

A Ant 110N Introduction to Human Evolution

Instructor: Dan White

Office Hours: Thursday and Friday 12:00-1:00 pm

Location: AS 205

Phone: 442-4963

Anthropology Dept: 442-4700

Email: dwhite@uamail.albany.edu

Class Web address: <http://eres.ulib.albany.edu>

Textbook: *Essentials of Physical Anthropology 4th Edition*



Class Objective

Where do modern humans come from and why are we such a diverse species? When did we arrive on this planet, and in what form did we arrive? Humans have been asking and searching for the answers to these questions for millennia. The study of human evolution, called paleoanthropology seeks to use scientific methodology to answer many of these questions and more. Paleoanthropology is an interdisciplinary science that integrates the fields of biology, anthropology, geology, and anatomy to elucidate the process of human evolution.

In this course we will use modern evolutionary theory as a framework to help explain fossil evidence collected over the past two centuries. You will be introduced to the vocabulary, theories, and fossils that make up the record of human evolution.

Evaluation:

You will receive grades for class examinations (2 exams and a final exam) as well as a grade for the laboratory section of the course. The percentages for each are broken down as follows: **Exam 1 (20%), Exam 2 (25%), Final (30%), Lab Grade {Lab assignments and quizzes (20%), Lab participation (5%)}**. Class examinations will consist of multiple choice, ID, and fill-in questions. The exams will be based on the textbook, films and lectures. They will each cover approximately one third of the semester. All exams are "cumulative" in that you will be required to retain certain concepts throughout the semester but the majority of the questions will focus on new material. You will be expected to bring a #2 pencil and your Student ID card to every exam. You are expected to attend every lecture and laboratory meeting. I reserve the right to give pop quizzes in class if I notice that people are not attending my lectures.

Some Advice:

1. Come to class and Lab on time. (This is a large class and it is distracting to have people coming in throughout the lecture.)
2. Please do not leave in the middle of a lecture. (Use the bathroom before or after class.)
3. Read the assignments **before** coming to class. (This will help you understand the lectures.)
4. Do not, for any reason, miss an exam. There will be no make up tests. (I understand things come up in life but the class is too large to give tests at several different times. If some circumstance prevents you from attending an exam you must notify me **before** the exam.)
5. Multiple choice tests require that you know details as well as general concepts.
6. Your ability to memorize images and new vocabulary will be essential to doing well in this class.

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with documented physical, sensory, systemic, cognitive, learning, and psychiatric disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring accommodation in this class, please notify the Director of Disabled Student Services (Campus Center 137, 442-5490). That office will provide me with verification of your disability, and will recommend appropriate accommodations.

Class Schedule

Class #	Date	Subject	Reading
Class 1	September 4	Introduction	Chapter 1
Class 2	September 11	Development of Evolutionary Thought	Chapter 2
Class 3	September 18	Darwin's theory	
Class 4	September 23	Biological basis of Life	Chapter 3
Class 5	September 25	Heredity and Evolution	Chapter 4
Class 6	September 30	Microevolution	Chapter 12
Class 7	October 2	Human variation	Web site
Class 8	October 7	Exam 1	
Class 9	October 9	Living Primates	Chapter 5
Class 10	October 14	Primate Behavior	Chapter 6
Class 11	October 16	Early Primate Evolution	Chapter 7
Class 12	October 21	Hominid Origins	Chapter 8
Class 13	October 23	Early African hominids	Lemonick and Dorfman article
Class 14	October 28	Australopithecines	Leakey and Walker article
Class 15	October 30	Tools	Ambrose Article
Class 16	November 4	Dating Methods	Shreeve article
Class 17	November 6	<i>Homo habilis</i>	
Class 18	November 11	Exam 2	
Class 19	November 13	<i>Homo erectus</i>	Chapter 9 -Supp: Shipman article and Gore article
Class 20	November 18	<i>Homo heidelbergensis</i>	
Class 21	November 20	Neandertals and Archaic <i>Homo sapiens</i>	Chapter 10
Class 22	November 25	Neandertal lifeways	Wong article
Class 23	December 2	Multiregional Evolution vs Replacement theory	
Class 24	December 4	<i>Homo sapiens sapiens</i>	Chapter 11
Class 25	December 9	Art	Balter article
Class 26	December 11	Ratrapage	
Final Exam	December 18	3:30 - 5:30pm	LC 7



Lab Schedule

Week	Dates	Lab #	Lab Topic
1	Sept 2 - Sept 6	No lab	
2	Sept 9 - Sept 13	No lab	
3	Sept 16 - Sept 20	Lab 1	Natural Selection lab
4	Sept 23 - Sept 27	Lab 2	Genetics Lab
5	Sept 30 - Oct 4	Lab 3	Review for Exam 1 Chapters 1-4 and 12 with "Evolution" Video
6	Oct 7 - Oct 11	Lab 4	Skeletal biology
7	Oct 14 - Oct 18	Lab 5	Primate Behavior Lab
8	Oct 21 - Oct 25	Lab 6	In Search of Human Origins Pt. 1 Video
9	Oct 28 - Nov 1	Lab 7	Comparative Anatomy 1 Lab- Apes, Humans, African fossil hominids
10	Nov 4 - Nov 8	Lab 8	Review for Exam 2- Chapters 5-8
11	Nov 11 - Nov 15	Lab 9	Comparative Anatomy 2 Lab: <i>Homo erectus</i> and early archaic <i>Homo sapiens</i>
12	Nov 18 - Nov 22	Lab 10	Neanderthal Video
13	Nov 25 - Nov 29	No Lab	
14	Dec 2 - Dec 6	Lab 11	Finish Neanderthal Video and take quiz
15	Dec 9 - Dec 13	No lab	

