

# Forensic Anthropologist Job Description

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## Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assist criminal justice departments with the investigation and resolution of crime
- Conduct laboratory analysis of recovered human remains to ascertain the identity and cause of death of a subject
- Utilize sophisticated equipment and technology such as scanning electron microscopy in carrying out laboratory analysis and examination of skeletal parts
- Visit crime scenes to obtain human remains and bone samples for laboratory tests
- Engage in extensive research and study of the human skeletal system and anatomy
- Employ knowledge of the human anatomy in differentiating animal bone from a human's
- Determine the stature, age, and sex of a subject being analyzed by employing various forensic anthropology methods
- Through osteology techniques, determine the height of a subject from the analysis of hipbone and skull
- Figure out the age of a subject being analyzed by running odontology test on teeth samples
- Analyze human remains for post mortem alteration or modification
- Specialize in establishing the condition and time of death of a subject
- Embark on archaeological trips to dig out human remains for lab analysis
- Provide detailed results and report of experiment to investigative bodies to help resolve a criminal case
- Maintain record of forensic analysis as well as preserve obtained skeletal samples
- Produce reports which can serve as a law court evidence.

## **Forensic Anthropologist Requirements – Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities**

- **Education and Training:** To pursue a career as a forensic anthropologist, a Master's degree in anthropology, which takes two years, is usually required. A doctorate degree on the other hand is necessary for international operations. Field training and internship is also essential in boosting the career profile of forensic anthropologists
- **Investigative Skills:** They play an essential role in the solving of criminal cases, thus they possess a keen sense of investigation to look beyond the surface
- **Communication Skills:** Forensic anthropologists require precise writing and reading skills, as well as oral communication skills to properly present the results of their findings
- **Analytical Skills:** They employ a lot of analytical skills in conducting laboratory tests on human remains and bones
- **Critical Thinking Skills:** They engage in constructive thinking to be able to reach a logical conclusion from the results of their lab analysis.