

Anthropology 201
Introduction to Primatology and Human Evolution
Summer 2015

Mondays and Wednesdays: 9:00am – 11:45am
Room: ST 131

Instructor: Michael Moloney
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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays noon-1pm; or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The goal of this class is to engage questions regarding the evolution of our species and that of our closest biological relatives. We will explore the patterns of anatomical, behavioural, and genetic variation in the Order Primates, as well as trace the evolution of our own species based on fossil and archaeological remains.

The course is divided into three parts. Part one will discuss 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, to the present, incorporating modern genetics, population biology, micro and macroevolution. The goal of this section is to clarify these fundamental biological concepts for a better understanding of the evolution of primate and hominid (including human) features.

In part two 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, part three will focus on the evolution of humans and our genetic ancestors. We will trace our lineage, from the earliest primates, through the appearance of the major new radiations, including the hominoids, the first hominids, early species of the genus *Homo*, and 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, J.B. (2014) *How Humans Evolved*, 7th 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, which is substantial in some areas.**



COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Tests and Assignments	Date	% of Overall Grade
Midterm #1	July 15	25%
Midterm #2	August 29	25%
Observation Assignment/Essay	August 12	10%
Final Exam	Registrar-scheduled (Aug 17-19)	40%

Exams are non-cumulative. All exams will be short answer (e.g. multiple choice, true/false, matching) and will cover ALL material from lectures and ALL readings. For the assignment you will have a choice of participating in an observational exercise at the Calgary Zoo, which will take place during class time, or writing a short, 3-5 page, research paper on a primate or hominid of your choice.

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 Conduct:

- The most important thing is to be respectful and supportive of other students. Please turn your cell phone and any other electronic devices to silent. You may use a laptop to take notes, but please refrain from engaging programs that may be distracting to other students during class (eg. games, youtube, Facebook, etc.).
- It is in your 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 Desire2Learn (D2L) before class. Please note that reading the lecture slides alone will NOT be sufficient to get a good grade in the class. Tests will comprise information from assigned readings, lecture slides, lecture content, class discussion, and films.
- Each class will feature a 10-15 minute break about halfway through the lecture. These breaks will vary in length depending on lecture content.

Exam Policies:

- Missed exams automatically receive a score of zero. In the event of an emergency or illness, the Anthropology and Archaeology 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. A make-up exam may be offered on a case by case basis, but in all cases the student must contact the instructor or department notifying them of the absence before the test.

- Exam grades will be posted on D2L 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, please provide a detailed written statement within two weeks of when the 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 or get general help with the course.
- It is often best, for getting a good answer, to talk in person, before or after class or during office hours. If that is not convenient the best way to contact me is via email.
- 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. I will check my email every week day in the morning and in the afternoon before leaving the office. Emails sent after 5pm on a given day may not be answered until the next day. Please avoid sending last minute emails.
- Before emailing with a question please make sure to check the course outline, or D2L to be sure that the question has not already been addressed.

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 the 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 may also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the Anthropology and Archaeology Departments policy on intellectual honesty available at: <http://www.anth.ucalgary.ca/home/links/intellectual-honesty-guidelines>

EMERGENCY AND 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.

USRI:

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference – please participate in USRI surveys.

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
July 6	Course Introduction Adaptation and Natural Selection	Chapter 1
July 8	Genetics Modern Synthesis	Chapter 2, 3
July 13	Taxonomy, Speciation, Phylogeny	Chapter 4
July 15	Midterm #1 Introduction to the Primates What are Primates? Why Study Primates? Primate Ecology (Film: <i>BBC Life – Primates</i>)	
July 20	Zoo Study Day / Research Class	Chapter 5
July 22	Mating and Social Systems – Primates Mating and Social Systems – Humans	Chapter 6, 16 (to pg. 411)
July 27	Cooperation Primate Brains and Intelligence	Chapter 7, 8
July 29	Midterm #2 Introduction to Human Evolution (Film: <i>Discovering Ardi</i>)	
August 3	Holiday – NO CLASS	
August 5	The Fossil Record The Earliest Hominids – Bipedalism The Australopithecines	Chapter 9, 10
August 10	The Genus <i>Homo</i> Tools (Origins of Culture)	Chapter 11, 12
August 12	Evolution of Modern Humans Human Behaviour and Variation in Evolutionary Context	Chapter 13, 14, 15 (pg. 411-416)
August 17-19	Final Exam (to be scheduled by the Registrar)	