

Anthropology 101: Human Biological Evolution (8500)

West Los Angeles College, Fall 2013

Hybrid: On Campus in SC 101, 11:10-1:15, Tuesdays 10/22-12/10 and

Online ETUDES (<https://myetudes.org>) 4:15 hrs/wk

Instructor: Dr. A. Preziosi

phone: (310)287-4225

email: preziosa@wlaac.edu

Please use the Private Message system in ETUDES class site to contact me regarding the course.

Office and Hours: GC 380D Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10-11

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: This course will help students achieve the following

Course-level SLO:

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

Institutional SLOs:

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*.

Reading: R. Jurmain, L. Kilgore, & W. Trevathan (2013) *Essentials of Physical Anthropology*, 9th edition. Wadsworth, Belmont. (ISBN 978-1-111-83718-1)

This is the required text and edition for this course. References made in this course to chapters and page numbers are referring to those in this text.

ETUDES Modules: Modules, accessed from the left hand menu of the class site, are lectures (additional to what is given on campus). Module material is designed to add to course readings. While reading the modules, have your textbook on hand.

Online Discussions: There are three 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 Message" to see two 'Main' discussion categories "Discussion Essays" & "Questions" and one 'Other' category, "Student Lounge."

A. "**Discussion Essays**" is where you will participate in the graded class discussions on topics posed by the instructor covering materials from readings and modules. The due date is listed with each discussion in the discussion forum. Missing Discussion Essays may result in being dropped from the course for lack of participation.

Discussion	Topic
D1	Intro

D2	Natural Selection and Meiosis
D3	Speciation
D4	Bipedality
D5	<i>Homo erectus</i>

To earn full discussion points on discussions you must:

- 1) Post a thoughtful reply to the questions posed. This includes backing up statements with data and ideas presented in modules and readings. The idea is to demonstrate your understanding of the course material.
- 2) Each discussion requires a minimum of two separate essays posted separately. If you only have one posting for a discussion, the most you can earn is half the points.
- 3) 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.
- 4) The essays must be posted in the appropriate forum on time. The Essay 1 must be turned in at least 2 days (48 hours) before the date the forum locks/due date. It is important to have the first essay in early in order to give other students time to read and respond to it. Points will be deducted if Essay 1 isn't submitted at least 2 days (48 hours) prior to the due date. No submissions will be accepted after the date the forum locks/the final due date (late is defined as even 1 minute after the due date). Late essays will not be accepted regardless of the reason (e.g., illness, computer problems, internet connection, forgetting, work, illness etc.). Work ahead and complete the assignment before the due date to avoid potential loss of points.

B. **“Questions”** are for when you have a question or comment on material from the readings and/or the modules. The questions will be organized by chapter. Use this forum to ask all class questions (with the exception of individual grade or other private matters, in which case use Private Message). This will allow others to benefit from the question as well as contribute responses.

C. **“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 reserves the right to eliminate inappropriate topics from this and other forums.

Online Assignments: For each of the assigned chapters there is a reading assignment. All homework assignments must be finished by the due date, no excuses will be accepted. Assignments (Ch1-Ch12) and due dates are listed in the Assignments, Tests and Surveys tool. Points vary.

ETUDES CourseMap: Found in the left hand menu, this tool is a wonderful reminder of what needs to be done and when for the course. You can also access modules, assignments (Ch#), and Discussion Essays (D#) from this tool.

On Campus Participation: Each full on campus lecture is worth 5 points. Because the points are for participating in the lecture, points can not be made up if lecture is missed.

On Campus Exams: There are two on campus exams -- Mid-Term and Final (see Course Outline). Students are to bring a scantron form 882, no. 2 pencil and an eraser to each exam. Do not arrive late; if late, you may not be allowed to take the exam. There are no makeup exams for the Final. Missed Mid-Terms will be made up during the last on campus meeting.

Course Grade: Your course grade will be based on points earned:

online Assignments/Ch# (12)	127
online Discussions/D# (5)	50
on campus participation (7 days)	35
on <u>campus tests (2)</u>	<u>120</u>
total possible points	332

A 299+
B 266-298
C 232-265
D 199-231
F 198 and below

Please note:

- Lack of class participation may result in being dropped from the class.
- It is ultimately the student's responsibility to drop a course that you do not plan on completing.
 - *Last day to drop the class without a "W" Friday, Oct. 25.
 - *Last day to drop the class with a "W" is Wednesday, Nov. 27.

Course Outline

This is a fast paced course; please keep up with assigned chapter readings, online quizzes, modules in the class shell, and online discussions. Note the week of the two on campus tests.

Chapters are readings from the required textbook "Essentials of Physical Anthropology" 9th edition by Jurmain et al. Have the assigned readings completed by the Tuesday campus meeting.

Week 1 - Chapters 1 & 2

On Campus - Introduction & Natural Selection

Online

Modules 1 & 2

Assignments Ch1 & Ch2

Discussion Essays D1

Week 2 - Chapters 3 & 4

On Campus - Genetics

Online

Modules 3 & 4

Assignments Ch3 & Ch4

Discussion Essays D2

Week 3 - Chapters 5

On Campus - Macroevolution

Online

Module 5

Assignment Ch5

Discussion Essays D3

Week 4 – Chapters 6, & 7

On Campus - Primates

Online

Modules 6, & 7

Assignments Ch6 & Ch7

Study for Mid-Term

Week 5 - Chapter 8

On Campus - Early Hominin evolution

Mid-Term Exam (Chapters 1-7)

Online

Module 8

Assignment Ch8

Discussion Essays D4

Week 6 - Chapters 9 & 10

On Campus - The genus *Homo*

Online

Modules 9 & 10

Assignments Ch9 & Ch10

Discussion Essays D5

Week 7 - Chapters 11 & 12

On Campus - Modern Humans

Online

Modules 11 & 12

Assignments Ch11 & Ch12

Study for Final

Week 8

On Campus - Final Exam (Chapters 8-12)

As Instructor of the course I reserve the right to modify the assignments and the course schedule. I will notify you in writing via the Announcements tool if there are any changes.

Accommodations

If you are a student with a disability and require accommodations, please contact the Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSP&S) Office. The DSP&S Office provides special assistance in areas including: registration assistance specialized tutoring, academic and career guidance counseling, instructor liaison, special instruction and testing assistance. For more information go to the DSPS page at <http://www.wlac.edu/dsps/>.

Location

Student Services Building (SSB 320)

Telephone

(310) 287-4450

Department Email

dsps@wla.edu

Policies

All students will please follow these policies of our classroom community for all private messages, emails, and discussion groups:

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.
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Emails and Private Messages to 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 emailing, 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")

*Use this list as a checklist before you send me a message

I will reply to your messages as quickly as possible, and with every effort to do so within fortyeight hours during weekdays (except holidays).

Academic Dishonesty Policy

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."

Plagiarism

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>.

Any student cheating or plagiarizing will be subject to disciplinary action.