

ANTHROPOLOGY 101: HUMAN BIOLOGICAL EVOLUTION

Section 3411

Wednesday, 6:30-9:40pm

SSEC 315

Course Description and Approach



Welcome to an introduction to biological anthropology! Anthropology is the study of what it means to be human, and this class focuses on humans as biological animals. This class uses a *biocultural* approach, focusing on the relationship between biology and culture in human development.

The course will begin with the concept of evolution: Is evolution a fact or a theory? Or is it both? How does evolution happen? We will examine genetics and the processes of inheritance: Why do we resemble our parents, but not look exactly like them? Can we predict the traits our children will have? Can we calculate genetic changes in a population?

Next, we will look at the biology and behavior of other primates, our closest living relatives. What do we have in common with other primates and what makes us different? We will explore the path of human evolution as seen in the fossil record: When did primates start walking on two legs? When did they start making tools? Where (and when) did modern humans develop? Did we live with (and mate with?) other populations like the Neanderthals?

Finally, the course ends with a look at modern human biological variation: How do humans adapt to various physical and cultural environments? What is the biological significance of "race"? How have people used (and misused) evolutionary theory?

Your Instructor

Dr. Angela C. Jenks

Office: SSEC 216M

Phone: 323-242-5513

Email: jenksa@lasc.edu

Find me in my office:

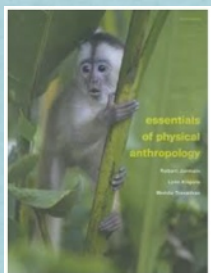
Mon or Wed, 3-6pm

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course you will be able to:

- 1) Apply a biocultural framework to the understanding of human development and contemporary human life
- 2) Analyze and participate in contemporary debates about evolution in the United States

Materials



1. Jurmain, et al. *Essentials of Physical Anthropology*, 9th ed. ISBN: 9781111837181
2. Enrollment in the course Etudes site (<https://myetudes.org>) to access online readings and reading quizzes, study materials, and additional resources
3. Scantron forms and blue/green books for in-class exams (available at the LASC bookstore)

Where Can You Find the Textbook?

LASC Bookstore (new)	\$153
Amazon.com (new)	\$119
Coursesmart.com ebook	\$81
Chegg.com rental	\$60
Library reserve (2 hrs.)	Free

(Prices as of 8/20/2012)

Course Requirements

This class will involve a variety of activities that introduce you to the breadth of biological anthropology. **You should plan to spend approximately 10-12 hours a week on work for this class.** Your final grade will be based on the following:

Attendance and In-Class Activities (10% of grade)

The weekly class session (Wed, 6:30-9:40pm) is a main source of learning for the course. **Please arrive to class on time and plan to stay for the entire session.**

There will be multiple 5-point in-class activities throughout the semester. Your **top ten (10) in-class activities** will count toward your final grade. These activities may be practice problems, hands-on activities, group assignments, film guides, or pop quizzes. They are designed to give you an opportunity to apply the concepts we have been learning in class to concrete situations. **No make-up or late assignments will be accepted.** If you are absent and miss a class activity you will not be able to get the activity points.

More than three absences may result in your removal from the class. However, if you decide to drop the course, it is your responsibility to officially withdraw; all students who are enrolled in the class after the final drop date will receive a grade.

Reading Quizzes (10% of grade)

Complete all required reading assignments and take AT LEAST TEN weekly reading quizzes on the online course Etudes site.

The textbook and additional assigned readings are essential to your learning in this class. We will not always go over all of the readings in class; we will use class time to expand on the reading and examine certain topics in more depth.

Weekly reading quizzes will be posted on the course Etudes site and will be due before the class period listed in the course calendar.

No make-up quizzes will be given for any reason. **Additional quizzes (beyond the 10 required) will count as extra credit.** Please come see me if you have any trouble accessing the quizzes.

Course Requirements, continued

Exams (40% of grade)

There will be three exams: two in class and one on the college-scheduled final exam date.



