**Bertillion Anthropometry Lab**

**Introduction**

**Materials**

Calipers

Meter stick

Ruler

Tape Measure

Stool

Index card

**Procedure**

***Part A: Making the measurements***

For this experiment, you should work in pairs. Make all measurements in ***centimeters.***

1. Height

Standing without shoes up against a wall, measure the distance from the floor to the top of the head.

1. “Torso” (Seated height)

Sit on a stool. Measure from the stool/chair to the top of the head. Do not slouch.

1. Stretch

Measure the length from the left shoulder to the right middle finger when the arm is raised (see diagram)

1. Width of head

Measure temple to temple. (See diagram)

1. Length of right ear

Measure the distance between the upper rim and the lowest point of the right ear lobe.

1. Distance from elbow to tip of the middle finger
2. Width of cheeks

Measure the outer edge of the right cheekbone to the outer edge of the left cheeckbone. (see diagram below)

1. Length of left foot

Stand on your left leg and support yourself by placing a hand on the back of a chair as in the diagram. Measure from the inside of the foot from the heel to end of the big toe.

1. Color of left eye

**Data Table**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Height |  |  |
| Torso (Seated height) |  |  |
| Stretch |  | |
| Width of Head |  | |
| Length of right ear |  | |
| Length of left foot |  |  |
| Distance from elbow to tip of middle finger |  |  |
| Width of cheeks |  | |
| Color of left eye |  | |

***Part B: Making a “identification card”***

1. Convert the measurements for height, torso, foot length and elbow-fingertip distance to inches (2.54 cm = 1 inch). Record this conversion measurement in the second column on the data table.
2. Mark an “X” on the measurement card for the appropriate tab.
3. Carefully cut the card leaving the appropriate tab attached for each measurement
4. Use a hole punch to make a hole through each of the 5 “X”s you have made

**Post-Lab Questions**

1. What is anthropometry?
2. Would you consider anthropometry a valid method of human classification? Why or why not? Support your answer with at least two reasons.
3. What could be done to make anthropometric measurements more accurate?
4. Would this data file be good for identifying a criminal from an *eyewitness description*? Explain your answer.
5. Why would measurements of waist circumference ***not*** be useful for Bertillion classification?
6. Anthropometry was only of use if a person was in police custody. Why?
7. What case was responsible for the abandonment of Anthropometry? What happened in this case? Why was it significant? What technique replaced anthropometry?