

ANTHROPOLOGY 101 INTRODUCTION TO BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Fall 2010 – WEB

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Office: McCarthy Hall Room 426-C

Office Hours: TUE 1:15-2:15 P.M., WED 5:00-7:00 P.M., THU 4:15-6:15 P.M.

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Description from the Course Catalog: Prerequisites: None. This course examines humans as biological organisms from an evolutionary perspective. It introduces important concepts, methods, findings and issues in the study of the Order Primates, including the relationships among fossil monkeys, apes and humans and the significance of genetic diversity in modern human populations.

Course Objectives: In this course, students will be introduced to the exciting and multi-faceted field of biological anthropology – the study of human evolutionary history, adaptation, and variation. Students will learn the principles of evolutionary theory and how they have been applied to improve our understanding of the human condition. Students will also be exposed to the principles of evolutionary genetics, and learn how molecular genetics plays a fundamental role in the evolutionary processes that act on humans. Students will be introduced to our closest living relatives, the nonhuman primates, and learn what insights into the human condition have been obtained from studying these animals. Students will be exposed to the primate fossil record which spans more than 50 million years and has given rise to modern humans and the other living primates, as well as many extinct lineages. Finally, students will be introduced to the bewildering variation that exists both within and between modern human populations.

Student Learning Goals: Students completing this course will achieve a fuller understanding of (a) how to think scientifically, (b) how evolution works, (c) humans as primates, (d) human evolutionary history, and (e) human variation.

CSUF General Education Requirements Met By This Course: This course fulfills the requirements of General Education courses belonging to category III.A.3 at CSU Fullerton (Implications and Explorations in Mathematics and Natural Sciences). This course contains substantial scientific and mathematical content and requires completion of appropriate courses in Categories III. A. 1 and 2 as prerequisites to enrollment. ***A grade of “C” (2.0) or better is required to meet this general education requirement. A grade of “C-” (1.7) or below will not satisfy this general education requirement.*** Below, five goals of General Education courses in category III.A.3 are listed in italic type, and are followed by standard type explaining how this Introduction to Biological Anthropology course will meet these goals:

- *“To understand broad unifying themes in mathematics and/or science from cross-disciplinary perspectives”* - This course applies principles from evolutionary theory (the primary unifying theme in the biological and anthropological sciences) to the study of human evolutionary history, adaptation, and variation.
- *“To solve complex problems that require mathematical and/or scientific reasoning”* - Students will be required to develop the critical thinking skills necessary to achieving informed opinions on key concepts in human evolution. In particular, students will be introduced to the combination of hypothesis testing and experimentation that comprise the scientific method.

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- “*To relate mathematics and/or science to significant social problems or to other related disciplines*” - Students will learn about how controversial ‘areas of inquiry’ in biological anthropology have been used in the past to justify racism and even genocide.
- “*To understand the dynamic and evolving nature of the sciences*” - This course provides students with an up-to-date overview of the field of human evolution, covering many recent studies that have benefited from newly developed technologies including the recovery and sequencing of ancient DNA and three-dimensional computer imaging of fossil remains.
- “*Writing assignments in General Education courses should involve the organization and expression of complex data or ideas and careful and timely evaluations of writing so that deficiencies are identified and suggestions for improvement and/or for means of remediation are offered. Assessments of the student’s writing competence shall be used in determining the final course grade (UPS 411.201:1)*” This course fulfills the General Education writing requirement by requiring students to complete two 3-page critical essays. These essays will help students organize and discuss complex data and ideas related to their growing understanding of the foundations of biological anthropology. Students will receive detailed feedback and editorial comments (on grammar, writing style, scientific content, etc.) from me that they are expected to use to help improve their second paper. Twenty-five percent of students’ course grade will be based on assessment of their writing competence through evaluation of their written assignments.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Your grade in this course will be based on six online exams and two writing assignments. In addition, there will be an opportunity to earn up to 15 extra credit points (or an additional 3% towards your final course grade) by attending (and writing a 1-2 page essay about) the Southern California Primate Research Forum that will be held on Saturday, November 13 this semester at San Diego State University.

