Introduction to Physical Anthropology

ANTHROPOLOGY 301

SPRING 2018

PROFESSOR: Becca Lewis
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Office hours: Wednesdays 10 – noon

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

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Labs: M 4-6, M 6-8.

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Labs: W 1-3, Th 3-5, Th 5-7.

LECTURES: Monday and Wednesday, 9:00 AM - 10:00 PM JES A121A

LABS: SAC 5.172 (check course schedule for meeting time)
NOTE: Labs begin the second week of class (Jan 23 - 27).

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

How Humans Evolved by Boyd and Silk
W.W. Norton & Co., 2015
7th Edition.

Additional readings will be available on Canvas.
**Course Description and Objective:**
Physical anthropology (also called biological or evolutionary anthropology) is the study of the behavior, ecology, and evolution of primates, including humans. As a scientific discipline, research in physical anthropology is (1) empirical and (2) grounded in the scientific method. ANT 301 is intended to provide an introduction to the field of physical anthropology and an overview of its sub-disciplines. ANT 301 is also designed to provide the necessary foundational knowledge needed for all upper division courses in physical anthropology. The first 2 weeks of class focus on living primate diversity. The remaining lectures focus on three main subjects: 1) primate behavior and ecology, 2) micro- and macroevolution, and 3) primate and human evolution. Labs focus on the collection and analysis of quantitative data, and provide an opportunity to explore key concepts, osteological material, and fossil material discussed in lectures. During lab exercises, students will engage in a variety of quantitative methods for data collection and analysis, including (but not limited to) (1) osteological morphometrics for biomechanical analysis of skeletal material and (2) the comparative method as a tool for making quantitative inferences about the fossil record. Please be advised that you will be required to take measurements directly from human skeletal material for some labs. Lab exercises will also include a combination of individual work and collaborative work in pairs or groups.

This course may be used to fulfill the natural science and technology (Part II) component of the university core curriculum. Courses meeting this requirement are designed to give students an appreciation of the current state of knowledge in two or more areas of natural science and technology, and to help students understand the methods, approaches, and theories that scientists use to answer questions about the natural world. To meet these core objectives, students taking ANT 301 are expected to gain a detailed understanding of biological evolution and adaptation (considered foundational knowledge in all life sciences). Students are also introduced to a range of scientific concepts and methods that are central to physical anthropology and related scientific disciplines (e.g., biology, geology, and paleontology).

**Online Materials:**
All lab documents will be made available online through Canvas at: [http://canvas.utexas.edu](http://canvas.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.

**Power Point files used in class lectures will NOT be made available online.**

**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 that 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., multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer). All exams will be non-cumulative. THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM.

There will also be two lab practical exams in which you will be required to identify or describe objects (bones, fossils, stone tools, etc.). Any students arriving after a lab exam has begun will be penalized one letter grade (e.g., 10 points off the exam). Any student arriving 10 minutes or more after a lab exam has begun will receive a grade of zero for the exam.

**DO NOT MISS AN EXAM.** Make-up exams will be given ONLY when medical or family emergencies 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 employee who schedules your appointment for a note – get one from the physician, PA, or nurse practitioner who sees you.

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 ---------------25%
- Lab Final (non-cumulative)-- 25%
- Lab Exercises --------------50%

**Re-grading policy:**

Grade disputes must be turned in to Prof. Lewis in writing within 1 week of when the exam is returned. If you have any questions about your grade on any exam, Prof. Lewis will be happy to recheck your whole exam if it was completed in indelible ink. Simple errors in addition can be corrected with a short written statement explaining your specific concerns. For disputes about grading beyond simple calculation errors, the student must include a 1-page single-spaced 12 pt. font explanation per question of why (s)he thinks that his/her answer is correct. These explanations should cite the textbook and/or primary literature (peer-reviewed journal articles) to support the argument and include a bibliography. Then give your (1) written explanation and request for a re-grade and (2) your original exam to Prof. Lewis. You have 1 week after the exams have been returned to you to notify Prof. Lewis of any errors or disagreements. After that, grades are final.
The following guidelines are used to assign final grades:

