

**UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO  
ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

**GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE**

**JARRED RUNDLE**

**Burnt by Fire: An Experimental Study of Ballistic Trauma in  
Burnt Remains**

**MONDAY, December 15th,  
1:30-3:30 P.M.  
PAS 2030**

The destructive power of fire makes it a common choice for covering up crimes like murder. By warping and shrinking the bones, fire can pose a challenge to even the most experienced forensic investigator. To better understand the effects of fire on bodies it is common for forensic investigators to set up experiments to study these effects. For my thesis I employed an experiment to look at the effects fire can have on remains that have been inflicted with ballistic trauma. Through examination of the skeletal remains, I observed the morphological changes in traumatic markers on the bones as they progress through the different stages of burning. My research will provide forensic investigators with a better understanding of how ballistic trauma changes in fire and how to identify the differences between the postmortem fractures of fire to the perimortem fractures generated by ballistic trauma.

**ALL WELCOME!**

**(ANTH MAJORS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND)**