

ABFO STUDY GUIDE

Welcome to the American Board of Forensic Odontology (ABFO) Certification Study Guide. This document contains the materials, information and support needed to assist in your studies of forensic odontology and becoming a board-certified forensic odontologist. This Study Guide contains the following topics:

- 1) **APPROVED EDUCATIONAL COURSES**
- 2) **LIST OF RECOMMENDED READING MATERIALS**
- 3) **ABFO WORKSHOPS**
- 4) **ABFO REPOSITORIES**
- 5) **ABFO CONTACT**

The pathway to certification is not easy or quick, but we believe you will find it is very rewarding and worthwhile.

EDUCATIONAL COURSES

There are a number of organizations and educational resources available to assist individual's desiring to acquire foundational and advanced knowledge and skills necessary to perform forensic odontology casework. These educational courses can be used to meet the requirements in item C.3. listed above. Forensic organizations offering continuing educational opportunities approved by the ABFO Certification and Education Committee include: ABFO (Workshops - see below), American Academy of Forensic Science (Workshops), The American Society of Forensic Odontology (Annual Meeting), and the Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists. In addition, there are a number of university courses, symposiums, fellowships and masters programs also approved by the ABFO Certification and Education Committee. These are listed with associated contact information below.

EDUCATIONAL COURSES, FELLOWSHIPS AND MASTERS PROGRAMS

- **APPROVED FORENSIC ODONTOLOGY COURSES:**
 - University of Detroit** - kimberly.perry@udmercy.edu - Dr. Allan Warnick
 - McGill University** - nikoo.taghavi@mcgill.ca - Dr. Robert Dorion
 - Fellowship in Forensic Odontology, University of Texas** - senn@uthscsa.edu - Dr. David Senn
 - Southwest Symposium on Forensic Dentistry** - senn@uthscsa.edu - Dr. David Senn
 - Master of Forensic Odontology/Leuven, Belgium** - <http://med.kuleuven.be/eng/forodont>
 - Forensic Dentistry Fellowship, University of Tennessee** – rweems@uab.edu – Dr. Dick Weems
 - All That Remains, University of TN Medical Center/Knoxville, TN** - rweems@uab.edu

- **INFORMATION ON MEMBERSHIP IN AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FORENSIC SCIENCES (AAFS)**
www.aafs.org
- **INFORMATION ON MEMBERSHIP IN AMERICAN SOCIETY OF FORENSIC ODONTOLOGY (ASFO)**
www.asfo.org
- **INFORMATION ON MEMBERSHIP IN SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS (SWAFS)** www.swafs.org

RECOMMENDED READING MATERIALS

A list of pertinent resource and reference material is maintained by the ABFO. This list is not exhaustive, but is thorough, and covers foundational material that will be tested on the ABFO Certification Exam.

RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

- **DENTAL SCHOOL CURRICULUM GUIDELINES FOR FORENSIC ODONTOLOGY (pg.161 DRM)**
- **ABFO SUGGESTED READING MATERIALS LIST FOR CERTIFICATION EXAM:**
<http://www.abfo.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/7.a-Study-Guide-revised-20111.pdf>

Many of these books can be found for purchase at CRC Press

<http://www.crcpress.com/browse/?category=FRN02A>

FOR CURRENT ASFO MANUAL

www.ASFO.org

The following list of resources and references are provided as a guide to the scientific literature and foundational knowledge from which the ABFO Certification Examination is derived. It is provided as a resource for you in preparation to challenge the written and practical portions of the examination.

The rapidly expanding body of knowledge in the forensic sciences implies a professional obligation to keep abreast of the current literature in the field, particularly with respect to forensic odontology. In preparation for this examination, each candidate is encouraged to consult appropriate scientific articles and texts in the discipline. The following list comprises the suggested literature that will be helpful in preparing for the examination. The cited references are also a source of many of the test items on the examination. Not included in this list but of special importance are the vast number of individual articles that appear in such journals as the Journal of Forensic Sciences, Journal of the American Dental Association, Journal of Forensic Odonto-Stomatology, Forensic Science International, American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology, and the International Journal of Legal Medicine. Reprints of many pertinent articles from these sources will be a desirable addition to the forensic odontologist's personal reference library. Questions on ABFO exams are primarily from texts that are still in print but out-of-print texts add knowledge to the candidate preparing for the exam and a career in forensic odontology.