A  90-100
B  80-89
C  70-79
D  60-69
F  59 or less

Plus and minus will be assigned, for example:
B+  86.5-89.4
B   83.5-86.4
B-  79.5-83.4

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOLLOWING GRADING POLICIES WILL BE ENFORCED:

All grades for the semester are final and non-negotiable. No individual grades will be curved. The only way to change a test grade is via the official regrading policy (see above). Students will not be provided with any opportunities for bonus work to increase their final grade.

Documentation of excused absences from an exam will not be considered more than 1 week after the date of the exam.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:
If you are caught plagiarizing, I will be following the university guidelines for disciplinary actions: (deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/academicintegrity.html), see also (www.academicintegrity.org/).

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University Code of Academic Integrity (see attached). Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student’s own work. You are encouraged to study together and discuss information and concepts covered in lecture. You can give “consulting” help to or receive “consulting” help from such students. However, this permissible cooperation should never involve one student having possession of a copy of all or part of work done by someone else, in the form of email, email attachment file, disk, or hard copy. Should copying occur, both the student who copied from another student and the student who gave material to be copied will both be automatically receive a zero for the assignment. Penalty for violation of this Code can also be extended to include failure of the course and University disciplinary action.

During examinations, you must do your own work. Talking or discussion is not permitted during the examinations, nor may you compare papers, copy from others, or collaborate in any way. Any collaborative behavior during the exams will result in failure of the exam, and may result in failure of the course and University disciplinary action.

CHEATING POLICY:
During exams, students will not be permitted to wear hats or use electronic devices of any kind. ***This includes smart watches.*** Students are not permitted to wear any electronic devices that connect to the internet or to communicate with someone else (unless approved
by the professor due to SDD policies). Please silence cell phones before an exam begins. If your cell phone rings during an exam, do not remove it from your pocket, backpack, or purse. *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, jackets, 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.

*Please note* that sharing information about an exam with a student who has not yet taken the exam will be considered cheating, regardless of the means by which the information is shared (e.g., verbally, on a web page, via email, via text message, etc.). For example, a student with a Monday lab who shares information about a lab exam with students in a Thursday lab by posting lab questions on a Facebook page is cheating – both the student sharing the information and student(s) using the information will receive 0% credit for the exam. *Students who observe cheating via electronic media or other means are encouraged to inform the professor or their TA.*

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**
In compliance with the UT Austin policy and equal access laws, Prof. Lewis is available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that may be required for students with disabilities. Requests for academic accommodations are to be made during the 1st 3 weeks of the semester, except for unusual circumstances, so arrangements can be made. Proof of qualification for accommodations from the UT Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) office must be provided. Students are encouraged to register with Student Disability Services to verify their eligibility for appropriate accommodations.

Each time a student wishes to use an approved accommodation for an exam, it is the student’s responsibility to notify and make arrangements with his/her TA. If you require special accommodations for exams (e.g., a reduced-distraction environment or extra time), you must contact Prof. Lewis and your teaching assistant at least 7 days IN ADVANCE of the exam again in order to discuss the necessary arrangements. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

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 his/her TA.

**OTHER POLICIES:**
Be sure to regularly check Canvas for class materials and information. Class handouts will be available on Canvas. If class is missed with an excused absence, it is up to the student to secure the notes from other students.
Please be respectful of the instructor and your fellow students. Do not talk or sleep in class. Turn your cell phones off while in class. No cell phone use during class will be tolerated – *this includes texting* – unless cell phone use is part of an in-class assignment. If a student’s cell phone makes any noise, s/he will be given one warning. After that, any student whose cell phone goes off will be asked to leave the auditorium. This permitted use will only occur with an explicit statement by the instructor. 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 permitted 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.

