

Anthropology 101: Human Biological Evolution (Section 8500)
West Los Angeles College, Fall 2015
Hybrid: On Campus in SC 101, 11:10-1:15, Tuesdays 10/27-12/15
And Online Through ETUDES (<https://myetudes.org>), 4:30 hrs/wk

Instructor: Prof. M.J. Gordon, J.D., M.A.

E-mail: gordonmj@wlaac.edu -- Please use the Private Message system in ETUDES to contact me regarding the course!

Course Description: This course surveys the major topics of biological anthropology. The primary goal of this course is to present how modern humans evolved. To accomplish this objective, it is necessary to (1) know how the evolutionary process works in general; (2) assess the evolutionary forces shaping the behavior and morphology of our closest living relatives, the monkeys and apes; (3) understand what the fossil record is and how it was created; and (4) consider fossil evidence that documents the evolutionary history of our own lineage, the hominids. These processes provide the key to understanding why humans are the way we are today.

Student Learning Outcomes (Institutional)

Critical Thinking: Analyze problems by differentiating fact from opinions, using evidence, and using sound reasoning to specify multiple solutions and their consequences. Students will apply critical thinking to investigate and interpret the influences of heredity and environment upon human beings.

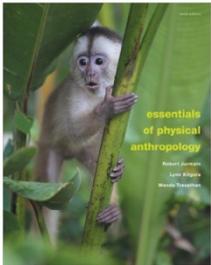
Cultural Diversity: Respectfully engage with other cultures in an effort to understand them. Students will participate in activities designed to elicit discussion and understanding of the biological variation among *Homo sapiens*.

Student Learning Outcomes (Course-Level)

SLO 1: Explain how hereditary traits are transferred between generations and conclude how this relates to evolution by natural selection.

SLO 2: Recall and define anthropological terms and concepts that deal with the fossil record.

REQUIRED Reading:



R. Jurmain, L. Kilgore, & W. Trevathan (2013). *Essentials of Physical Anthropology* (9th Ed.). Cengage Learning. ISBN-13: 9781111837181

References to chapters and page numbers are to those in THIS version of your textbook!

Course Grade: Your course grade will be based on points earned from Exams, Quizzes, an Essay, and Participation Discussions:

Exams	(3 @ 30 points each)	90 points
Quizzes	(12 @ 5 points each)	60 points
Essay	(1 @ 40 points each)	40 points
Participation Discussions	(4 @ 2.5 points each)	<u>10 points</u>
		200 points total

A = 200-180

B = 179-160

C = 159-140

D = 139-120

F = <120

Navigating Etudes: Announcements, the Syllabus, Course Modules, Assignments (final exam, quizzes, essays), Participation Discussions, Private Messages (e-mails), and Grades are accessible in Etudes through their respective tabs at the left hand side of our Anthropology 101 Course Page.

PLEASE NOTE A FEW HARD DRACONIAN REALITIES & NON-NEGOTIABLE RULES:

- 1) **As Instructor of the course I reserve the right to modify the syllabus, assignments, and the course schedule. I will notify you in writing via the Etudes "Announcements" tool if there are any changes.**
- 2) It is ultimately **YOUR** responsibility to drop a course that you do not plan on completing. Failure to properly drop a course could result in your receiving a failing grade in the class!
*Last day to drop the class without a "W" is November 2, 2015.
*Last day to drop the class with a "W" is December 4, 2015.
- 3) If the instructor determines in his discretion that you are no longer **appropriately** participating in the course, **you may be dropped by the instructor.** Examples of lack of appropriate participation include failing to adhere to the rules and policies of this syllabus, failing to complete the modules by their due dates, failing to submit an exam on time, failing to submit 3 or more other assignments (quizzes, essays, or participation discussions) on time, or **missing more than 2 in-person class meetings (on Tuesdays).**
- 4) **NO** extra credit is offered.
- 5) A grade of "incomplete" will **NOT** be given.
- 6) No matter what, late assignments will **NOT** be accepted. You have plenty of advance notice, so plan ahead and prepare for internet outages and other unforeseen and last-minute circumstances.
- 7) Students shall retain copies of all work submitted for grading **AT LEAST** until the student receives their final course grade.
- 8) This course requires proficiency in the use of the Etudes learning system, and students will be expected to log onto the Etudes site with regularity to complete the course requirements, send and receive class communications, submit assignments and check their grades.
- 9) Students may communicate with each other to discuss the course material and to study, but ALL EXAMS, QUIZZES, ESSAYS, POSTS and GRADED assignments of ANY kind must be each student's OWN, ORIGINAL work. Please see the academic dishonesty policy toward the end of this syllabus.
- 10) **By taking this course you agree to abide by this syllabus and the rules and policies it contains!**

Modules: Modules, accessed from the left hand menu of the class site, are the "classroom" or lecture component of this course. Module material is designed to add to course readings. While reading the modules, have your textbook on hand. All sections of each module are required. To keep up with course work, have the module done by the dates listed on the Course Calendar. **Not having the module sections completed timely is grounds for being excluded from the class for lack of participation.**