No make-up exams will be given for any reason. However, your lowest exam grade will be dropped. Your top two exam scores will be included in your final course grade.

Exams will include a variety of questions, including matching and multiple choice, identification, genetics problems, and essays. The exams are not only focused on you repeating factual information, but give you a chance to integrate and apply various issues discussed in class.

Homework (20% of grade)

There will be five (5) homework assignments throughout the course. These assignments are designed to give you extra practice addressing the central topics of the class. Each assignment will be handed out in class and posted on the course website.



All assignments are due **at the beginning of class** on the date listed. **No make-up, late, or e-mailed assignments will be accepted.** If you are late to class, your homework will not be accepted.

Because Stuff Happens...

You have one **virtual "stuff happens" late pass** that allows you to complete **one** of the homework assignments within one week after the deadline. After you have used this late pass, however, no additional late homework will be accepted.

Analytical Project (20% of grade)

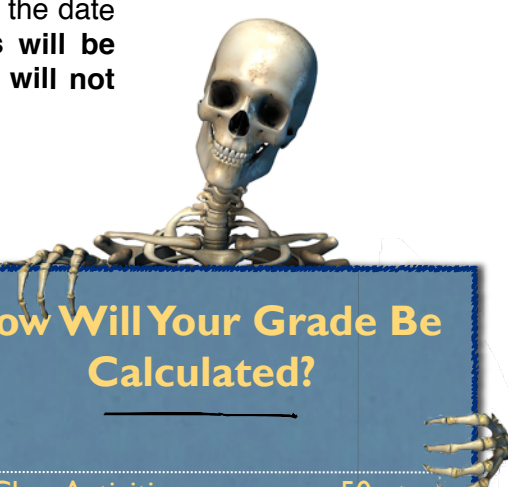
Choose one of the following topics to research and write a **5-7 page paper**. A final copy of your paper and project notes will be due in class on **Wednesday, Dec 5**. You must turn in a hard copy—I cannot accept an electronic version. **Please respect deadlines.** Five (5) points will be deducted for each day your paper is late, including weekends and holidays. If you cannot turn in your paper on time due to extreme circumstances, you must discuss this with me **before** the due date.

Topic options:

- Primate behavior at the Los Angeles Zoo
- Fictional representations of human ancestors

See the additional handout for more detailed information about each of these topics.

How Will Your Grade Be Calculated?

A 3D rendering of a human skeleton, seen from the front, holding a large blue sign with white text. The skeleton is positioned behind the sign, with its arms and hands visible.

In-Class Activities	50 pts.
Reading quizzes (10)	50 pts.
Exams (top 2)	200 pts.
Homework (5)	100 pts.
Analytical Project	100 pts.
TOTAL	500 pts.

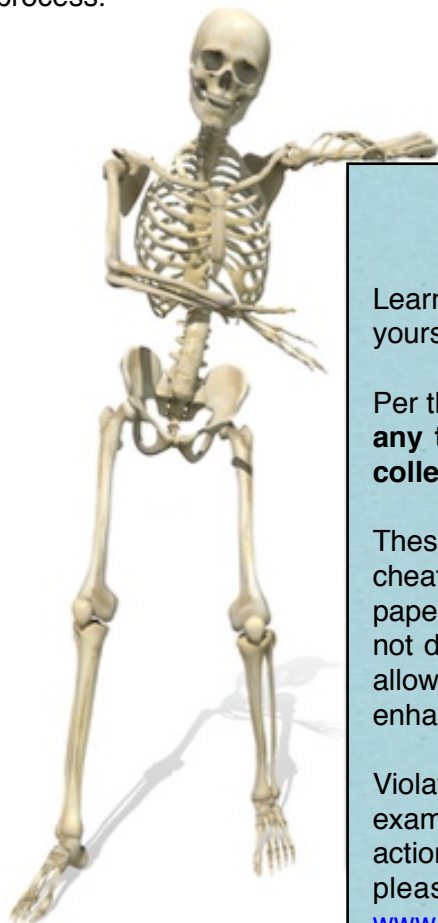
450-500 pts.	A
400-450 pts.	B
350-400 pts.	C
300-350 pts.	D
Below 300 pts.	F

Course Policies

Professional Conduct: College classrooms are professional, scholarly settings, and our actions should reflect respect for each other and for the educational process.