No extra credit assignments will be given, so please be sure to pay close attention to dates of exams and assignments.

If a student chooses to create and administer a web page for this course via social media (e.g., Facebook), Prof. Lewis and all of the teaching assistants must be granted access to the page.

**GUNS:** While Prof. Lewis cannot legally ban concealed guns from the classroom, she can exercise her first amendment right to let you know that she would strongly prefer that you NOT bring them into her classroom or the lab. She CAN legally ban concealed guns from her faculty office. Thus, this (and her reading of this statement aloud in class) is her official notification that you may not bring any concealed guns into her faculty office.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>TENTATIVE SCHEDULE</strong></th>
<th><strong>Readings</strong></th>
<th><strong>Lab Schedule</strong></th>
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<td><strong>Week 1</strong> Jan 17</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>No labs this week</td>
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<td>Diversity: Meet the Primates BR: Ch. 5</td>
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<td><strong>Week 3</strong> Jan 29</td>
<td>Diversity: Meet the Primates BR: Ch. 5</td>
<td>Lab 2: Taxonomy &amp; Cladistics</td>
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<td>Jan 31</td>
<td>Evolution: History and Theory BR: Ch. 1</td>
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<td><strong>Week 4</strong> Feb 5</td>
<td>Evolution: History and Theory BR: Ch. 2</td>
<td>Lab 3: Genetics</td>
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<td>Feb 7</td>
<td>Evolution: Microevolution BR: Ch. 3</td>
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<td><strong>Week 5</strong> Feb 12</td>
<td>Evolution: Macroevolution BR: Ch. 4</td>
<td>Lab 4: Behavior</td>
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<td>Feb 14</td>
<td>Evolution: Macroevolution</td>
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<td><strong>Week 6</strong> Feb 19</td>
<td>Evolution: Behavior ARTICLE: Lewis 2017a; Sinha &amp; Rizvi 2017; Rodriguez 2015</td>
<td>Lab practical exam 1</td>
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<td><strong>Week 7</strong> Feb 26</td>
<td>Primate Ecology BR: Ch. 5</td>
<td>Lab 5: Diet</td>
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<td>Behavior: Group-living BR: Ch. 6</td>
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<td><strong>Week 8</strong> Mar 5</td>
<td>Behavior: Sexual Selection Lewis 2017b,c</td>
<td>Lab 6: Sex</td>
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<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>Behavior: Cooperation BR: Ch. 7</td>
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<td><strong>Mar 12-18</strong></td>
<td>No Class – Spring Break</td>
<td>No labs this week</td>
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<td><strong>Week 9</strong> Mar 19</td>
<td>Behavior: Intelligence, Language, Culture BR: Ch. 8</td>
<td>Lab 7: Functional Morphology</td>
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<td>Mar 21</td>
<td>Behavior: Intelligence, Language, Culture BR: Ch. 16</td>
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<td><strong>Week 10</strong> Mar 26</td>
<td>Fossil Record: Primate Evolution BR: Ch. 9</td>
<td>Lab 8: Fossil Primates</td>
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<td>Mar 28</td>
<td>Fossil Record: Primate Evolution BR: Ch. 9</td>
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<td><strong>Week 11</strong> Apr 2</td>
<td>Exam II</td>
<td>Lab 9: Australopithecines</td>
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<td>Apr 4</td>
<td>Fossil Record: Australopithecines BR: Ch. 10-11</td>
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<td><strong>Week 12</strong> Apr 9</td>
<td>Fossil Record: Australopithecines BR: Ch. 10-11</td>
<td>No labs this week</td>
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<td>Apr 11</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>Fossil Record: <em>Homo</em></td>
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<td>Apr 18</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
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<td>Fossil Record: <em>Homo</em></td>
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<td>Apr 25</td>
<td>Anatomically Modern Humans</td>
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<td>Week 15</td>
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<td>Modern Human Variation</td>
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<td>May 2</td>
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