Exams: Exams may cover any and all material presented in the course – textbook, modules, videos, etc.. All exams are objective. The exams are closed book and closed notes, and the first 2 exams are administered **IN CLASS** (see course calendar for schedule)! Please bring a #2 pencil and a Scantron Form 882. Exam #3 (the final) will be administered **ONLINE** through Etudes. I recommend **completing the online final exam well in advance** of the due date in order to avoid losing points due to unforeseen issues like computer malfunctions, internet problems, or illness. **No excuses** will be accepted for not submitting the final by the due date -- **NO EXCEPTIONS.** The final can be found in the Etudes Assignments, Tests and Surveys tool.

Quizzes: For each of the assigned chapters there is a reading quiz. Once you have finished a chapter, take the quiz to test your understanding of the chapter material. Quizzes are not timed. Quizzes should be completed and submitted online by the date listed on the Course Calendar. I recommend **completing the quizzes well in advance** of the due date in order to avoid losing points due to unforeseen issues like computer malfunctions, internet problems, or illness. Because you have ample time for each quiz, **no excuses** will be accepted for not submitting a quiz by the due date -- **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Quizzes and due dates are listed in the Etudes Assignments, Tests and Surveys tool.

Essays: You will write one essay to write over the course of the semester. The essay will be submitted in the style of an exam instead of that of a participation post, so only the instructor will see your submission. It is suggested that you complete your essay in a word processing program (like MS Word), so that you can save your work as you go. Then cut and paste your finished answer into Etudes in order to submit your essay.

Essay Requirements: Each essay should be **2-4 paragraphs** long, with **4-6 sentences** per paragraph, and should include at least **2 citations to your textbook and 2 citations to the appropriate module sections.** I recommend **completing the essays well in advance** of the due date in order to avoid losing points due to unforeseen issues like computer malfunctions, internet problems, or illness. Because you have ample time for each essay, **no excuses** will be accepted for not submitting an essay by the due date -- **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Essays and due dates are listed in the Assignments, Tests and Surveys tool.

Discussions: There are two categories of discussions available for student participation. All discussions can be accessed from the left hand menu in our class site. Click on "Discussion and Private Messages" to see one "Main" discussion category ("Participation Discussions") and one "Other" category ("Student Lounge").

- A. "Participation Discussions" is the forum where you will post your participation discussions, within the question/prompt threads that I create. To foster fulfilling class discussions, feel free to post an **appropriate** reply to anyone's discussion if you like the point that they made, have questions about it, or would like to begin a dialog about that point.

Participation Discussion Requirements:

Everyone is required to make an original post on each of the four topics (located in four separate threads). The Course Calendar (below) describes when these posts should be made. Each post should be **1-2 paragraphs** long, with **4-6 sentences** per paragraph, and should include at least **1 citation to your textbook and 1 citation to the appropriate module sections** (unless stated otherwise in the thread prompt). I recommend **completing the Participation Discussions well in advance** of the due date in order to avoid losing points due to unforeseen issues like computer malfunctions, internet problems, or illness. Because you have ample time for discussion, **no excuses** will be accepted for not submitting a discussion by the due date -- **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

YOUR FIRST POST, INTRODUCING YOURSELF TO THE REST OF THE CLASS, MUST BE MADE BY 11:59 PM ON FRIDAY, 10-30-2015, OR YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE CLASS AS A NO-SHOW.

- B. "Student Lounge" provides you with a forum to "talk" amongst yourselves about course material. These are informal discussions between students about class topics. The instructor will remove inappropriate topics from this and other forums. "Inappropriate" is defined by the instructor. Posting here is not a requirement of this course.

Accommodations: If you are a student with a disability and require accommodations, please contact the Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSP&S) Office:

On the web: <http://www.wlac.edu/dsps/>
Telephone: (310) 287-4450

On campus: Student Services Building (SSB 320)
Department email: dsps@wlab.edu

Class Communication Policies for ALL Private Messages, E-mails, Discussions and Essays:

1. No profanity or foul language of any kind at any time.
2. Please address everyone politely by their name.
3. Under no circumstances may you use the classroom forum to ask for a classmate's personal contact information or in any way ask for a personal meeting or date.
4. Do not include in your signature or other material in your messages any kind of sales solicitations, information about a business, or a political or religious message of any kind. Do not include a blind or other kind of hyperlink to such information.
5. Please use common sense and common courtesy. Please check with me first if you have any questions about what is appropriate.
6. The instructor maintains the right to delete any public posting deemed inappropriate.
7. Post a thoughtful reply to the questions posed. Be sure your essay covers all points from the prompt.
8. Present your responses in an academic manner. These discussions are formal writing assignments for this class; make a well-reasoned argument, use proper grammar, punctuation, and capital letters where appropriate.
9. Fully develop your arguments. Be thorough and explain completely. Connect your argument to the evidence presented in this course (citing the course text and modules is required).
10. All statements need to be backed up with data and ideas presented in modules and readings--include the page number or module section in brackets. This is your evidence. The idea is to demonstrate your understanding of the course material. If you use sources from outside of the class (not required), they must be academic sources and you must provide the full citation.

