

# **Anthropology 201.02: Introduction to Biological Anthropology**

Department of Anthropology and Archaeology  
University of Calgary

**Time:** Tuesdays 18:00-20:50

**Location:** EDC 179

**Instructor:** Dr. Erik G. Johannesson

**TA:** Hasinala Ramangason

**Email:** [erik.johannesson@ucalgary.ca](mailto:erik.johannesson@ucalgary.ca)

**Email:** TBA

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 17:00-18:00 or by appointment

**Office Hours:** TBA

**Office:** ES 602K

**Office:** TBA

**Telephone:** N/A

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:** This course is an introduction to Biological Anthropology (sometimes called Physical Anthropology), with an emphasis on human biological evolution and human ecology. Human biological evolution refers to the history of human biological development, or more precisely, the biological changes that over time have brought humanity to its present form. Human ecology refers to the relationships between humans and the natural environment as well as environments created by humans themselves as a result of social behaviors. The course will cover the scientific principles of evolution and genetics, primate evolutionary history and behavior, human osteology, the human fossil record, and human variation. The course will also emphasize the juncture between human biology and culture in order to promote critical thinking about contemporary analyses of human behavior.

**Course Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of the course, students will be expected to:

- Know and understand the development of evolutionary thought in the Western world as well as our current understandings of the mechanisms for evolutionary change.
- Understand basic genetics, epigenetics, and the processes involved in the evolution of new species.
- Understand our place in nature and within the order of primates, and why biological anthropology includes the study of primates.
- Be knowledgeable of our current understandings of the evolutionary history of humans as a species, our hominid ancestors, and the processes that lead to the divergence of the line from which modern humans derive.
- Understand and appreciate the biological diversity of modern humans, be knowledgeable of contemporary applications of biological anthropology, and be able to engage critically with information relayed via the media regarding the discovery of fossils of new human ancestors.

**Textbook** – A Human Voyage: Exploring Biological Anthropology, A. Keenlyside and R. Lazenby, 2nd Edition, 2015.

**Readings:**

The textbook is required and is meant to complement the lectures and is not a substitute for information presented in class. While the lectures and textbook are not closely tied to one another, they are related and occasionally overlap, and knowledge of both will be necessary to do well in the class. Since the readings are required, they constitute valid material for the exams. In order to keep up with lectures students should complete readings by date set on the course outline.

**Lecture Outlines:** A pdf of the Powerpoint presentations used during lecture will be posted to D2L **after** each lecture is complete. These are outlines and do not constitute the totality of material students are responsible for. Note that due to intellectual property rights and copyright regulation, some images may be removed from the posted pdfs.

**Attendance:** Attendance is critical since students who fail to attend class will miss lectures and opportunities for classroom participation, thus adversely affecting their potential to do well in the class. As attendance is a matter of personal responsibility (see below) students will not be evaluated on their ability, or lack thereof, to come to class. That being said, students are strongly cautioned against missing any portion of the course as there is a clear relationship between regular attendance and strong student performance in the course (and vice versa). In the event that students are absent they are responsible for the material they missed and should not expect the instructor to provide them with notes. I suggest students find a classmate at the beginning of class who is willing to share their notes in the event that you do miss a class (and vice versa).

**Grades and Evaluation Criteria:**

Evaluation will be based on two midterm tests (and possibly one cumulative final exam, see below). Final grades will be calculated as follows

Exam 1:	30%
Exam 2:	30%
Final Exam:	40%

**Exams:** Students will have to complete two exams and a final exam (to be held **October 8, November 5, and on the final examination date of the course (TBA)** respectively). The in-class examinations are not cumulative, so the first exam will test materials covered from the beginning of the class up to **October 8**, while the second exam will cover the material from **October 8 to November 5**. Each exam is worth 30% of the final grade in the course. Each exam will consist of multiple-choice questions, fill-in-the-blanks, IDs, and short answer questions. Students will have **1 hour and 15 minutes to complete each exam**. No aids such as textbooks, notes, or electronic devices will be permitted during exams.

**Final Exam:** A cumulative exam, covering all lectures, readings, and materials in the course will be given on the final exam date set by the Registrar (TBA, consult Registrar’s schedule when available) the final exam will be worth 40% of the final grade in the course.

