

SYLLABUS

ANT 301 - INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Spring Semester 2013

PROFESSOR: Dr. Chris Kirk
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Office hours: Wednesday 11 AM - Noon

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

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Labs: Mon 8-10 AM, Mon 12-2 PM

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Labs: Wed 8-10 AM, Wed 4-6 PM, Wed 6-8 PM

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office hours: Fri 2-4 PM, **SAC 4.166**
Labs: Tues 4-6 PM, Thurs 12-2 PM, Fri 12-2 PM

LECTURES: Monday and Wednesday, 2:00 - 3:00 PM **WEL 1.316**

LABS: **SAC 5.172** (check course schedule for meeting time)
NOTE: Labs begin the third week of class (Jan 28 – Feb 1).

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

How Humans Evolved by Boyd and Silk
W.W. Norton & Co., 2012
6th Edition.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Physical anthropology is the study of the behavior, ecology, and evolution of primates (including humans). This course is intended to provide an introduction to the field and an overview of its sub-disciplines. We will begin with a survey of living primates. The remaining lecture material will be divided between 1) primate behavior and ecology, 2) macroevolution, and 3) primate and human evolution. Labs will generally expand on concepts presented in lectures, and will provide students with an opportunity for hands-on exploration of skeletal and fossil materials.

ON-LINE MATERIALS:

All lab documents will be made available on-line through Blackboard at:

<http://courses.utexas.edu/>

You are required to download and print out your lab documents and bring them to class. NOTE: Students arriving without appropriate materials will not receive credit for lab.

CLASS LECTURES WILL NOT BE MADE AVAILABLE ON-LINE, AND WILL NOT BE PROVIDED TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE MISSED LECTURES.

LABS:

You may go to any TA's office hours to ask questions, but you must attend the lab section for which you are enrolled. If you have an excused absence from lab due to sickness or other legitimate reasons, you must provide your TA with appropriate documentation (e.g., doctor's note) and make arrangements to attend another lab section **that week**. To schedule an alternate time, you must contact both your TA and the instructor of the lab section you wish to attend **in advance**. Students abusing this privilege will have the option revoked and will receive a score of zero for any missed lab.

Please note that documentation of an excused lab absence will NOT be accepted if provided more than 7 days after the missed lab.

GRADING:

There will be three general exams covering all lectures and reading assignments. All general exam questions will be objective format (e.g., true/false, matching, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer). There will also be two lab practical exams in which you will be required to identify or describe objects (bones, fossils, stone tools, etc.) All exams will be non-cumulative. **THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM.**

DO NOT MISS AN EXAM. Make-up exams will be given **ONLY** when medical or family emergencies (such as a death in the family) can be documented. If you miss an exam due to an emergency, you must contact your professor **ASAP** and provide documentation within 5 days of

the exam. FYI: If you are sick on an exam day, don't ask the Student Health nurse who schedules your appointment for a note – get one from the physician who sees you.

Exam scores will not be curved during the term. If you have any questions about your grade on any exam, Prof. Kirk will be happy to recheck your whole exam if it was completed in indelible ink. Simple errors of grading (e.g., incorrect addition) will be corrected immediately. More complicated issues should be addressed in writing within 3 days after the return of the exams. Please write out a short statement explaining why you think that the exam question was graded incorrectly and what you think the correct answer should have been. Then give your (1) written explanation & request for a re-grade and (2) your original exam to Prof. Kirk. You have 3 days after the exams have been returned to you to notify Prof. Kirk of any errors or disagreements. After that, grades are final. Your grade for the semester will be based on the following four components:

Exam 1 -----	25%
Exam 2 -----	25%
Exam 3 -----	25%
Cumulative Lab Score -----	25%

Your cumulative lab score will be calculated based on the formula:

Lab Midterm -----	30%
Lab Final (non-cumulative)--	30%
Lab Exercises -----	40%

Final Grade Ranges:

A = 100-90; **B** = 89-80; **C** = 79-70; **D** = 69-60; **F** = 59 and below

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOLLOWING GRADING POLICIES WILL BE ENFORCED:

- Final letter grades are assigned according to the integer ranges shown above. Pluses and minuses will not be assigned for final grades.
- All grades for the semester are final and non-negotiable. Students will not be provided with any opportunities for bonus work to increase their final grade. If your performance during the semester is adversely affected by personal problems (e.g., death of a family member, mental health issues, etc.), you are encouraged to contact your dean's office as soon as possible to discuss your options.
- Documentation of excused absences from an exam will not be considered more than 5 days after the date of the exam.

CHEATING POLICY:

During exams, students will not be permitted to wear hats or use electronic devices of any kind (including, but not limited to, cell phones and ipods). *All exams must be completed using a pen with indelible ink, or you will forfeit the opportunity to request a re-grade of your exam.*

BE ADVISED that on exam days, students will only be allowed to take a pen to their seat. All backpacks, book bags, purses, drinks, food, etc. must be left on the dais at the front of the auditorium. If you're worried that someone might take your bag by mistake, don't bring it to class.

