

# That's Disgusting!

Estimating Time Since Death from Human Decomposition

presented by Stephen P. Nawrocki

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4~5:15pm

at the INDIANA MEDICAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Investigators need to know when an individual died, and this information is best estimated from insect evidence on the body. However, when insects are not available the anthropologist can make an imprecise estimate using the state of decomposition of the soft tissues. Recent research by the University of Indianapolis Archaeology and Forensics Laboratory has tried to improve our methods by carefully examining the relationship between decay and accumulated temperature, and results suggest that we've been doing it wrong for decades. **Warning! This topic may not be suitable for very young or sensitive learners.**

The Forensic Science Lecture Series (FSLs), sponsored jointly by the Indiana Medical History Museum and the University of Indianapolis Archeology & Forensics Laboratory, was established in 2004 to help educate the public in the forensic sciences and related fields as well as to spotlight the fascinating stories that scientists have to tell.

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