

Human Origins

Archaeology 131

Section: D900

Term: 2011 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 in terms of both evolution and modern primate adaptations;
- 3/ an examination of the fossil record of human evolution from pre-hominid 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/ an examination of modern human variation and adaptation; and
- 5/ an introduction to the analysis of human skeletal remains.

Grading: Midterm #1 35%
Midterm #2 35%
Final Exam 30%

Required Texts:

Human Origins

Jurmain, R., L. Kilgore, and W. Trevathan. 2010. Essentials of Physical Anthropology, 8th edition. Wadsworth Publishing.

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 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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