

Human Origins

Archaeology 131

Section: D100

Term: 2012 Spring

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Discussion Topics: This course is designed to be an introduction to biological anthropology and palaeoanthropology: the sciences that address human biological and cultural evolution.

It will include 5 major sections:

- 1) an introduction to the history of this area of research and an examination of the fundamentals of evolutionary theory and genetics;
- 2) an introduction to the basic primate condition: primate evolution and modern primate adaptations;
- 3) an examination of the fossil record of human evolution from pre-hominin primates through to the emergence of modern humans (this will be paralleled by an abridged survey of the development of material culture and technology);
- 4) a close examination of when, where, and how modern humans appeared, and
- 5) an examination of modern human variation and adaptation

Grading: Midterm #1: 35%

Midterm #2: 35%

Final Exam: 30%

Required Texts: John Steckley. 2011. Introduction to Physical Anthropology. Oxford University Press.

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite: None.

Notes: Breadth: Social Sciences/Science

Students requiring accommodations as a result of a disability must contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities 778.782.3112 or csdo@sfu.ca

All students are expected to read and understand SFU's policies with regard to academic honesty and student conduct (S10). These policies are available at the following web address:

<http://www.sfu.ca/policies/Students/index.html>

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Deferred grades will be given only on the basis of authenticated medical disability.

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