned isotopic teeth collection techniques
 - Completed forensic field collection methods

Field Experience

- 2020 Field Crew, Documenting Cemetery Damage & Recovery, Hurricane Laura
LA Attorney General's BioAnth/Cemetery Division, November 14th

Presentations/Posters

- 2022 AABA 91st Annual Meeting, Poster Session, "The Inclusion of Biocultural and Biohistorical Data of a Modern American Population in Population Affinity Research."
- 2020 SEAC Intern Representative, "Archaeological Comparative Collection Expansion and Latino Diversity Initiative." Hispanic Access Foundation Conference, August 7th

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- 2022- Pr. LEAD Program Mentor (UIUC) (Paid Position)
- Mentor undergraduate anthropology students on graduate school and academia
 - Lead, plan, and participate in workshops
- 2021-2022 Elected Vice President, Latinx Graduate Student Association (LSU)
- Founding member of organization
 - Representative and advocate of Hispanic graduate students
- 2021 IDEAS Scholar, IDEAS Workshop, AABA
- 2021- Pr. Mentor, The Social Scientist, Virtual mentorship for the STEM community
- Amplify underrepresented and marginalized voices within STEM

Memberships

- 2022 American Academy of Forensic Science (AAFS)
- 2021 American Association of Biological Anthropologists (AABA)
- 2021 Dental Anthropology Association
- 2021 Louisiana Archaeological Society
- 2019 Lambda Alpha National Honor Society

Skills, Qualifications

Laboratory Techniques:

- 3D Scanning
- FARO Focus Laser Scanner
- Maceration of human remains (Primary and Secondary)
- Biological Profile Analysis Reporting
- X-Rays
- Faunal Analysis and Curation
- Notetaking and photography of Remains: Arrival Protocols
- Stable Isotope Preparation and Packing
- Teeth Microscope Slide Sectioning and Preparation
- Core Sampling and Sample Preparation of Soil
- Water & Biome Sampling
- PMI Scoring
- 3D Bone Printing

Computer Skills:

- Filemaker Database
- Microsoft Office Programs
- CT Programs: 3D Slicer, MeshLab, Meshmixer
- Adobe Photoshop
- SPSS statistical software
- RStudio
- FORDISC 3.1
(Spanish Basic Conversational)