

Anthropology 101

Spring 2014

Human Biological Evolution (UC:CSU)

(Section 8400 - ACT, Saturdays, 9:00-1:05, Room SC-101 & on-line at ETUDES.org)

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Office hours: Saturdays, 8:30-9:00 am, and by appointment, Room SC-101 or HLRC first floor

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When you'd like to contact me, please use the Private Message (PM) email feature in our on-line course. From the left hand menu, click on "Discussions and Private Messages." Then click on "Private Messages" at the top.

Course Description

In this 8-week Accelerated College Transfer (ACT) introductory course we explore major topics in biological anthropology, focusing on human biological evolution. We will cover the following topics: heredity; mechanisms of evolutionary change; the evolution of human biological universals; the construction of human evolutionary lineages, using available data from genetics, the fossil record, and living nonhuman primates; human biological variation and adaptation; perspectives on race and racism; and the effects of human bio-cultural success on biodiversity.

Course Goals

- To learn how to interpret and assess theories, hypotheses, and data in biological anthropology
- To recognize and appreciate human biological universals and variation
- To bolster critical thinking skills
- To improve written and oral communication skills

Course Student Learning Outcome (SLO)

This term, the instructor will assess the following SLO:

- Explain how hereditary traits are transferred between generations and conclude how this relates to evolution by natural selection.

The course will focus on the following *Institutional Student Learning Outcomes*:

- A. Critical Thinking:** Analyze problems by differentiating fact from opinions, using evidence, and using sound reasoning to specify multiple solutions and their consequences.
- G. Cultural Diversity:** Respectfully engage with other cultures in an effort to understand them.

Keys to Building Our Learning Community

- Respect and honesty are vital.
- Attendance is important. Please be punctual if you can, and always mute cell phones and beepers while class is in session. If at all possible, turn your phone off.
- Academic Integrity is essential. Please cite any outside sources you consult to prepare written and oral work. I will assign zero points to plagiarized work, and/or exams involving any other form of cheating, and report instances to College administrators.
- Please adhere to the WLAC Standards of Student Conduct:
(<http://www.wlac.edu/online/documents/StudentConduct.pdf>).

Course Requirements

	<u>Points</u>
Thirteen on-line quizzes on reading (multiple choice, true/false).....	130
Six Major Homework Assignments.....	60
Seven on-line discussions (introductions; planning in-class group presentations).....	35
Six In-Class Group Presentations.....	30
Six In-class Exams (multiple choice, true/false, key terms, & short answer).....	175
Total.....	430

Earn up to 25 Extra Credit points by: 1) preparing a West's Spring Poster Showcase; or 2) producing a report on your visit to the California Science Center's Ecosystems Exhibit (<http://www.californiasciencecenter.org/Exhibits/WorldOfEcology/WorldOfEcology.php>). You may take part in both of these activities if you wish, but you may earn extra credit for only one. Please see instructions in ETUDES Modules for details.

Your final grade will be determined by dividing your total points by 430. 90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; 59% and below = F. I cannot give incomplete final grades in this class.

On-line Quizzes - On-line quizzes are open-book and untimed, but they must be completed by the dates and times listed on this syllabus and in ETUDES. As long as the due date has not passed, you may stop and start quizzes as many times as you wish. However, please be aware that if you click on "Finish," even accidentally, you will be submitting your answers for grading and cannot go back and make changes. Moreover, if you have not clicked on "Finish" by the due date/time, you will be locked out of the quiz and the system will give you a zero. I cannot offer redo or makeup quizzes. Please do not click on "Finish" until you are absolutely certain you are finished.

On-line Discussions - Because our first face-face meeting is not until Week 2, I'm asking you to post an introduction in "Class Discussions." After that, you will use the Discussion forum to plan your group in-class presentations. Due dates are in the General Course Outline below and in the Discussions.

In-class activities - If you are not present during in-class activities and/or turn in work late, you will lose points. Major Homework/Study Guides, which you can find in Modules, are due on the date listed in the General Course Outline below. Through group presentations, we will review the homework, you will self-correct your answers, and use the results as a study guide for the exam. (I'll collect your corrected guide with your completed exams.) All six exams must be taken on the date listed on the course outline. Please bring an 815-E scantron and a #2 pencil for exams. (For the final only, worth 50 points, you'll need an 882-e scantron instead.) I give make-ups for documented illnesses and/or other emergencies only. In these rare instances, you must contact me as soon as possible after missing an exam to schedule a make-up. I will not give incomplete final grades in this class.

Participation - In each class, I invite students to participate in discussions and activities. Thoughtful participation hinges on active, attentive listening as well as speaking. Please join me in working on striking a balance between listening and speaking to ensure that all are afforded equal and ample opportunity to participate.

Notice from the Office of Special Programs and Services

Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Disabled Students Programs and Services located in HLRC-1. For information, contact DSP&S at (310) 287-4450 as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Required Text

Jurmain, Robert, Lynn Kilgore, and Wenda Trevethan. (2013). *Essentials of Physical Anthropology. Ninth Edition*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, Cengage. [ISBN-978-1-111-83718-1]

The text is available to rent and purchase at West's bookstore and on 2-hour reserve at the library. For West's on-line bookstore, go to www.wlac.edu, click on "Services," scroll down to "Bookstore" and follow the links. You may also rent the text on-line at www.coursesmart.com.