Exams: There will be six online exams in this course. Each exam will count for 12% of your course grade. Review questions to help you study for these quizzes will be posted on the course Blackboard site. You will be tested mostly on material from lectures (80-85% of each exam), but some test questions will come from readings and videos (15-20% of each exam) as well. All exams will include several types of questions, including multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching, and/or short essay. You will be able to access the exams under the Assignments tab on the course Blackboard site. **When taking exams you are expected to take them on a campus computer. If you fail to do so, you stand a HIGH chance of being kicked out of the exam. If you are kicked off (or timed out) you will not be able to re-start your exam session. You should prepare for exams as you would for a regular “Live” class, where notes and text files would not be available to you during exams.**

Writing Assignments: There will be TWO writing assignments worth a total of 28% of your course grade. Students will write TWO 3-page response papers (or the equivalent of 750 words each) each about an article of their choosing from the required course text *Annual Editions: Physical Anthropology 10/11*. You will summarize and elaborate on the major points in your chosen article, describe how the material in the article relates to material covered in class and in your textbook, and why you chose to write about this particular article. You must submit the papers to me through the specified link on the class Blackboard site. I will not accept late papers under any circumstances. Students must work independently on the two writing assignments. Student papers will be graded on writing style, grammar, organization, and scientific content. As a Cal State Fullerton student you have access to computers with word processing software and internet connections. Because word processing software has spell check capabilities, be sure to spell check and proof read your papers before submitting them. If you do not

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know how to use computers or software, now is a good time to learn. Contact the Helpdesk at <http://www.fullerton.edu/helpdesk>, or (714) 278-7777. If you feel that you need assistance in learning to write a term paper, help is available from the Writing Center in Pollak Library, (714) 278-3650, <http://hss.fullerton.edu/english/wc/>. This is an excellent resource available to you free of charge. Because this resource is available to you, EVERYONE in this class should be able to produce a paper that has a clear writing style, is grammatically sound, and contains sources that are cited properly.

- For the FIRST critical essay assignment, students will choose from among the following articles from *Annual Editions: Physical Anthropology 10/11*: 5, 6, 34, 37, 39, 40, or 43. You will receive detailed feedback and editorial comments (on grammar, writing style, scientific content, etc.) from me on the first writing assignment that you will be expected to use to help improve your second paper.
- For the SECOND critical essay assignment, students can choose to write about one of the following articles: 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 23, or 24 from *Annual Editions: Physical Anthropology 10/11*.

Extra Credit (EC): Students will have ONE opportunity to earn up to a total of 15 extra credit points (or 3%) towards their final course grade. To earn these points, students must attend an all-day lecture series, the Southern California Primate Research Forum (SCRPF), to be held at San Diego State University on Saturday 13 November 2010, and write summaries of two of the talks (one-page summary for each talk) given that day. I will also include occasional extra credit questions on exams for this class, but they will not offer the possibility of earning as many points as provided by the SCRPF event in San Diego.

Grading Policies: Table 1 lists the various course assignments, their due dates, the total number of points you can earn for each assignment, and the overall value (or % worth) of each assignment towards your final grade in this course. Table 2 outlines how your overall grade for this course will be determined based on the total number of points you have earned over the course of the semester:

TABLE 1

	Tot. Points	Percent Grade (%)
Exam 1	60	12
Exam 2	60	12
Exam 3	60	12
Exam 4	60	12
Exam 5	60	12
Exam 6	60	12
Essay 1	70	14
Essay 2	70	14
TOTAL	500	100

TABLE 2

Grade	Points (range)	Percent (%)
A+	493-500	99-100
A	463-492	93-98
A-	448-462	90-92
B+	433-447	87-89
B	413-432	83-86
B-	398-412	80-82
C+	383-397	77-79
C	363-382	73-76
C-	348-362	70-72
D+	323-347	65-69
D	298-322	60-64
F	0-297	0-59

Grades of ‘A’ are earned by students who make a serious effort on their assignments and in the class in general, and who demonstrate by their work and exams that they have an excellent understanding of the materials covered in lectures and readings.

COURSE POLICIES

Your education is your responsibility. Successful progress in the course requires that students keep up with the assigned material. This is an online course and has no scheduled class meetings. Students will be expected to keep up to date on assignments, and will access instructional materials (lectures, videos, etc.) and exams online. The overall structure of the course is provided in this syllabus.

Course Blackboard Site

The use of a computer and the internet is required for this course. You will be utilizing the course website for exams and writing assignments, correspondence with the professor, and to keep track of your grades. The syllabus is available on Blackboard where all the course information and activities required for your grade will be posted during the semester. Blackboard is a web-based application provided by CSUF on which instructors can provide course documents and resources to students. If you have difficulties using your computer or getting access to Blackboard, contact the Helpdesk at <http://www.fullerton.edu/helpdesk>, or (657) 278-7777 but do NOT call me or the Anthropology Department. Please make sure that the e-mail address listed for you on Blackboard is one you use or one that you regularly check (all CSUF students receive a student e-mail address, but you may have it changed to another one, such as gmail or yahoo; remember that it is your responsibility to arrange this).

Your not receiving e-mail because of not having verified your correct e-mail address in Blackboard is your responsibility; it may not be used as an excuse for missing assignments. If you are unfamiliar with Blackboard tools, there are several tutorials (<http://distance-ed.fullerton.edu/bb/>) that are offered through Blackboard and I encourage you to use them. You are responsible for learning how to use Blackboard. For a tutorial or access to the Blackboard Support Web Site, you can also click on “Need Help?” which you will find once you’ve clicked the Blackboard tab. Students access Blackboard through their Student Portal. Login to the portal at <http://my.fullerton.edu>; click the Blackboard tab; click the link ‘Click here to Access your Blackboard Classes’.

