

Human Origins

Archaeology 131

Section: E100

Term: 2012 Summer

Instructor: Dr. Dennis Sandgathe

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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 Exam 30%

Term Paper 40%

Final Exam 30%

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

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Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite: None

Notes:

This is a
Summer Session course (June 26 August 3)

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 SFUs 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>

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

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