**Deferred Exams:** A student who is absent from a test for **legitimate** reasons must discuss an alternative course of action with the instructor and must provide written documentation or statutory declaration as to why they were absent for the test. The instructor at **their discretion** may transfer the percentage weight for the test to the final examination, if there is a final examination in the course, set another test, etc. In the event that an instructor feels that they cannot judge the veracity of the information provided, students must be aware that they are responsible for payment of any charge associated with the medical assessment and documentation as this service falls outside the realm of services provided by the Provincial Health Care Plan. Deferral of the final exam requires Registrar approval.

**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 below

**Exam Security:** Exam security is taken very seriously. Since exams will be taken in class where students often must sit close together, please be aware that wandering eyes could lead to suspicion. Keep your eyes on your own exam or to the front of the room. Also, cover your own exam to stop others from being tempted to look at it. Please remain seated during exams until you can leave the row you are sitting in without disturbing others.

**Exam Reporting:** Marks for exams and tests will be posted to D2L, but tests may not always be handed back. Students have the opportunity to view and discuss their exam with the instructor or TA during scheduled office hours or by appointment.

**Academic Integrity, Cheating, and Plagiarism:** University expectations are that students will not cheat or plagiarize, and that they will not condone these behaviors or assist others who plagiarize. Academic misconduct not only jeopardizes the career of the individual student involved, but also undermines the scholastic achievements of all University of Calgary students and attacks the mission of this institution. Students are inherently responsible to do their own work, thereby insuring the integrity of their academic records. In accordance with the university’s code of conduct, evidence of cheating on an exam, or plagiarism (copying or paraphrasing someone else’s work and presenting it as your own) will result in the registration of the offense with the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs.

All suspected cases of academic and non-academic misconduct will be investigated following procedures outlined in the University Calendar. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behavior or appropriate research and citation methods, you

are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources.

**Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act:** The University of Calgary is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who work and study at the University or who otherwise interact with the University in accordance with the standards set out in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology keeps exams and any term work not picked up for a minimum of one year after which it is destroyed. Please refer to the following link for detailed information:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

**Instructor Intellectual Property:** Lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor includes copyright protected works under the Copyright Act and all forms of electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, laboratories, tutorials, presentations, performances, electronic (computer) information, the duplication of course material, and to the translation of recordings or transcriptions of any of these materials to another form by electronic or mechanical means by students is not permitted, except.

- As a formal accommodation as assessed by the Student Accessibility Services and only for individual private study and only at the discretion of the instructor.
- With the permission of the instructor, students without a formal accommodation may audio record lectures, provided that the student and instructor sign a release form available from departmental and faculty offices. A copy of the Release form shall be retained by the instructor and by the department in which the course is offered. Any audio recording by students is permitted only for the purposes of private study by the individual student. Students may not distribute, email or otherwise communicate these materials to any other person.
- For any other use, whether by duplication, transcription, publication, sale or transfer of recordings, written approval must be obtained from the instructor for the specific use proposed.
- Any use other than that described above (e.g. distributing, emailing or otherwise communicating these materials to any other person, constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.
- Students are encouraged to make notes of classroom discussions, lectures, demonstrations etc.
- See Copyright Legislation below

**Copyright Legislation:**

All **students** are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright ([www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf)) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **Academic Accommodations and Accessibility –**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies ([ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy)) Students requesting an Accommodation on the basis of Disability are required to register with Student Accommodation Services (SAS) by submitting a Request for Accommodation in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

(<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>). SAS will issue a Letter of Accommodation which must be presented to either designated contact person within the Department or the appropriate Instructors within 10 days of the beginning of term. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

**Personal Integrity and Responsibility:** Students are expected to conduct their studies as a matter of personal responsibility and integrity. Therefore, no extra credit assignments will be offered at any time during the semester as it is unfair to offer an opportunity to any student that is not available to all. Students should attend class consistently (see above) and should take note of important dates and deadlines. Excuses for failing to complete/comply with course requirements are redundant as they still represent failure to fulfill the expectations of the course. Note that **if** personal, vocational, or academic problems are interfering with a student's course work there are proper and official resources to consult.