Email Policy

When you email me (or other students) regarding this course, please do so through the course Blackboard site under the Send Email button in the Course Menu. This way you can be sure that your message gets received and filed in the proper place (and not deleted by accident). All emails must be addressed to me (Professor or Dr. Fashing) and must be signed with your real name. I will not respond otherwise. Thanks.

Makeup Exams and Late Essays

You must post assignments on time. Five percent of the grade will be deducted from written assignments for each day they are late, no excuses. Makeup exams will be administered only for excused absences (e.g., family/medical emergencies). Written email requests for makeup assignments must be made prior to the missed exam.

Academic Integrity: Students are expected to be familiar with, and adhere to, University policies on Academic Dishonesty. Dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated in this course and policies on academic integrity will be strictly enforced. Familiarize yourself with the academic dishonesty policy, which can be found in the current student handbook or on the web at: <http://www.fullerton.edu/senate/PDF/300/UPS300-021.pdf>. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. Students who are found to be dishonest may receive a failing grade on the assignment

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or in the course. The Dean of Students Office Judicial Affairs has produced a guide on how to avoid plagiarism, which can be accessed at <http://www.fullerton.edu/deanofstudents/judicial/index.asp>

Special Needs: The learning community at CSUF respects all forms of diversity. Please see me if you need accommodations for a registered disability, or to fulfill cultural or religious obligations. Students with special needs should contact Disabled Student Services to register and learn about the services available to support their learning. You may learn more from their website <http://www.fullerton.edu/disabledservices/index.htm>

Other Online Course Information

- I will respond to student email within **1-3 business days**.
- I will post grades for the previous week's assignments on the class Blackboard site one week after the due date, although there may be delays due to workload. I will notify the class when grades are posted.
- All posts and emails must be **signed with your real name**.
- You need to be familiar with Windows and the use of a keyboard and mouse.
- You will need access to a Windows based computer connected to the internet. There are many such computers available on campus.
- In the event of technical problems, students can submit their work to a Department of Anthropology staff member during regular university business hours.

Netiquette

Please observe standards of etiquette on the web. Although this is an online environment, it is still in an educational and classroom format. Treat your postings and discussions in a professional and educational manner. It is not appropriate to discuss extracurricular activities that are irrelevant to course and content and class discussions. If you do feel the need to have such discussions, please utilize another internet resource such as AOL, Yahoo, or Gmail. Your postings on Blackboard are NOT private discussions and I will be monitoring them for content and for grading purposes. Disruptive behavior online will not be tolerated, and I will block you from participating (which will affect your grade). Be respectful and courteous to members of the class (including your professor). Do not use all capital letters in your posts, and avoid personal comments.

Basic Rules for Postings and Discussions:

- BE sure to identify yourself
- BE polite
- BE sure to identify quoted material
- NO long posts - 50 line limit
- NO obscene language
- NO religious or sexual solicitation
- NO personal attacks on list members
- NO long ASCII graphics
- NO long quotations
- Do your own work

Emergency Preparedness: The safety of all students attending California State University Fullerton is of paramount importance. During an emergency it is necessary for students to have a basic

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understanding of their personal responsibilities and the University's emergency response procedures. In the event of an emergency please adhere to the following guidelines.

Before an emergency occurs

1. Know the safe evacuation routes for your specific building and floor.
2. Know the evacuation assembly area for your building.

When an emergency occurs

1. Keep calm and do not run or panic. Your best strategy for emerging safely from an emergency is to remain clear-headed.
2. Stay where you are unless it is unsafe to remain there. If directed to evacuate, take all of your belongings and proceed safely to the nearest evacuation route.
3. Do not leave the area; remember that faculty and other staff members need to be able to account for your whereabouts.
4. Do not re-enter the building until informed it is safe by a building marshal or other campus authority.

After an emergency occurs

1. If an emergency disrupts normal campus operations or causes the University to close for a prolonged period of time (more than three days), students are expected to complete the course assignments listed on the syllabus as soon as it is reasonably possible to do so.
2. Students can determine the University's operational status by checking the University's website at <http://www.fullerton.edu>, calling the University's hotline number at 657-519-0911, or tuning into area radio and television stations. Students should assume that classes will be held unless they hear or read an official closure announcement.

For more information about emergency preparedness, see:

http://www.fullerton.edu/emergencypreparedness/ep_students.html

REQUIRED READINGS

Required readings come from TWO sources (listed below), both of which are available at Titan Bookstore on campus. Copies of the required course texts will be placed on Reserve at Pollak Library. You will find the actual individual reading assignments from these sources for each lecture on the Course Schedule (see below).