LACCD Code of Conduct: You are expected to adhere to the district code of conduct and other policies outlined in the college catalog (http://www.lasc.edu/students/classes-areas-of-study/college_catalog.html).

Assignments: All assignments should be submitted as specified and conform to the given instructions. Please make sure your assignments are clean and unwrinkled, clearly written, and stapled.



ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Learning in this class depends on you completing all required assignments yourself.

Per the LACCD's Board Rule 9803.28, **violations of academic integrity of any type provide grounds for disciplinary action by the instructor or college.**

These violations include, but are not limited to, the following actions: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, working together on an assignment, paper or project when the instructor has specifically stated students should not do so, submitting the same term paper to more than one instructor, or allowing another individual to assume one's identity for the purpose of enhancing one's grade.

Violations of academic integrity will result in no credit for an assignment or exam and possible course failure and referral to the college for disciplinary action. If you are unsure about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism, please see the instructor or complete this useful tutorial: <https://www.indiana.edu/~istd/>.



Technology in the Classroom

Electronic devices are useful tools but often distract from learning. Make sure your cell phones, mp3 players, and other machines are silenced and put away during class. **Do not text or make/accept phone calls during class.** Cell phone use will result in no attendance credit for the day and students may be asked to leave the class.

You may bring a laptop, but only to take notes or access relevant class materials like lecture slides. Do not use your laptop to explore the internet, check your email, browse Facebook, etc. If you bring a laptop, sit in the back row or against the wall to avoid distracting other students.

Electronic Communication

Email is the best way to contact me. During the week (M-F), I will respond within 24 hours. I do not always check my email on weekends and holidays.

To allow me to identify your message and respond in a timely manner, please place the words "LASC Anth 101, 3411" in the subject line. Messages should include a salutation, professional language, and your full name in the signature.

Help and Resources



COURSE WEBSITE

Information for this course can be found through **Etudes**. The course website includes assigned readings, reading quizzes, other assignments, study guides, and recommended resources.

If you have never used this system before:

1. Go to <https://myetudes.org>
2. Log in with your student ID number as your user id and the four digit month and day of your birth.
3. If you are officially enrolled in this course, you will see a tab for the class at the top of the page.

If you have any problems logging in to the course page or with the Etudes system, please contact Etudes technical support at <http://etudes.org/gateway/etudes-student-help-lasc>.

BSS Labs: The Behavioral and Social Sciences (BSS) department computer lab is located in SSEC 213. You will be able to access the course Etudes site and complete online reading quizzes there. In addition, you can meet with a study group or talk with other BSS students and faculty in SSEC 309.

Student Success Center: The Student Success Center is located in SSEC 110 and 110A and offers individual and group tutoring as well as computer, internet, and printing access. For more information, go to: <http://www.lasc.edu/lascenter/index.html>

Library: The main library is an excellent resource. You can find the assigned textbook for this class there as well as a number of older anthropology textbooks, ethnographies, and films. Many books are available in either print or electronic versions. In addition, the library offers computer access, copy machines, and librarians who can assist with catalog searches. You can find more information and the library catalog at: http://www.lasc.edu/students/library/about_library.html

DSPS

The disabled students programs and services (DSPS) ensure access to educational programs and resources for all students. Many services are available for qualifying students, including special counseling, note taking services, alternative testing, reading assistance, tutoring, and specialized equipment. Any student who feels she/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact DSPS in room SSB 117 to discuss your specific needs. For more information, go to: <http://www.lasc.edu/dsps/index.html>



Ask Your Instructor!

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions that are not answered by this syllabus. Email me, send me a message through the Etudes site, or drop by my office during my office hours (Mon or Wed, 3-6pm).

