Ant 348: Human Origins and Evolution  
(31365, 31370, 31375, 31380)

Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR:  John Kappelman (jkappelman@austin.utexas.edu)  
Office:  SAC 5.160  telephone:  471-0055; office hours M W 11 am-12 noon or by appointment  
Web Site:  http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/anthropology/faculty/jwk5664

TEACHING ASSISTANT:  Chris Davis  
Office:  SAC 5.170: telephone:  232-3905; office hours:  TH 10-12 am or by appointment

LECTURE MEETINGS:  M and W: 10-11 pm in SAC 5.172  
LABORATORY MEETINGS:  M 11-1 pm (31370); W 11-1 pm (31375); TH 8-10 am (31365);  
F 12-2 pm (31380)

COURSE WEB SITE:  http://www.canvas.utexas.edu
We will use Canvas for lecture and lab announcements, assignments and notices. You need to have an  
UTEID to access the Canvas site.

INTRODUCTION:  This course examines the evidence for the origin and evolution of humans with  
particular emphasis placed on reconstructing the paleobiology of extinct hominins.  Lectures will draw  
upon a diverse range of disciplines (anatomy, archaeology, ecology, ethology, genetics, geology,  
paleontology) and integrate these into a framework for understanding the history of this unusual group  
of primates.  The laboratories provide the student with an opportunity to examine firsthand the fossil  
evidence for human evolution.

READINGS:  The following textbooks are required for the course:  
Company.  Edition 4.0 (CD ROM or online access code). If you have purchased Virtual Labs for  
another course, it will probably still work.  Virtual Labs are an optional resource.  
Sourcebook and lab materials.  This reader includes a number of required articles from the primary  
literature along with the laboratory readings and assignments and will be posted to Canvas.  
The following popular books are optional for the course and can be found in the UT library:  

EXAMINATIONS:  The two exams are computer-based multimedia exams and will be administered  
during regular lab times.  A take-home open book essay question is assigned with each exam and is  
submitted via email.

GRADING:  The course material will be introduced during lecture.  Weekly laboratory problem sets  
will serve to highlight specific topics.  The final grade for the course (no + or -) will be calculated as  
follows:

1. Laboratory and Readings Assignments 40%  
2. Examination #1 20%  
3. Examination #2 30%  
4. Class and Lab Participation 10%  
TOTAL 100%
A 348 Lecture Schedule

Jan. 18  Introduction to the course
Jan. 23  Observations on Human Evolution I
Jan. 25  Observations on Human Evolution II
Jan. 30  Natural Selection
Feb.  1  Adaptation
Feb.  6  Geological Dating Techniques
Feb.  8  Miocene Hominoids
Feb. 13  Hominoid Phylogeny
Feb. 15  Climates and Environments of the Late Miocene
Feb. 20  Early Hominins of Africa
Feb. 22  Hominin bipedalism
Feb. 27  Early Hominin Paleobiology
Mar.  1  Early Hominin Phylogeny

Mar. 4 (Saturday)  Explore UT volunteer opportunity (11 am - 5 pm, on campus)
Mar.  6  The World of Taung
Mar.  8  Early Homo

Mar. 10  EXAM #1 given during lab times and includes all material through the lecture of 2 March and Lab 5).
TAKE HOME ESSAY #1: available on 7 March and due on 11 March

Mar. 13-18  Spring Break (no lecture or lab)
Mar. 20   Homo erectus
Mar. 22   Archaic Homo sapiens I
Mar. 27   SAA and Paleoanthropology Society meetings in Vancouver (no class)
Mar. 29   SAA and Paleoanthropology Society meetings in Vancouver (no class)
Apr.  3   Lower and Middle Paleolithic Archaeology
Apr.  5   Modern Homo sapiens
Apr. 10   The Evolution of Brain Size and Body Mass
Apr. 12 Late Pleistocene Archaeology /Paleolithic Art
Apr. 17 Humans enter the New World

**Apr. 19-22** AAPA meeting in New Orleans (class meeting to be determined)
Apr. 19 Sedentism and the Rise of Agriculture
Apr. 24 Modern Human Adaptations I
Apr. 26 Modern Human Adaptations II

May 1 Concluding Remarks

**May 1-5** EXAM #2 given during lab times
TAKE HOME ESSAY #2: available on 1 May and due on 5 May

**WEBSITES:**
Other websites that you will find useful include in the study of the course materials:
- The primate and human skeleton: [www.eSkeletons.org](http://www.eSkeletons.org)
- The famous fossil Luc: [www.eLucy.org](http://www.eLucy.org)
- The human fossil record: [www.eFossils.org](http://www.eFossils.org)

**STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**
Students who cheat not only cheat themselves but also cheat other students in the course and the University. This course has a zero tolerance policy for cheating. Any student found cheating (e.g., discussing or exchanging answers on exams or lab assignments, submitting work on behalf of another student, etc.) will receive an F in the course and be directed to the appropriate University authorities. To review the UT policy, see [http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/)

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**
- 20 January Last day of official add/drop period
- 1 February Twelfth Class Day
- 13-17 March Spring Break (no class or labs)
- 3 April Last day a student may, with dean’s approval, withdraw or change pass/fail status
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Lab topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 17 - 20</td>
<td>No Lab Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 30 - Feb. 3</td>
<td>Lab 2: An introduction to primates. Taxonomy, body size and allometry, diet, biomechanics, behavior. (review CD 1-5)</td>
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<td>Feb. 13 - 17</td>
<td>Lab 4: Molecular phylogenetics. DNA-DNA hybridization, mitochondrial DNA, immunological studies, sequencing studies. What do molecules tell us about primate phylogeny? (CD 2)</td>
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<td>Feb. 27 - Mar. 3</td>
<td>Lab 6: The origin of <em>Homo</em>. Changes in postcranial, cranial, and dental anatomy. (CD 10)</td>
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<td>Mar. 6 - 10</td>
<td>Exam #1 given during regular lab hours</td>
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<td>Mar. 13 - 17</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>Mar. 20 - 24</td>
<td>Lab 7: <em>Homo erectus</em> and archaic <em>Homo sapiens</em>. Further increases in brain size. Hominins expand their range. Who were the Neanderthals? (CD 10)</td>
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<td>Mar. 27 - 31</td>
<td>No lab. SAA and Paleoanthropology meetings in Vancouver</td>
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<td>Apr. 3 - 7</td>
<td>Lab 8: Hominin systematics. Cladistics on the computer.</td>
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<td>Apr. 10 - 14</td>
<td>Lab 9: The origin of modern humans. Paleontological and molecular evidence. The &quot;Eve&quot; hypothesis and mtDNA. (CD 12)</td>
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<td>Apr. 17 - 21</td>
<td>Lab 10: Paleolithic archaeology. Faunal analysis. (CD 11)</td>
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<td>Apr. 24 - 28</td>
<td>Lab 11: Modern Humans. Skeletal Biology: Studies of form and function on the computer (CD 12)</td>
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<td>May 1 - 5</td>
<td>Exam #2 given during regular lab hours</td>
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INTRODUCTION TO THE LABORATORIES

The laboratory sections of this course are designed to provide you with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with the materials and methods of paleoanthropology. Because such experience is vital to a better understanding of the course of human evolution, the grade you receive in lab will account for 40% of your total grade in the class. It is essential that you attend lab. The following guidelines will be followed for lab sections:

1) All lab assignments are due at the beginning of the following week’s lab.

2) NO late lab homework will be accepted unless a documented and verifiable excuse (e.g., doctor’s note, obituary, etc.) is provided by the student. If you anticipate a difficulty ahead of time, or have a documented conflict as a consequence of a university activity, you should contact the TA or professor ASAP.

3) You must attend the lab section for which you are registered. If an unforeseen problem arises and you cannot attend this lab, talk to the TA in order to see if you can attend a different session. Your lab assignment will still be due at the beginning of the lab section that you are registered for.

4) While we encourage you to interact and exchange ideas with other students, the lab assignments that you submit must be your own work.

COURSE POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students who cheat not only cheat themselves but also cheat other students in the course and harm the reputation of the University. Any student found cheating will receive an F in the course and will be directed to the appropriate University authorities for additional sanctions that may include dismissal from the University. Please see the Honor Code to review the UT policy.

Students ARE NOT permitted to copy by any means down exam questions, ARE NOT permitted to copy by any means down the answers to the exam questions, and ARE NOT permitted share this information with another student(s). Students ARE NOT permitted to discuss the content of the exams with each other, and this includes all possible venues (informal hallway chat, websites, forums, Facebook, etc.).

Students ARE NOT permitted to discuss or share laboratory assignments and answers with another student(s), ARE NOT permitted to collaborate on the completion of these assignments unless specifically directed to do so, and ARE NOT permitted to submit assignments for one another.

A student(s) who requests any exam or lab information puts the other students in the course at risk and will receive an F in the course even if no information is supplied by other students.

This course has a zero tolerance policy for cheating. Any questions about the lab assignments and exams should be directed to the professor and teaching assistant, NOT to your fellow students.