1. Forensic Dentistry, Stimson, P. & Mertz, C., 1997, CRC Press LLC, Boca Raton, FL., ISBN 0849381037.

2. Digital Analysis of Bite Mark Evidence. Johansen RJ, Bowers CM (eds). 2003: On CD-ROM by Forensic Imaging Services, Santa Barbara. ISBN 0967786606.
3. Forensic science: An Introduction to Scientific and Investigative Techniques. James SH, Nordby JJ (eds). 2003: CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL. 689 pages, ISBN 0849312469.
4. Spencer DE. Bioterrorism & Forensics: Dental identification, disaster preparedness, response teams. CDA Journal. Vol. 32:8, August, 2004
5. Bitemark Evidence. Dorion RBJ (ed). 2005: Marcel Dekker, New York. 629 pages, ISBN 082475415X.
6. Forensic Dentistry, 2nd Edition, Senn & Stimson, Second Edition, 2010, CTC Press, Boca Raton, FL., ISBN, 978-1-4200-7836-7
7. Bitemark Evidence, 2nd Edition. Dorion RBJ (ed). 2011, CRC Press. ISBN 082475415X.
8. Manual of Forensic of Forensic Odontology 5th edition. Senn DR and Weems RA (eds): Boca Raton, Florida, CRC Press. 2013
9. ABFO Diplomate's Reference Manual; Terminology and Guidelines for Bite Mark Analysis, Identification and Mass Fatality Incidences. www.abfo.org
10. Wheeler's Dental Anatomy, Physiology, and Occlusion, 8th Ed., Ash M and S Nelson, 2003, Saunders, St. Louis, ISBN 0-7216-9382-2, 978-9058-6705-1-9
11. Age Estimation in the Living: The Practitioner's Guide Black S, Aggrawal A and Payne-James J (eds);, West Sussex, UK, Wiley-Blackwell, ISBN 978-0-470-51967-7.
12. Forensic Odontology Principles and Practice. David TJ and Lewis JM (eds): 2018, Elsevier Academic Press. ISBN 978-0-12-80519846

The following references are considered "no longer in print". The ABFO C&E Committee believes that these materials may provide a significant historical framework for current references:

1. Handbook for Dental Identification. Luntz L, Luntz P (eds). 1973: JB Lippincott, Philadelphia. 194 pages, ISBN0397503156
2. Forensic Dentistry. Cameron JM, Sims BG (eds). 1973: Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh. 158 pages, ISBN 0443010757
3. Forensic Dentistry. Sopher IM (ed). 1976: Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, IL. 162 pages, ISBN0398034745

4. Dental Identification and Forensic Odontology. Harvey W 9ed). 1976: Henry Kimpton Co, London. 188 pages, ISBN0853137862
5. Forensic Dentistry. Dental Clinics of North America, Standish SM, Stimson PG (eds). January 1977: WB Saunders, Philadelphia
6. Person Identification by Means of the Teeth. Keiser-Nielsen S (ed). 1980: John Wright & Sons, London. 114 pages, ISBN 0723605572
7. Outline of Forensic Dentistry. Cottone JA, Standish SM (eds). 1982: Yearbook Medical Pub, Chicago
8. A Colour Atlas of Forensic Dentistry. Whittaker DK, MacDonald DG (eds). 1989: Wolfe, London. 134 pages, ISBN 0723409617
9. Practical Forensic Odontology. Clark DH (ed). 1992: Wright, Oxford. ISBN 072361511X
10. ASFO Manual of Forensic Odontology. Third Revised Edition, Bowers CM, Bell GL (eds). 1997: ASFO Colorado Springs, ISBN 096502234
11. Forensic Odontology. Dental Clinics of North America, Fixott RH (ed). April 2001: WB Saunders, Philadelphia
12. ASFO Manual of Forensic Odontology, 4th Edition, Herschaft, E. et. al. 2006: ASFO Colorado Springs. ISBN 0-965022366

ABFO WORKSHOPS

Some of the requirements needed to apply to take the ABFO Certification Examination may be met by successful participation in training workshops offered by the ABFO. Currently, there are four hands-on workshops available and are presented in alternating years. They include: the Civil Litigation Workshop, the Dental Age Estimation Workshop, the Bitemark Workshop, and the Dental Identification Workshop. Registration information including dates offered can be found on the ABFO website homepage, <http://www.ABFO.org>. Individuals may register as an “Attendee” or as a “Participant” in any of the workshops. “Attendees” and “Participants” receive the same didactic and hands-on instruction. “Participants” will additionally receive forensic odontology cases that must be completed and returned for evaluation and review. Case credit for Workshop participation is not automatic but rather dependent upon the participant’s ability to meet workshop specific criteria.

WORKSHOPS

- **ABFO WORKSHOPS (pg. 83 of DRM)**
- **ABFO HOMEPAGE <http://www.ABFO.org>**

ABFO REPOSITORIES

The ABFO has established two repositories: 1) Bitemark Repository and 2) Dental Age Estimation Repository. Repository cases may be accessed by potential ABFO candidates to help attain credits towards ABFO board eligibility. Repository casework is evaluated by the respective ABFO Bitemark and Dental Age Estimation Committees for technique, skill and accuracy. It is advised that only individuals with sound forensic odontology foundational skills attempt to access either of the ABFO Repositories. The protocol and associated fees to access each repository can be found in the **DRM** or by contacting the respective ABFO Committee/Repository chairperson.

REPOSITORIES

- **ABFO REPOSITORIES** (pg. 85 of DRM)
- **ABFO HOMEPAGE** <http://www.ABFO.org>

ABFO CONTACT

If a certification candidate encounters difficulties or has questions regarding board certification not covered specifically in this Study Guide they may direct their questions to ABFO Certification and Examination Committee, Chair. C&EChair@abfo.org