Behavioral and Social Science (BSS) department and administration:

If you have any concerns or grievances about this class that are not addressed by the professor, please contact (in the following order), Dr. Tamara Howard, Chair of BSS; Ms. Stephanie Brasley, Dean of BSS; and Ms. Trudy J. Walton, Executive Vice President.

Course Schedule and Assignments

Changes to this schedule may be made as necessary.

TOPIC	DATE	WHAT TO READ	WHAT'S DUE?
Week 1: Introduction to the Course and to Anthropology	Wed, 8/29	EPA: Chapter 1 (pgs. 3-25)	Log in to the course Etudes site and post in the introduction forum
Week 2: History of Evolutionary Thought	Wed, 9/5	EPA: Chapter 2 (pgs. 26-49) Online: Nonoverlapping Magisteria	Reading quiz 1 online
Week 3: Cell Biology and DNA	Wed, 9/12	EPA: Chapter 3 (pgs. 50-71) Online: Photo Finish	Reading quiz 2 online
Week 4: Inheritance and Mendelian Genetics	Wed, 9/19	EPA: Chapter 4 (pgs. 72-84) Online: Firm Brings Gene Tests to Masses	Homework 1 due in class Reading quiz 3 online
Week 5: Microevolution	Wed, 9/26	Exam 1 (1st half of class) EPA: Chapter 4 (pgs. 84-95) Online: Bed Bugs Bite Back Thanks to Evolution	Exam 1 in class Homework 2 due in class Reading quiz 4 online
Week 6: Taxonomy and Macroevolution	Wed, 10/3	EPA: Chapter 5 (pgs. 96-106) Online: The Salamander's Tale	Reading quiz 5 online
Week 7: Geology, Fossils, and the Human Skeleton	Wed, 10/10	EPA: Chapter 5 (pgs. 106-119) EPA: Appendix A (pgs. 378-385) EPA: Appendix D (pgs. 394-398)	Reading quiz 6 online
Week 8: Primates	Wed, 10/17	EPA: Chapter 6 (pgs. 120-153) Online: Almost Half of Primates Face Extinction	Homework 3 due in class Reading quiz 7 online

Last Day to Add
a Class

Sept. 7

Last Day to Drop
WITHOUT a "W"

Sept. 9

Last Day to Drop
with a "W"

Nov. 18

Course Schedule and Assignments, continued

Changes to this schedule may be made as necessary.

TOPIC	DATE	WHAT TO READ	WHAT'S DUE?
Week 9: Primate Behavior and Early Hominins	Wed, 10/24	EPA: Chapter 7 (pgs. 154-185) Online: Why We're Different EPA: Chapter 8 (pgs. 186-210)	Reading quiz 8 online
Week 10: Australopithecus	Wed, 10/31	Exam 2 (1st half of class) EPA: Chapter 8 (pgs. 210-229) EPA: Appendix B (pgs. 386-389)	Exam 2 in class Reading quiz 9 online
Week 11: Development of the Genus <i>Homo</i>	Wed, 11/7	EPA: Chapter 9 (pgs. 231-251)	Reading quiz 10 online
Week 12: Premodern Humans	Wed, 11/14	EPA: Chapter 10 (pgs. 253-281)	Homework 4 due in class Reading quiz 11 online
Week 13: Modern Human Origins	Wed, 11/21	EPA: Chapter 11 (pgs. 283-309)	Reading quiz 12 online
Week 14: Human Variation	Wed, 11/28	EPA: Chapter 12 (pgs. 311-341) Online: Skin Deep	Reading quiz 13 online
Week 15: Uses and Misuses of Evolutionary Theory	Wed, 12/5	Online: N.C. to Compensate Victims of Sterilization in 20th Century Eugenics Program EPA: Chapter 13 (pgs. 342-365)	Analytical Project due in class Homework 5 due in class Reading quiz 14 online
Week 16: Final Exam Period	Wed, 12/12	Exam 3, 7:15pm-9:15pm	Exam 3

Congratulations on finishing the course and have a great break!

