

Human Origins

Archaeology 131

Section: D100

Term: 2002 Fall

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Morning course at Burnaby campus

Discussion Topics: A non-technical survey of the primate background of humans, fossil primates and fossil humans, and the associated evidence of cultural development. An introduction to physical anthropology. Emphasis is placed on understanding variation in human physical differences in space and time, including evolutionary changes, growth patterns and geographic variation.

Weekly lecture sequence (from text):

1. Evolutionary perspectives on Human Biology and Behaviour
2. Genetics and Evolution by Natural Selection
3. Populations, Species and Evolution
4. Stages in Vertebrate Evolution
5. Introduction to Primates: Origins and Evolution
6. Primates: Patterns in Social Behaviour

Mid-term

7. Introduction to the Hominoids
8. Australopithecines
9. The Genus Homo
10. Evolution of Hominoid Behaviour
11. Human Biology and Variation
12. The Human Life Cycle: Human Biology, Growth and Adaptability
13. The Modern Human Condition in Evolutionary Perspective: Applied Biological Anthropology

Grading: In addition to attendance at lectures the students will be required to write a mid-term exam (35%), a final exam (35%) and a paper (30%) on an approved topic. Students will be required to submit an electronic form of their essay as well as a paper copy. The final exam does not cover materials tested in the mid-term. Books on reserve will serve as sources of ideas for student papers. All assignments must be completed on time; a failure to meet a deadline requires a written explanation as well as a letter of explanation from a doctor.

Required Texts: Boaz, Noel T. and Alan J. Almquist Biological Anthropology: A Synthetic Approach to Human Evolution 2002. Prentice Hall. Paperback.

Recommended Texts: none

Materials/Supplies: none

Prerequisite/Corequisite: none

Notes: This is a lecture course with no tutorials.

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

This course may be applied toward the Certificate in Liberal Arts (Set 10).

This outline is derived from a course outline repository database that was maintained by SFU Student Services and the University's IT Services Department. The database was retired in 2014 and the data migrated to SFU Archives in 2015.