

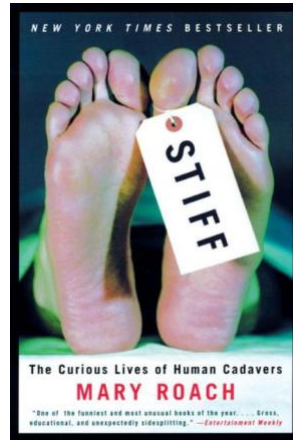
(Un)Common Reads: “The Body After Death” Syllabus – Fall 2022

Lectures: Monday 3:00 – 3:50pm (8th period) in **Hume Hall 0119**

Instructor: Rose Bryson, MSc.

Email: ebryson@ufl.edu

Office Hours: TBD (Zoom)



Required Textbook: “Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers” By: Mary Roach

Book Description: This non-fiction book explores what happens to the human body after death. From grave robbing to plastic surgery, students will learn about the history of cadaver use in medicine & education, as well as countless facts about the biological journey that human remains take after life. The author is an academic-style investigative journalist whose incredibly well-researched books illuminate the most taboo part of life: **death**.

Course Description: In this course we’ll spend the semester reading through this book and learning about the processes that the human body undergoes after death, as well as the many seldom-told uses for cadavers in the modern and historical world.

Course Objectives:

- 1) Destigmatize conversations about death.
- 2) Gain an understanding of what happens to the human body after death.
- 3) Be able to describe the major ethical issues surrounding the use of cadavers after death.
- 4) Be able to describe the history of medical cadaver use.
- 5) Understand what professions routinely utilize cadavers and the many uses cadavers hold in American society.

Grading:

Graded requirements for this course include submitting weekly seminar questions, attendance and participation in weekly seminars, a midterm research project, a final research project and a final paper. Point values/percentages for each assignment are provided below. Grading in this class is consistent with UF policies available at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>.

Letter Grade	Range:	
A	100 %	to 93.0%
A-	< 93.0 %	to 90.0%
B+	< 90.0 %	to 87.0%
B	< 87.0 %	to 83.0%
B-	< 83.0 %	to 80.0%
C+	< 80.0 %	to 77.0%
C	< 77.0 %	to 73.0%
C-	< 73.0 %	to 70.0%
D+	< 70.0 %	to 67.0%
D	< 67.0 %	to 63.0%
D-	< 63.0 %	to 60.0%
F	< 60.0 %	to 0.0%

- **Attendance & Participation (15%):** This grade reflects the importance of participating in our discussions during class. Each student is expected to both attend and contribute to the class. Attendance is required. If you have to miss a class, please make arrangements in advance and notify the instructor. The quality of our class discussions depends on you doing the assigned reading and coming to class prepared with thoughts and questions.
- **Weekly Questions (25%):** You will be responsible for submitting 2 original questions based on the weekly readings to Canvas by midnight on the Sunday before class.
- **Midterm Project (25%):** You will create a presentation to share with your classmates on Canvas in any form you'd like: a research paper, video, learning module, etc. This is your time to be creative! You'll choose your topic based on something you learned from the book, research it further and present it to the class.
- **Final Project (25%):** See instructions for: **Midterm Project.**
- **Final Reflections Paper (10%):** Topic will be released at the end of the semester.

Policy on Late and Make-up Work: Graded requirements that are submitted late due to a documented illness or emergency may be rescheduled; however, 48 hours prior notice should be given to the instructor and documentation must be supplied. In the case of unexpected emergencies the instructor must be notified in advance, or as soon as possible thereafter. The student should provide documentation immediately following the occurrence. Unexcused late submission of midterm and end-of-term projects is not allowed. Unexcused late submission of other graded assignments will be accepted for reduced credit (penalty of -10% per day).

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities: Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

Course Schedule

DATE	CHAPTER	PAGES
August 29	<u>Recorded Lecture on Canvas: Week 1</u> Read: "Introduction"	Pages 9 - 14
September 5	HOLIDAY – NO CLASS	
September 12	CHAPTER 1 "A Head is a Terrible Thing to Waste"	Pages 19 - 33
September 19	CHAPTER 2 "Crimes of Anatomy"	Pages 37 - 57
September 26	CHAPTER 3 "Life After Death"	Pages 61 - 84
October 3	CHAPTER 4 "Dead Man Driving"	Pages 87- 109
October 10	CHAPTER 5 "Beyond the Black Box"	Pages 113 - 127
October 17	CHAPTER 6 "The Cadaver Who Joined the Army"	Pages 131 - 153
October 24	CHAPTER 7 "Holy Cadaver"	Pages 157 - 164
Midterm Project Due: October 24th		
October 31	CHAPTER 8 "How to Know if You're Dead"	Pages 167 - 195
November 7	CHAPTER 9 "Just a Head"	Pages 199 - 217
November 14	CHAPTER 10 "Eat Me"	Pages 221 - 247
November 21	CHAPTER 11 "Out of the Fire, into the Compost Bin"	Pages 251 - 277
November 28	CHAPTER 12 "Remains of the Author" Final Seminar & Final Reflections Paper	Pages 281 - 292
December 5th	Final Project Presentations	
FINAL DAY OF CLASS: December 5th, 2022		

Disclaimer: This syllabus and schedule represent an initial plan for the course. As we go through the semester, this plan may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. All changes will be announced in class and on Canvas.