

Anthropology 201.2
Introduction to Primatology and Human Evolution
Winter 2013

Tuesdays 6:00 – 8:50 pm
Room #: ICT 121

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Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to 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. Our goal is to understand the place of humans and our 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, 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	January 29	20%
Midterm #2	March 12	35%
Final Exam	Registrar-scheduled (April 19-30 th)	45%

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 multiple-choice format and will cover ALL lectures and 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 attendance:***

- 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.
- You are welcome to use a laptop to take notes, but please sit in the back or along the sides so as to not disturb other students.

Missed exams:

- 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. doctor's note) must be provided. Make up exams may be in any format (including oral examination). Please note that performance on make-up exams is normally poorer.

Communication Guidelines:

- The best place to ask questions is IN CLASS or during office hours. I will answer questions over email, however due to the volume of emails I receive I cannot commit to answering email questions immediately. It may take up to 3 business days (72 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 on Blackboard. If you have follow-up questions, post them on the same thread in Blackboard and I will respond to them there.

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 Social Science Food Court and the Professional Faculties Food Court shall be used as a secondary assembly point.

Class Schedule (subject to change):

Date	Topics	Readings
January 8	Course Introduction Adaptation and Natural Selection	Chapter 1
January 15	Genetics Modern Synthesis	Chapter 2, 3
January 22	Taxonomy, Speciation, and Phylogeny	Chapter 4
January 29	Midterm # 1 Introduction to the Primates	
February 5	Survey of the Primates Why Study Primates?	Chapter 5
February 12	Mating and Social Systems Cooperation	Chapter 6, 7
February 19	NO CLASS – READING WEEK	
February 26	Primate social behavior	Chapter 8
March 5	Primate Ecology and Morphology Primate Conservation	
March 12	Midterm #2 The Fossil Record	
March 19	Primate Origins Evolution and fossil record of primates	Chapter 9
March 26	The Earliest Hominids - Bipedalism The Australopithecines	Chapter 10
April 2	The Emergence of <i>Homo</i> Tools	Chapter 11, 12
April 9	Evolution of Modern Humans Culture and Behaviour	Chapter 13
April 16	Synthesis and Final Thoughts	Chapter 15
April 19-30 th	Final Exam (to be scheduled by the Registrar)	