

**ANTHROPOLOGY 505.15  
CONFERENCE COURSE IN PRIMATOLOGY:  
ADVANCED METHODS IN PALEOANTHROPOLOGY  
FALL 2015**

**Mondays 2:00 – 4:45pm**

**Class: ES 822**

**Lab: ES 831**

**Instructor: Dr. Susanne Cote**

**Office: ES 750**

**Tel: (403) 220-8190**

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

**Office Hours: Thursdays 2-4pm, or by appointment**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will provide students with the opportunity to learn a variety of laboratory methods used to analyze fossil primates. Students will read and discuss important theoretical contributions and case studies illustrating the use of these methods. In addition, students will work in teams to describe one or more fossils from Dr. Cote's research sites in Uganda.

Class time will be divided between discussion of papers and time to work on your projects. Assessment is based on participation in class discussions, progress throughout the term on your projects, and producing a scientific paper describing and analyzing your fossil(s). This is an advanced class requiring students to work independently and exhibit a high degree of self-motivation.

**PREREQUISITES:** Anthropology 311, one additional senior primatology course, and consent of the Department and Instructor.

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

- Readings from the scientific literature for seminar – links provided on D2L.
- Students will be required to do extensive independent reading for their projects

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:**

**Seminar Participation (25%):**

- Weekly Participation – 10%
- Leading one topic/discussion – 15%

**Lab Participation (10%):**

- Weekly participation and satisfactory progress on project throughout term – 10%

**Fossil Project (65%):**

- Project Proposal – 5% (Oct 9)
- Outline & Lit Review – 10% (Nov 6)
- Paper Draft – 5% (Nov 30)
- Oral Presentation – 15% (Dec 7)
- Final Paper – 30% (Dec 11)

### **Department of Anthropology and Archaeology Grade Scheme:**

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

**\*\*Please note that no extra credit or 'make up' work is available in this class\*\***

### **COURSE POLICIES**

#### ***Classroom behavior and attendance:***

- This class will only work well if students attend ALL classes and participate fully in discussions.
- The most important thing is to be respectful and supportive of other students during discussions, presentations, and in the lab.
- It is in your own best interest to attend all classes. Official class time is the best opportunity to work on your projects and get help and feedback from Dr. Cote and your peers.

#### ***Working in the Lab:***

- In addition to our official weekly class time, the lab will be open Thursdays from 2-4pm (during my office hours) and other times during the semester (in response to student needs).
- When working in the lab, please ensure that you are handling all fossils and comparative skeletal material CAREFULLY. Almost all of these specimens are on loan to us from other institutions and if we damage material, we won't be able to borrow specimens in future. If a specimen is damaged, please notify Dr. Cote immediately.

#### ***Grading Policies:***

- Missed assignments automatically receive a score of zero. In the event of an emergency or illness, the instructor MUST be notified as soon as possible, and documentation (e.g. signed Physician's Statement) must be provided.
- If you have questions about the grading of any assignment, please see Dr. Cote as soon as possible. You may dispute a grade that you have received by submitting a written statement within two weeks of receiving the grade.

#### ***Communication Guidelines:***

- I always prefer to talk IN PERSON with students whenever possible. This is a small class, so take the opportunity to get to know me!
- 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 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 D2L 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. Before emailing a question, please make sure that it hasn't already been addressed in the course outline, assignment handouts, or on D2L!

#### **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 Student Accessibility Services, 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 will also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with university policies on intellectual honesty available at: <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/plagiarismcheating>

#### **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 ICT Food Court.  
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

#### **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](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)).

#### **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. Please refer to the following link for detailed information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

#### **SAFEWALK:**

Campus security will escort individuals day or night ([www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk](http://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:**