Without exception, any student found cheating on an exam or lab assignment will receive a grade of zero for the exam or lab assignment and will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Services for disciplinary action. Note that any attempt to alter a graded, returned exam in order to improve the score will be considered cheating and will result in a grade of zero for the exam.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:

If you require special accommodations for exams (e.g., a reduced-distraction environment or extra time), you must contact your instructor and teaching assistant IN ADVANCE in order to discuss the necessary arrangements. There will be no exceptions to this rule. Proof of qualification for accommodations from the UT Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) office must be provided.

A student is free *not* to use an approved accommodation. However, if a student opts out of an accommodation for one exam and then decides to use it for another exam, it is the responsibility of the student to make advance arrangements with the professor and TAs.

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR:

Please do not sleep, talk, text, or read the paper in class. Students engaging in disruptive behavior of any kind will be asked to leave the auditorium.

Feel free to take notes on a computer. However, *no one* is allowed to make audio or video recordings of lectures under any circumstances. Please inform your professor or TA if you see anyone making audio or video recordings of the lecture so that we may eject him/her from the lecture hall.

Please note also that students who text or use their computers for anything other than taking notes may be asked to turn off their phone or computer and/or to leave the classroom.

Due to the great potential for cell phones to disrupt large classes, all cell phone ringers must be turned off at the beginning of lecture. One warning will be given per class. After that, any student whose cell phone goes off will be asked to leave the auditorium.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS:

Readings

14 Jan (M) Introduction

Introduction to Primate Diversity

16 Jan (W)	Primate Characteristics	Ch. 5
21 Jan (M)	MLK DAY - NO CLASS	
23 Jan (W)	Survey and Taxonomy of Living Primates: Prosimians	Ch. 5
28 Jan (M)	Survey and Taxonomy of Living Primates: Monkeys	Ch. 5
30 Jan (W)	Survey and Taxonomy of Living Primates: Hominoids	Ch. 5

Primate Behavior and Ecology

4 Feb (M)	Intro to Primate Ecology	Ch. 5
6 Feb (W)	Group-Living and Mating Systems	Ch. 6-8
11 Feb (M)	Socioecology and Sociobiology	Ch. 6-8
13 Feb (W)	Social Behavior Part 1	Ch. 6-8
18 Feb (M)	Social Behavior Part 2	Ch. 6-8
20 Feb (W)	EXAM 1	

Evolution and Phylogeny

25 Feb (M)	History of Evolutionary Thought Part 1	Ch. 1-3
27 Feb (W)	History of Evolutionary Thought Part 2	Ch. 1-3
4 Mar (M)	Evolution and the Modern Synthesis	Ch. 1-3
6 Mar (W)	Macroevolution Part 1	Ch. 4
11-15 Mar	SPRING BREAK - NO CLASS	
18 Mar (M)	Macroevolution Part 2	Ch. 4

Primate and Human Evolution

20 Mar (W)	Primate Evolution Part 1	Ch. 9
25 Mar (M)	Primate Evolution Part 2	Ch. 9
27 Mar (W)	Primate Evolution Part 3	Ch. 9
1 Apr (M)	EXAM 2	
3 Apr (W)	Australopithecines Part 1	Ch. 10-11
8 Apr (M)	Australopithecines Part 2	Ch. 10-11
10 Apr (W)	Australopithecines Part 3	Ch. 10-11
15 Apr (M)	Australopithecines Part 4	Ch. 10-11
17 Apr (W)	Homo Part 1	Ch. 12-13
22 Apr (M)	Homo Part 2	Ch. 12-13
24 Apr (W)	Homo Part 3	Ch. 12-13
29 Apr (M)	Homo Part 4	Ch. 12-13
1 May (W)	EXAM 3 (non-cumulative)	

LAB SCHEDULE

Week 1 (Jan 14 – Jan 18)	NO LABS
Week 2 (Jan 21 – Jan 25)	NO LABS
Week 3 (Jan 28 – Feb 1)	Lab 1 – Scientific Method and Skeletal Anatomy
Week 4 (Feb 4 – Feb 8)	Lab 2 – Taxonomy
Week 5 (Feb 11 – Feb 15)	Lab 3 – Primate Diets
Week 6 (Feb 18 – Feb 22)	Lab 4 – Primate Behavior
Week 7 (Feb 25 – Mar 1)	Lab 5 – Genetics
Week 8 (Mar 4 – Mar 8)	FIRST LAB PRACTICAL EXAM
Week 9 (Mar 11 – Mar 15)	SPRING BREAK
Week 10 (Mar 18 – Mar 22)	Lab 6 – Cladistics
Week 11 (Mar 25 – Mar 29)	Lab 7 – Functional Morphology
Week 12 (Apr 1 – Apr 5)	Lab 8 – Fossil Primates
Week 13 (Apr 8 – Apr 12)	NO LABS
Week 14 (Apr 15 – Apr 19)	Lab 9 – Australopithecines
Week 15 (Apr 22 – Apr 26)	Lab 10 – Genus <i>Homo</i>
Week 16 (29 Apr – May 3)	SECOND LAB PRACTICAL EXAM