

Anthropology 201.3
INTRODUCTION TO PRIMATOLOGY AND HUMAN EVOLUTION
FALL 2013

Mondays: 6:00 – 8:50 pm
Room #: ST 135

Instructor: Dr. Susanne Cote
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Email: scote@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Tuesdays 2 – 4 pm, and by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: How do humans fit into the natural world? Who are our closest relatives and how did we evolve? Our goal in this class is to address these questions using evolutionary principles and processes. We will explore the patterns of anatomical, behavioural, and genetic variation in the Order Primates. We will also trace the evolution of our species as reconstructed from the fossil and archaeological records.

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, micro- 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, function, 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.

Required Text: Boyd R, and Silk JB (2012) *How Humans Evolved*, 6th Edition. New York: W.W. Norton & Company. *Older editions of the textbook may be used, but it is your responsibility to check for differences in content.*

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Test	Date	% Overall Grade
Midterm #1	September 30	30%
Midterm #2	November 4	30%
Final Exam	Registrar-scheduled (December 9-19 th)	40%

Midterm tests #1 and #2 are non-cumulative. The registrar-scheduled final examination IS cumulative, but most questions will focus on the final third of the course content. All tests will be in short answer format (e.g. multiple choice, true/false, matching) and will cover ALL material from lectures and ALL readings.

Grade Breakdown:

A+	100-94.9%	B	79.8-74.9%	C-	62.8-58.9%
A	94.8-89.9%	B-	74.8-70.9%	D+	58.8-54.9%
A-	89.8-84.9%	C+	70.8-66.9%	D	54.8-49.9%
B+	84.8-79.9%	C	66.8-62.9%	F	49.8% and less

COURSE POLICIES:

Classroom behavior and norms:

- The most important thing is to be respectful and supportive of other students. Please turn your cell phone and any other electronic devices. You may use a laptop to take notes, but please sit in the back or along the sides so as to not disturb other students. Please only use your laptops to take notes, and remember that instructors can often tell when you are watching videos, looking at Facebook etc.
- It is in your own best interest to attend all classes. You are responsible for taking your own notes, or for obtaining notes from a classmate if you have to miss a class for unavoidable reasons.
- Lecture slides will be posted on Blackboard by noon on the day of class. Please note that reading the lectures slides alone will NOT be sufficient to get a good grade in this class. All lecture content (including in class discussions, films, and other material not on the slides) is testable!
- We will normally take two 5-10 minute breaks during class. Sometimes we will take one longer break, depending on the lecture content.

Exam Policies:

- Missed exams automatically receive a score of zero. In the event of an emergency or illness, the Anthropology main office (403-220-6516) or the instructor MUST be notified BEFORE the exam, and documentation (e.g. a signed Physician's Statement) must be provided. Make up exams will not always be offered, and may be in any format (including oral examination). Please note that performance on make-up exams is normally poorer.
- Exam grades will be posted on Blackboard as quickly as possible. Exams are NOT returned to students. If you would like to look at your exam, please attend office hours or make an appointment. If you have concerns about the marking of your exam, you must provide a detailed written statement. Deadline for submission of a written statement is two weeks after exam results are posted.

Communication Guidelines:

- Engaging with your instructors is an important part of university, and can be challenging in large classes. All students are encouraged to see me as often as they like to ask questions, get general help with the course, or just to chat!
- I always prefer to talk IN PERSON. The best place to ask questions is in class (before, during, or after), during office hours, or to make an appointment to see me.
- I do my best to answer student emails as quickly as possible, but due to the volume of emails I receive I cannot commit to answering email questions immediately. It may take up to 2 business days (48 hours), so do not send questions last minute.
- I reserve the right to share questions and answers transmitted over email on Blackboard or in class if the answers are pertinent to everyone in the class. This saves time, and ensures that all students have access to the same information as they prepare for assignments and exams.
- Before emailing a question, please make sure that it hasn't already been addressed in the course outline or on Blackboard!

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. You are required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation.

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>

EMERGENCY EVACUATION:

In the event that the classroom should need to be evacuated due to an emergency situation please note that the primary assembly point shall be at the Professional Faculties Food Court and the Education Block Food Court shall be used as a secondary assembly point.

SAFEWALK:

Campus security will escort individuals day or night (www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk). Call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Please note that the class schedule is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Date	Topics	Readings
September 9	Course Introduction Adaptation and Natural Selection	Chapter 1
September 16	Genetics Modern Synthesis	Chapter 2, 3
September 23	Taxonomy, Speciation, and Phylogeny	Chapter 4
September 30	Midterm # 1 Introduction to the Primates (Film: <i>BBC Life - Primates</i>)	
October 7	What are Primates? Why Study Primates? Primate Ecology and Morphology	Chapter 5
October 14	NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING	
October 21	Mating and Social Systems Cooperation	Chapter 6, 7
October 28	Primate Social Behavior and Intelligence Primate Conservation	Chapter 8
November 4	Midterm #2 Introduction to Human Evolution (Film: <i>Discovering Ardi</i>)	
November 11	NO CLASS – REMEMBRANCE DAY	
November 18	The Fossil Record The Earliest Hominids – Bipedalism The Australopithecines	Chapter 9, 10
November 25	The Genus <i>Homo</i> Tools (Origins of Culture)	Chapter 11, 12
December 2	Evolution of Modern Humans	Chapter 13, 15
December 9-19 th	Final Exam (to be scheduled by the Registrar)	