**\*\*Lecture topics are subject to change, based on student needs and interests\*\***

**\*\*Reading assignments for the seminar part of class will include 1-3 papers per week. These will be discussed in class the previous week and posted to D2L \*\***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics – Seminar</b>	<b>Topics - Lab</b>	<b>Project Assignment*</b>
<b>Sept 14</b>	Course Introduction The Miocene of Uganda	Fossil Projects Overview	<b>Select Teams and Projects</b>
<b>Sept 21</b>	Fossil Identification – African Mammals; Mammalian Skeletons	Fossil Identification	
<b>Sept 28</b>	Measurements and Error	Fossil Measurements	
<b>Oct 5</b>	Illustrating Fossils	Photography and drawing	
(Oct 9)			<b>Project Proposals Due</b>
<b>Oct 12</b>	<b>THANKSGIVING MONDAY</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>	
<b>Oct 19</b>	Comparing Size		
<b>Oct 26</b>	Comparing Shape		
<b>Nov 2</b>	Student Led Topic #1		
(Nov 6)			<b>Paper Outline &amp; Lit Review Due</b>
<b>Nov 9</b>	Student Led Topic #2		
<b>Nov 16</b>	Student Led Topic #3		
<b>Nov 23</b>	Student Led Topic #4		
<b>Nov 30</b>	Student Selected Topic (Instructor Led)		<b>Paper Drafts Due</b>
<b>Dec 7</b>	Project Presentations		<b>Oral Presentations</b>
(Dec 11)			<b>Final Papers Due</b>

\* In addition to weekly readings, participation in seminar includes leading discussion on one of Nov 2, 9, 16, or 23<sup>rd</sup>. Students will select these topics in consultation with Dr. Cote.

## **Assessment Policies – Seminar and Lab Participation**

### **Seminar Participation (10%)**

The 10% will be divided equally for the 12 classes this semester.

Each week, you will be evaluated on:

- Attendance
- My sense that you did the readings thoroughly (if applicable)
- Participating meaningfully in discussion

### **Seminar – Leading Discussion one week (15%)**

Each project team will be responsible for leading discussion for one class meeting. You will need to:

- Select a topic that is relevant to your project, and hopefully to other class projects.
- Select appropriate readings, in consultation with Dr. Cote
- Send discussion questions out to the class ahead of time
- Prepare a brief summary of the readings for class
- Lead a discussion on the topic

### **Lab Participation (10%)**

This grade will be divided equally for 10 lab sessions (Sept 21-Nov 30)

You will be evaluated each week on your:

- Attendance
- Progress on your project throughout the semester. This includes progress during regular class time AND progress outside of class time (e.g. coming to class prepared with questions etc.)
- Working well with your partner, peers, and instructor

## Assessment Policies – Research Projects

### Paper Guidelines

#### *Final Papers (Dec 11<sup>th</sup>)*

- 20 pages approximately (plus title page, abstract, references, and figures).
  - This will vary on your topic. Consult with Dr. Cote
- Double-spaced with normal margins and fonts
- A scientific journal publication
- References and citations in *Journal of Human Evolution* style
- Specimens must be properly illustrated
- Measurements must be provided
- Both partners must contribute to writing the paper

#### *Paper Proposals (Oct 9<sup>th</sup>)*

- 1 page, with key references listed

#### *Paper Outlines/Lit Review (Nov 6<sup>th</sup>)*

- Length is variable, but at least 5 pages (double-spaced, including citations but not including figures/tables).
- The more information you give me, the better I'll be able to guide you to a successful term paper
- Because it's a literature review, you should have a lot of citations (no less than 20)

#### *Paper Drafts (Nov 30<sup>th</sup>)*

- I expect a full draft, or as close to that as possible
- All citations should be present, along with all figures and tables.
- Again, the more I have, the more I can help!

**\*\*For all assignments, plan on submitting both a digital and paper copy\*\***

### Oral Presentations

- Approximately 20 minutes – followed by ~ 10 minutes for questions
- PowerPoint or similar (e.g. strong visuals)
- A scientific presentation, similar to what would be given at a conference
- Both partners need to speak!
- Be prepared to answer questions from the audience about your project
- Your presentation must be submitted to Dr. Cote on Dec 7<sup>th</sup>
- All students must be present for the entire class, and actively participate