



UCSC

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

Anthropology 1: Introduction to Biological Anthropology Session 1: June 26-July 26, 2018

Lecture and Group Discussions: Tuesdays, Thursdays 9am -12:30 pm
Social Sciences 2, Room 179

Instructor: Dr. Susan Kuzminsky
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Office Hrs.: Tuesdays 4:30-5:30 pm, or by appointment

TA: Danielle Huerta
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Office Hrs: Thursdays 1:45-2:45 pm, or by appointment

Textbook: *Our Origins: Discovering Physical Anthropology* (2017, Fourth Edition). Clark Spencer Larsen, W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

The book and price quotes from other retailers are available through the UCSC Campus Bookstore.

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to biological (physical) anthropology, a broad discipline that covers a variety of subfields. Through lectures, readings, and discussion, students will learn about the history of the discipline, the different areas of study within it, and the “big questions” in biological anthropology. Drawing from the biological and social sciences, students will learn how researchers use theory and methods to understand human behavior, adaptation, evolution, and culture. Course topics will include human evolutionary biology and scientific theory, which is central to studying how humans evolved and adapted around the globe. Students will also learn how our extinct hominin ancestors and the living primates inform us about human evolution. The end of the course delves into changes that occurred within the last 10,000 years of human history.

Goals of Student Learning:

- Understand the development of biological anthropology and the subfields within the discipline
- Learn concepts (e.g., genetics, inheritance) and major events in human evolution
- Understand how extinct human ancestors and living primates inform us about human evolution
- Develop critical thinking skills to review and understand anthropological literature

Grading:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Midterm Exam | 30% |
| Final Exam | 35% |
| Weekly Assignments (5) | 25% |
| Attendance and Discussion group participation | 10% |

Grade Breakdown:

| Percentage Points | Letter Grade |
|-------------------|--------------|
| 100-97 | A+ |
| 96-93 | A |
| 92-90 | A- |
| 89-87 | B+ |
| 86-83 | B |
| 82-80 | B- |
| 79-77 | C+ |
| 76-72 | C |
| 71-70 | C- |
| 69-66 | D |
| 65-60 | D- |
| Below 60 | F |

Course Expectations: To earn a good grade in this course, you are expected to attend lecture, complete assignments, do all the weekly readings, and take the midterm and final exams. Late assignments are not accepted in this course. Make-up assignments and exams are only allowed with formal documentation of an illness or emergency. In the event of a major emergency (e.g., injury or illness), please contact me **BEFORE** the exam.

Midterm and Final Exams: The exams will be multiple choice. The midterm will cover videos, lecture, reading, and lab material from Chapters 1-6 and the final exam will cover any videos, lecture, reading, and lab material from Chapters 7-14.

Canvas: The course syllabus and lecture slides are available on the UCSC Canvas website, along with copies of the assignments, deadlines, and any other updates for the course.

Academic Integrity: A reminder that it is your ethical responsibility as a student to follow the UCSC policy on academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and cheating:
https://www.ue.ucsc.edu/academic_misconduct

Lecture Rules: Please arrive to lecture on time and leave when the lecture ends. If you must leave lecture early, please sit in the back to avoid disrupting other students. Unless I ask students to do so, there is no talking during lecture. Please turn cell phones off while in lecture. You may use laptops or other tablet devices to take notes, but no filming is allowed. Cheating during exams is absolutely not tolerated and will lead to serious disciplinary action.

Discussion and Weekly Assignments: Your weekly assignments are mandatory and 25% of your grade. Up to one hour of the class time will be dedicated to group work each week. The groups are designed to foster discussion of the weekly assignments, form study groups, and supplement your lectures. You can print a PDF of your weekly assignment *before class*. Attendance and participation in lectures and weekly discussion groups is also mandatory and will comprise 10% of your final grade. Assignments are due to your TA the following week (printed copies, not emailed) on Tuesdays at the beginning of class. For example, week 1 assignments are due the following Tuesday of week 2 at the beginning of class.

Weekly readings: The assigned chapters cover each week’s topic, with some overlap from week to week. The purpose of this is to disperse the readings evenly over the condensed five-week summer session. **Warning:** this class moves fast, and it is strongly advisable not to fall behind with readings, lectures, or study materials for the chapters.

Note: This syllabus is subject to change. If changes occur, students will be notified in class or through the Canvas course website. Please note that the lecture schedule below is also subject to change, depending on the amount of material covered each week.

| Week 1 | Topics Covered | Reading/Assignment |
|---------------|---|--|
| 6/26, 6/28 | Intro to Biological/Physical Anthropology The scientific method Evolution The big events of human evolution History of the discipline Darwin and mechanisms of evolution | Read Chapters 1-3 in Larsen Assignment 1 and Discussion Group Questions (The Scientific Method, Human Evolution Coloring Book) |
| Week 2 | Topics Covered | Reading/Assignment |
| 7/3, 7/5 | Genetics, inheritance ABO Blood Systems Ancient DNA, population genetics Race, biology of living people, Adaptations What is a primate? Primate adaptations Video (to be determined) | Read Chapters 4-6 in Larsen Assignment 2 (Human Evolution Coloring Book assignments) |
| Week 3 | Topics Covered | Reading/Assignment |
| 7/10, 7/12 | MIDTERM on Thursday (Chapters 1-6 and any videos from Weeks 1-2) Primate behavior Fossils Primate origins and evolution (first 50 million years) Early Hominin origins TED Talks: Dr. Sue Savage, Dr. Zeresenay Alemseged; Interview-Dr. Jane Goodall | Read Chapters 7-10 in Larsen Assignment 3 (notecards) with your discussion group |
| | | |

| Week 4 | Topics Covered | Reading/Assignment |
|---------------|--|---|
| 7/17, 7/19 | <p>Origins and evolution of early <i>Homo</i> <i>H. habilis</i>, <i>H. erectus</i>, out of Africa</p> <p>Origins and dispersal of modern people, ancient global migrations</p> | <p>Read Chapters 11-12 in Larsen</p> <p>Assignment 4 (<i>H. habilis</i>, <i>H. erectus</i>, Out of Africa) with your discussion group -this is a lab we will go to Social Sciences 1, 4th Floor to see the casts</p> |
| Week 5 | Topics Covered | Reading/Assignment |
| 7/24, 7/26 | <p>The last 10,000 years: agriculture, population, and bioarchaeology –major cultural transitions</p> <p>Ongoing evolution</p> <p>FINAL on Thursday (Chapters 7-14 and any videos we watched)</p> | <p>Read Chapters 13-14 in Larsen</p> <p>Assignment 5 with your discussion group (bones and behavior; the human skeleton)</p> <p>*Assignment 5 is due on Thursday before your final exam</p> |