

SYLLABUS
ANTH 100 - History and Theory of Physical Anthropology
Anthropology Department, UC Santa Cruz
Summer 2016

Lecture days/hours: TH 8:00-11:30
Lecture location: Soc Sci 2, Room 159

Instructor: Jay S. Reti, Ph.D.
Contact: jreti@ucsc.edu
Office: SS1 Room 404
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:30

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to provide the historical and theoretical overview of physical (biological) anthropology. Through lectures, weekly readings, class discussions, and assignments, students will learn about the emergence of the discipline and the key scholars who have contributed to its development since the 17th Century. Course topics will include the development of evolutionary theory and the modern synthesis, the advent of evolutionary developmental biology, reactions against rising adaptationist conclusions, and modern applications of biological anthropological theory. These and other key topics will help students understand how physical anthropology has emerged as a major discipline within the social sciences.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

In this course, students will be exposed to a wide array of academic literature concerning the history and theory of biological anthropology. A successful student will have working knowledge of the key historic texts and ideas that have contributed to our understanding of evolutionary principles today. Course assignments (papers and oral arguments) will allow students to actively engage with the material and demonstrate their broader understanding of how theoretical understanding of evolution has changed through time.

REQUIRED TEXT:

This course will be using an assortment of research articles. These articles are available on the course eCommons website in the "Resources" folder. Students will also be required to read Darwin's "On the Origin of Species" over the course of the quarter. Students may purchase a paper copy of the book or access the .pdf version of the book available on the eCommons course website.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Your grade will be determined via four components. The first component is worth 25% of your overall grade and consists of weekly assignments related to the material we will be covering. These assignments will be in the form of in-class responses to topics we will discuss as a group or that you will discuss in small groups. The second component is the midterm exam, which will consist of a combination of short responses and longer response questions. The midterm is worth 25% of your overall grade. The third component is the final exam, which will be a take-home exam in which you will respond to several prompts in paragraph form. The final exam will be due during the finals week and is worth 25% of your overall grade. The last component of your grade will be a research project, which is worth the final 25% of your grade. The research assignment will be handed out during the second week of class.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are expected to attend all classes. If students must miss class, they are required to inform me prior to the day of class, in writing, and provide documented reasons for their absence. In these excused absence cases, students may visit my office hours to discuss materials missed during their absence. All students are encouraged to come to office hours to discuss any questions they have of the material covered in lectures and readings.

SCHOLARSHIP AND CLASS ETIQUETTE:

All cases of suspected plagiarism and cheating will be reported to the academic deans. I will discuss the issue of plagiarism during lecture, but please visit www.plagiarism.org for more information. **Please turn off cell phones while in class and respect the learning environment for other students, including only taking notes on open laptops.**

Date	Topic and Readings
June 21	1. Introduction to the course 2. Pre-Darwinian concepts of humans, science, evolution - Nott 1843 – Mullato as a hybrid - Farber 1972 – Buffon and the concept of species
June 23	Lamarck and What Darwin didn't know - Darwin 1859 – Preface and Chapter 1 - Mayr 1972 – Lamarck Revisited
June 28	Response to Darwinian evolution: Owen and Huxley - Owen 1860 – Review of On the Origin of Species - Huxley 1887 – On the reception of “The Origin of Species”
June 30	Darwin's immediate impact, De Vries, Fisher, Haeckel - Bowler 1977 – De Vries, Morgan, and Mutation Theory - Stauffer 1957 – Haeckel, Darwin, and Ecology
July 5	Midterm (CLASS STARTS AT 9:30 AM TODAY)
July 7	1. Mendel and the modern synthesis - Mayr and Provine 1981 2. Rise of adaptationists - Barash 1976 - Bluebirds
July 12	1. Revolt against adaptationists - Gould and Lewontin (1979) – The Spandrels of San Marcos 2. Evolutionary Developmental Biology (“Evo-Devo”) - Hall 2003 – Evo Devo
July 14	Socio-Biology and Sexual Selection - Dawkins 1976 – The selfish gene excerpt (intro) - Andersson 1994 – Introduction to sexual selection

July 19

1. Ancient DNA and the modern contribution of genetics
 - Sankararaman 2014 – Neanderthal genomics
2. Modern public contention: creationism, ID, evolution
 - Excerpts from Of Pandas and People

July 21

FINAL EXAM (CLASS STARTS AT 9:30 AM TODAY)