Special Considerations for Communicating With the Instructor:

Please, do not email or private message me as you would text a message to your friend. Please follow these basic rules:

1. Sign off with your full name - first and last
2. If e-mailing, state in which class you are enrolled
3. Do not tell me to reply ASAP or make other demands
4. Do a spell check on your communications
5. Use upper- and lower-case letters as appropriate in any formal academic written communications (this includes "I")
6. Wait for a reply. I will reply to your messages as quickly as possible, and with every effort to do so within 48 hours during weekdays (except holidays).

Academic Dishonesty Policy:

Academic integrity is a fundamental value of higher education and WLAC; therefore, acts of cheating, plagiarism, falsification or attempts to cheat, plagiarize or falsify will not be tolerated in this course. It is your responsibility to understand what plagiarism is and you can read about it here: <http://www.plagiarism.org>. Acts of academic dishonesty may result in zero points for the assignment, being reported to Student Services, and/or receiving an F for the class.

The following is from LACCD student code of conduct as it relates to student dishonesty (Board Rule 9803.28): "Violations of academic integrity of any type by a student provides grounds for disciplinary action by the instructor of college. Violations of Academic Integrity 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. For more information on the Standards of Student Conduct refer to the college catalog available in hardcopy and online at www.wlac.edu."

Fall 2015 WLAC Anth-101 Section 8500 -- Prof. MJ Gordon
Course Calendar

PLEASE HAVE YOUR READING DONE BY THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK IT IS DUE.
ASSIGNMENTS, ETC. ARE POSTED ON ETUDES AT LEAST 1 WEEK BEFORE THEY ARE DUE.

<u>WEEK#</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
1	TUES 10-27-15 FRI 10-30-15 by 11:59 PM	Read Jurmain Ch. 1-2 & Modules 1-2 for CLASS <u>ONLINE</u> Participation Discussion 1 (Introduction) DUE
2	MON 11-2-15 by 9:00 AM TUES 11-3-15 by 11:10 AM FRI 11-6-15 by 11:59 PM	Quiz 1 (Ch. 1) & Quiz 2 (Ch. 2) <u>DUE ONLINE</u> Read Jurmain Ch. 3 & Module 3 for CLASS <u>ONLINE</u> Participation Discussion 2 (Controversy) DUE
3	MON 11-9-15 by 9:00 AM TUES 11-10-15 by 11:10 AM FRI 11-13-15 by 11:59 PM	Quiz 3 (Ch. 3) <u>DUE ONLINE</u> Read Jurmain Ch. 4,12 & Modules 4-5 for CLASS <u>ONLINE</u> Participation Discussion 3 (Genetic Code) DUE
4	MON 11-16-15 by 9:00 AM TUES 11-17-15 by 11:10 AM FRI 11-20-15 by 11:59 PM	Quiz 4 (Ch. 4) & Quiz 5 (Ch. 12) <u>DUE ONLINE</u> Read Jurmain Ch. 6-7 & Modules 6-7 for CLASS <u>ONLINE</u> Participation Discussion 4 (Race) DUE
5	MON 11-23-15 by 9:00 AM TUES 11-24-15 by 11:10 AM	Quiz 6 (Ch. 6) & Quiz 7 (Ch. 7) <u>DUE ONLINE</u> <u>Exam #1 (Ch. 1-4,12; Modules 1-5) IN-CLASS</u> Read Jurmain Ch. 5 & Module 8 for CLASS
6	MON 11-30-15 by 9:00 AM TUES 12-1-15 by 11:10 AM	Quiz 8 (Ch. 5) DUE <u>Exam #2 (Ch. 6-7; Modules 6-7) IN-CLASS</u> Read Jurmain Ch. 8-9 & Modules 9-10 for CLASS
7	MON 12-7-15 by 9:00 AM TUES 12-8-15 by 11:10 AM FRI 12-11-15 by 11:59 PM	Quiz 9 (Ch. 8) & Quiz 10 (Ch. 9) <u>DUE ONLINE</u> Read Jurmain Ch. 10-11 & Modules 11-12 for CLASS <u>ONLINE</u> Essay DUE
8	MON 12-14-15 by 9:00 AM TUES 12-15-15 by 11:10 AM FRI 12-18-15 by 11:59 PM	Quiz 11 (Ch. 10) & Quiz 12 (Ch. 11) <u>DUE ONLINE</u> Study and Review for Exam – No Class Meeting <u>Exam #3 ONLINE (Ch. 5,8-11; Modules 8-12) DUE</u>