I may also distribute supplemental required reading in class.

General Course Outline. A rough course outline keyed to our text, quizzes, homework/study guides, and exam dates follows. Even if you are absent, you are responsible for knowing of any changes announced in class. You are also responsible for managing your class enrollment.

WEEK 1: Mon, FEB 10 – Sat, FEB 15

TOPICS

Introduction to Physical Anthropology

READING

Jurmain, et al, Chapter 1
Module 1

*Last day to drop classes with a refund/no fee owed, to drop classes without a “W,”
or to file Pass/No Pass: Thurs., 2/13.*

On-line tasks:

- 1) complete quiz 1 by Fri, Feb 14 @ 9:00 pm;**
- 2) introduce yourself in the Class Discussions by Sat, Feb 15 @ 1 pm**

No face-to-face class – Presidents’ Day Holiday – campus closed Feb 14-17.

WEEK 2: Sun, FEB 16 – Sat, FEB 22

TOPICS

The Development of Evolutionary Theory

READING

Jurmain, et al, Chapter 2
Module 2

On-line tasks:

- 1) post in Group Discussion by Thurs, Feb 20 @ 9:00 pm;**
- 2) complete quiz 2 by Fri, Feb 21 @ 9:00 pm**

Feb 22 in-class activities:

Homework 1 due; group presentations/homework review

WEEK 3: Sun, FEB 23 – Sat, MAR 1

TOPICS

The Biological Basis of Life

READING

Jurmain, et al, Chapter 3
Module 3

Heredity and Evolution

Jurmain, et al, Chapter 4
Module 4

On-line Tasks:

- 1) post in Group Discussion by Thurs, Feb 27 @ 9:00 pm;**
- 2) complete quizzes 3 and 4, by Fri, Feb 28 @ 9:00 pm**

Mar 1 in-class activities:

- 1) Exam 1 (on chapters 1 & 2);
- 2) Homework 2 due; group presentations/homework review

WEEK 4: Sun, MAR 2 – Sat, MAR 8

TOPICS

READING

Macroevolution: Processes of Vertebrae and Mammalian Evolution

Jurmain, et al, Chapter 5
Module 5

An Overview of Primates

Jurmain, et al, Chapter 6
Module 6

Primate Behavior

Jurmain, et al, Chapter 7
Module 7

On-line Tasks:

- 1) post in Group Discussion by Thurs, Mar 6 @ 9:00 pm;
- 2) complete quizzes 5, 6 and 7 by Fri, Mar 7 @ 9:00 pm

Mar 8 in-class activities:

- 1) Exam 2 (on chapters 3 and 4);
- 2) Homework 3 due; group presentations/homework review

WEEK 5: Sun, MAR 9 – Sat, MAR 15

TOPICS

READING

What we know from bones
Primate and Hominin Origins

Appendices A & D
Jurmain, et al, Chapter 8
Module 8

The First Dispersal of Modern Humans

Jurmain, et al, Chapter 9
Module 9

On-line Tasks:

- 1) post in Group Discussion by Thurs, Mar 13 @ 9:00 pm;
- 2) complete quizzes 8 and 9 by Fri, Mar 14 @ 9:00 pm

Mar 15 in-class activities:

- 1) Exam 3 (on chapters 5, 6 and 7);
- 2) Homework 4 due; group presentations/homework review

WEEK 6: Sun, MAR 16 – Sat, MAR 22

TOPICS

Premodern Humans

The Origin and Dispersal of Modern Humans

Last day to drop classes with a “W”: Fri, Mar 21

READING

Jurmain, et al, Chapter 10
Module 10

Jurmain, et al, Chapter 11
Module 11

On-line Tasks:

- 1) post in Group Discussion by Thurs, Mar 20 @ 9:00 pm;
- 2) complete quizzes 10 and 11 by Fri, Mar 21 @ 9:00 pm

Mar 22 in-class activities:

- 1) Exam 4 (on chapters 8 & 9)
- 2) Homework 5 due; group presentations/homework review

WEEK 7: Sun, MAR 23 – Sat, MAR 29

TOPICS

Human Variation and Adaptation

Lessons from the Past, Lessons for the Future

READING

Jurmain, et al, Chapter 12
Module 12

Jurmain, et al, Chapter 14
Module 14

On-line Tasks:

- 1) post in Group Discussion by Thurs, Mar 27 @ 9:00 pm;
- 1) complete quizzes 12 and 14 by Fri, Mar 28 @ 9:00 pm. (no quiz 13)

Mar 29 in-class activities:

- 1) Exam 5 (on chapters 10 and 11);
- 2) Homework 6 due; group presentations/homework review

WEEK 8: Sun, MAR 30 – Sat, APR 5

Apr 5, 9:00 – 11:00 am - in-class Exam 6 (Final)
You'll need an 882-e scantron and a #2 pencil.