(1) Stanford, Craig, Allen, John S., and Antón, Susan C. 2010. *Exploring Biological Anthropology: The Essentials (EBA)*. 2nd edition. Prentice Hall: Boston.

(2) Angeloni, E. 2010. *Annual Editions: Physical Anthropology 10/11 (AEPA)*. 19th edition. McGraw-Hill: New York.

Required Videos: Students will be required periodically to watch videos available online through links posted on the course Blackboard site that are related to and build upon material covered in class. The titles of these videos and the dates they are due to be watched are noted on the syllabus (see below).

CHANGES TO THE SYLLABUS

This document is not a legal contract, but a course syllabus. As such, it is a good-faith outline of course requirements and expectations. Note, however, that circumstances may require that assignment

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deadlines and so on be changed during the course of the semester. Changes, if any, will be announced in class, under the “Announcement” button in the “Course Menu” or by email. It is your responsibility to know of any announced changes even if you are absent or away from class.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK	TOPIC(S)	READING ASSIGNMENTS
1	Aug 24: Course overview; Introduction to biological anthropology Aug 26: History of evolutionary thought	Aug 24: EBA Chapter 1 Aug 26: EBA 13-19; AEPA Article 1
2	Aug 31: Evolution by natural selection Sep 2: Molecular genetics I: DNA structure and function	Aug 31: EBA 19-30; AEPA Article 2; <i>Video – ‘Darwin: The Tree of Life’</i> Sep 2: EBA 31-45; AEPA Article 7
3	Sep 7: Molecular genetics II: Chromosomes - mitosis and meiosis Sep 9: EXAM 1	Sep 7: EBA 45-57; AEPA Article 8 Sep 9: None
4	Sep 14: Principles of inheritance Sep 16: The Modern Synthesis and mechanisms of evolutionary change	Sep 14: EBA 58-71; AEPA Article 42; <i>Video – ‘Ghost in Your Genes’</i> Sep 16: EBA 81-88
5	Sep 21: Human variation and adaptation I Sep 23: Human variation and adaptation II	Sep 21: EBA 72-80, 102-106; AEPA Article 35, 41 Sep 23: EBA 106-135; AEPA Article 36
6	Sep 28: EXAM 2 Sep 30: The living primates I	Sep 28: None Sep 30: EBA 136-152
7	Oct 5: The living primates II Oct 7: Primate socioecology	Oct 5: EBA 152-153, 156-169; <i>Video – ‘Life: Primates’</i> Oct 7: EBA 169-178, 183, 186-195; AEPA Article 17
8	Oct 12: EXAM 3 Oct 14: Primate reproduction	Oct 12: None Oct 14: EBA 178-183; AEPA Article 16
9	Oct 19: ESSAY I DUE ; Primate cognition Oct 21: Primate conservation	Oct 19: EBA 361-365; AEPA Article 9 Oct 21: EBA 93, 154-155, 184-185; AEPA Article 10; <i>Video – ‘The Last Great Ape’</i>
10	Oct 26: EXAM 4 Oct 28: Evolutionary analysis, the fossil record, and techniques in paleontology	Oct 26: None Oct 28: EBA 89-98, 196-217
11	Nov 2: Primate evolution Nov 4: Early hominids and australopithecines I	Nov 2: EBA 217-235 Nov 4: EBA 236-256; AEPA Article 22
12	Nov 9: Early hominids and australopithecines II	Nov 9: EBA 256-270; AEPA Article 21; <i>Video – ‘Discovering Ardi’</i>

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	Nov 11: VETERANS DAY – NO CLASSES	Nov 11: None
13	Nov 16: EXAM 5 Nov 18: ESSAY II DUE; Early <i>Homo</i> and early hominid behavior	Nov 16: None Nov 18: EBA 271-277
	Nov 23: FALL RECESS – NO CLASSES Nov 25: FALL RECESS – NO CLASSES	Nov 23: None Nov 25: None
14	Nov 30: <i>Homo erectus</i> Dec 2: Archaic <i>Homo sapiens</i> and Neanderthals	Nov 30: EBA 277-298; AEPA Article 25 Dec 2: EBA 299-330; AEPA Article 26; <i>Video – ‘The Human Family Tree’</i>
15	Dec 7: Modern <i>Homo sapiens</i> I Dec 9: Modern <i>Homo sapiens</i> II	Dec 7: EBA 331-340, 342-346; AEPA Article 28 Dec 9: EBA 341, 346-358; AEPA Article 30; <i>Video – ‘Alien From Earth’</i>
	EXAM WEEK: EXAM 6 (FINAL EXAM)	Dec 13-17: None