

ANTHROPOLOGY 201.03
An Introduction to Primatology & Human Evolution
Fall 2011

Time: Tues 18:00-20:50
Location: EDC 179

Instructor: Prof. Steig Johnson
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Office Hours: Tues 10:00-12:00

TA: TBA

REQUIRED TEXT:

Boyd R, and Silk JB (2009) *How Humans Evolved*, 5th Edition. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to evolutionary principles and processes. We will explore the patterns of anatomical and behavioural variation in the Order Primates. We will also trace the evolution of our species as reconstructed from the fossil record. Our goal is to understand the place of humans and our closest relatives in the natural world.

The course is divided into three parts. We begin with a discussion of the history of evolutionary thought, focusing on the theoretical breakthroughs of Charles Darwin and his contemporaries. We will also see how evolutionary theory developed during the 20th century and up until the present, incorporating modern genetics, population biology, microevolution, and macroevolution. The goal is to clarify these fundamental biological concepts for a better understanding of the evolution of unique primate (including human) features.

In the second section, we will review the various groups making up the Order Primates, including strepsirhines (lemurs, lorises, and galagos), tarsiers, New World monkeys, Old World monkeys, and apes. We will discuss what makes primates unique among mammals, and how primate taxonomic groupings vary in morphology, ecology, and social behaviour.

Finally, the third section of the course will focus on the evolution of humans and our ancestors. Beginning with an introduction to the earliest primates, we will trace our lineage through the appearance of major new radiations, including the hominoids, the first hominids, early species in the genus *Homo*, and, finally, anatomically modern humans. We will examine the fossil, molecular, and archaeological evidence for these major developments in human evolution.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Test	Date	% Overall Grade
#1	October 18	33.3%
#2	November 15	33.3%
#3	Registrar-scheduled	33.4%



Final course grades will be calculated as follows:

A+	94.9–100%	C+	66.9–70.8%
A	89.9–94.8%	C	62.9–66.8%
A-	84.9–89.8%	C-	68.9–62.8%
B+	79.9–84.8%	D+	54.9–58.8%
B	74.9–79.8%	D	49.9–54.8%
B-	70.9–74.8%	F	49.8% and below

Tests are non-cumulative and will be multiple-choice format. Make-up tests will not be given unless you have written proof of medical or other dire emergency.

Students are responsible for materials covered in the textbook, lectures, and films. Classroom materials missed due to absenteeism are the sole responsibility of the student.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

IMPORTANT DATES

September 13	First day of lecture
November 10-13	Reading Days
December 6	Last day of lecture

CLASS SCHEDULE

Subject to change, including reading assignments.

Part I: Introduction to Evolutionary Theory

Sep 13	General Introduction to Course
Sep 20	History of Evolutionary Theory Film: "Darwin's Dangerous Idea" Reading: Prologue, Chapter 1
Sep 27	Adaptation by Natural Selection From Natural Selection to the Modern Synthesis Reading: Chapters 2 (pp. 24-36), 3
Oct 4	The Modern Synthesis Speciation & Phylogeny Reading: Chapter 4
Oct 11	Review Part I
Oct 18	Test #1 Film: "Life in the Trees"

Part II: Introduction to Primate Studies

- Oct 25 What are Primates?
Survey of the Primates Part 1
Reading: Chapter 5
- Nov 1 Survey of the Primates Part 2
Primate Ecology
Primate Mating Systems
Evolution of Social Behaviour
Reading: Chapters 6-7
- Nov 8 Review Part II
- Nov 15 Test #2
Film: "Becoming Human" Part 1

Part III: Human Evolution

- Nov 22 Film: "Becoming Human" Parts 2-3
Primate Origins
Reading: Chapters 9-10
- Nov 29 Emergence of the Hominoids
Evolution of the Genus *Homo*
Reading: Chapters 11-13
- Dec 6 Review Part III

Note: Test #3 on Part III will take place during the Registrar-scheduled final exam period.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

In the event that the classroom should need to be evacuated due to an emergency please note that the primary assembly point shall be the Scurfield Hall Atrium and the secondary assembly point shall be the Professional Faculties Food Court.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

Plagiarism: "to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own" (Webster's). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing July also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the Anthropology Departments policy on intellectual honesty available at:
<https://www.anth.ucalgary.ca/home/links/intellectual-honesty-guidelines>