

Anthropology 3307
Introduction to Biological Anthropology
May Term 2018

Instructor: Dr. K. Ann Horsburgh
Heroy 414
horsburgh@smu.edu

Course Overview

This course provides an introduction to the origin, evolution and diversity of our species. Paying particular attention to the interactions between biology, culture and behavior we will study evolutionary theory, human variation and adaptation, the anatomy, ecology and behavior of the non-human primates, and the fossil and molecular evidence for the evolution of our lineage. Performance in the class will be assessed by two in-class exams.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- 1) describe the scope of biological anthropology and locate it within anthropology
- 2) understand the scientific method
- 3) describe the processes of biological evolution
- 4) understand the patterns and processes at play in the evolution of the human lineage
- 5) identify patterns in modern human variation and explain their development

Reading:

There is no assigned text for this class. I will hand out readings, including newly published material that has not yet made it into a textbook.

Exams:

There are three, non-cumulative exams required for this course. The exam format will include: i) multiple choice, ii) matching, iii) true/false, iv) definitions, and v) short answer. Please note that no early or late tests will be given based on a student's plan to travel out of town. SMU has an official holiday policy: "official class days are not holidays."

A make-up exam will be given only under the following conditions—excused absences, documented dire emergencies, or documented cases of extreme sickness. A request must be made to the instructor as soon as possible if a student is going to miss an exam. Written documentation explaining the absence will be necessary. No make-up exam will be given without an advanced request. **The make-up is a cumulative exam made up entirely of essay questions.** It will be administered at the end of the term.

Grade Distribution

A = 94-100; A- = 90-93

B+ = 87-89; B = 83-86; B- = 80-82

C+ = 77-79; C = 73-76; C- = 70-72

D+ = 67-69; D = 63-66; D- = 60-62

<60 = F

UC 2012 – Pure and Applied Sciences II

Natural and Applied Sciences Student Learning Outcomes (Depth): (UC2016)

C1a. Students will explain the concepts and findings that undergird current scientific theories or engineering practices.

C1b. Students will assess, select and apply appropriate techniques, skills, and modern tools to activities in science or engineering.

Writing Assistance

Please do not hesitate to seek assistance from the instructor during her office hours or make an appointment to meet with her when your schedule allows.

If you need further assistance, visit the Altshuler Learning Enhancement Center on campus or at <http://www.smu.edu/alec/home.html>. The center offers academic skills workshops, tutoring, and help with writing. It is located in Suite 202, Paul B. Loyd Center (attached to the NW corner of Ford Stadium). The entrance is located on the west side of the building, just across from the Meadows Museum of Fine Arts.

University Policies

Disability Accommodations: Students needing academic accommodations for a disability must first be registered with Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies (DASS) to verify the disability and to establish eligibility for accommodations. Students may call 214-768-1470 or visit www.smu.edu/alec/dass.asp to begin the process. Once registered, students should then schedule an appointment with the professor to make appropriate arrangements.

Religious Observance: Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays that require missing class should notify their professors in writing at the beginning of the semester, and they should discuss with them, in advance, acceptable ways of making up any work missed because of the absence (See University Policy No. 1.9.).

Excused Absences for University Extracurricular Activities: Students participating in an officially sanctioned, scheduled University extracurricular activity should be given the opportunity to make up class assignments or other graded assignments missed as a result of their participation. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to any missed scheduled examination or other missed assignment for making up the work (University Undergraduate Catalogue).

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the misrepresentation of the work of another as your own and is a serious infraction of the University Honor Code. Instances of plagiarism or any other

cheating will be reported to the University Honor Council, and will at the very least result in failure of this course. The University policy on plagiarism may be found at: http://www.smu.edu/studentlife/PCL_05_HC.asp and in the Student Handbook at: <http://smu.edu/studentlife/studenthandbook/>

Schedule of Lectures

Date	Topics
Thursday, May 17	Situating Biological Anthropology This View of Life: Diversity Evolution and Darwin
Friday, May 18	Evolutionary Theory After Darwin Genetics: from molecules to cells
Monday, May 21	EXAM 1 Genetics: from genotype to phenotype Detecting Evolution in the Genome
Tuesday, May 22	Species Concepts Non-Human Primates Geology and the Primate Fossil Record
Wednesday, May 23	The Australopiths Bipedality and the obstetric dilemma
Thursday, May 24	<i>Homo</i> Neandertals
Friday, May 25	EXAM 2 Denisovans and Hobbits
Tuesday, May 29	What is a modern human? When did we learn to speak?
Wednesday, May 30	Modern Human Variation. AKA What's up with races?
Thursday, May 31	Ancient Bodies, Ancient Diseases Ancient Bodies, Modern Environments
Friday, June 1	Wrap up: So what does this all mean? EXAM 3