### **Decorum:**

Students will treat each other and me with respect at all times. No opinions or speech that discriminates against or is derogatory towards others on the basis of race, ethnicity, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or disability will be tolerated. Students who express such opinions will be asked to leave the classroom and repeated offences may result in further disciplinary actions or the behavior registered and forwarded to the appropriate University unit for review. Students should refrain from unacceptable behavior such as sleeping, using their cell-phones, or talking with classmates at inappropriate times. Such behaviors will also result in the student being asked to leave the classroom.

### **Additional Class Policies and Expectations:**

- Cell phones are not permitted and should be turned off during class. Students may use tablets or laptops to take notes, but must refrain from using these devices for activities not related to the class.
- Students should arrive to class in a timely manner. In the unlikely event of tardy arrival, please take your seat quickly and quietly with as little disruption to the class as possible. Similarly, if departure from class before lecture is over is necessary, please sit close to the door and exit discreetly.
- Communication with the instructor or TA is welcome and should follow etiquette appropriate for a university. I.e., be professional. Use proper salutations and titles in both written and verbal communication. This will be further discussed in class. The

instructor and TA reserve the right to not respond to communication they deem inappropriate, disrespectful, or excessively cavalier.

- Students can expect that the instructor and TA will respond to email in a timely manner, and can typically expect a response between 24-48 hours, excluding holidays and weekends.

**Course Outline and Schedule:** The following is a **tentative schedule** and may get altered and/or shifted as the course progresses, and some lectures may overlap. Nevertheless, it serves as a general guide to what will be covered and when/what students should be reading. Note that the test dates will **NOT** change.

Date	Lecture Topic and Test	Textbook Chapter
Sept 10	Course Overview Anthropology and Biological Anthropology History and Development of Evolutionary Thought	Chapters 1 and 2
Sept 17	Adaptation by Natural Selection Genetics, Variation, and Epigenetics	Chapter 3
Sept 24	From Variant to Species Speciation and Phylogeny An Outline of Human Osteology and Anatomy	Chapter 4
Oct 1	Primates Primate Ecology Primate Evolution	Chapters 5 and 6
Oct 8	<b>Exam 1</b> Test is followed by regular lecture: Paleoanthropology	Chapters 8 and 9
Oct 15	The Mind's Big Bang The Biology of Language: Language and Adaptation	Chapter 10
Oct 22	The First Tools The Genus Homo	Chapter 11
Oct 29	Homo sapiens: The Advent of Humanity Neanderthals and Anatomically Modern Humans Human Dispersion: Settling Australia and the Americas	Chapter 12
Nov 5	<b>Exam 2</b> Human Adaptation Domestication	Chapter 13
Nov 12	<b>Term Break: No Class</b>	Chapter 14

Nov 19	Human Ecology Health and Infectious Disease Forensics	Chapter 15
Nov 26	Biological Anthropology as Applied Science	Chapter 16
Dec 3	Biology in the Present	

**Additional Information:**

1. Additional non course-specific information can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

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**Academic misconduct**

The University expects Students to conduct Academic Activities with integrity and intellectual honesty and to recognize the importance of pursuing and transmitting knowledge ethically.

“Academic Misconduct” includes such things as Cheating, Falsification; Plagiarism, Unauthorized Assistance and failure to comply with exam regulations or an Instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of Students completing academic assessments. Academic Misconduct is a serious form of intellectual dishonesty with significant consequences.

Students who participate in, or encourage the commission of, Academic Misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action which could include Probation, Suspension, or Expulsion from the University. For more information see the Student Academic Misconduct Policy

(<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>)

**Instructor intellectual property**

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- As a formal accommodation as assessed by the Student Accessibility Services and only for individual private study and only at the discretion of the instructor.

- With the permission of the instructor, students without a formal accommodation may audio record lectures, provided that the student and instructor sign a release form available from departmental and faculty offices. A copy of the Release form shall be retained by the instructor and by the department in which the course is offered. Any audio recording by students is permitted only for the purposes of private study by the individual student. Students may not distribute, email or otherwise communicate these materials to any other person.
- For any other use, whether by duplication, transcription, publication, sale or transfer of recordings, written approval must be obtained from the instructor for the specific use proposed.
  - Any use other than that described above (e.g. distributing, emailing or otherwise communicating these materials to any other person, constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.
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Support and Resources:

Non-course-specific related information can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website:  
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

Note: information here includes

- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
  - Student Success Centre
  - Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
  - Safewalk