

Anthropology 111: Lab in Human Biological Evolution (section 8018)

West Los Angeles College (2 units, UC/CSU Transferable)

Fall 2013

Instructor: Dr. A. Preziosi email: preziosa@wlaac.edu

For communications regarding this class, use the in-system Private Message.

Course Description: Physical anthropology seeks to understand humans and our place in nature. This laboratory class offers an exploration of selected topics in physical anthropology including genetics, biological classification, human variation, the living primates, and human paleontology. Through the laboratory exercises students will appreciate human biological makeup, how humans can and do evolve, and how humans relate to our closest living relatives, the monkeys and apes.

Required: Kappelman, J. (ed.) Virtual Laboratories for Physical Anthropology, Version 4.0 CD-ROM. (ISBN 0-495-00992-X)

This edition of the CD-ROM is required for the section. This is a PC program, you will need access to a computer to run the CD-ROM.

Modules: Modules, accessed from the left hand menu of the class site, are the "classroom" component of this course. The first module will get you started in the course including a brief explanation for navigating the CD-ROM. The remaining numbered modules correspond to the labs on the CD-ROM. You will be reading the module first then working on the lab. (see schedule)

If you have not read the first two modules by the end of week 1, you will be excluded from the section.

Labs: The CD-ROM consists of 12 Labs (listed by number, Lab 1-12). Read the corresponding module first then access the Lab on the CD-ROM. On the CD-ROM, as part of each Lab there are self-quizzes (true/false) and linked to web-based Self Tests (multiple choice). Take these self-quizzes and self-tests to test your understanding of the material, however, DO NOT email "Self Test" results to the instructor. These are for your practice (some of the questions will reappear on the graded tests).

Exercises: Each lab has a corresponding exercise (E1-E12) found in the "Assignments, Tests and Survey" tool. These are formal written exercises that demonstrate your critical thinking skills as well as your command of the information presented in each Lab. I recommend opening the exercise to read the questions before starting the lab. Due dates accompany each exercise and late exercises will be deducted 5 points per day (late is defined as even 1 minute after time due), regardless of the reason (e.g., sickness, computer problems, family emergency, failed internet connection, etc.). Do not wait until the last minute to work on exercises. I recommend working on exercises no less than one week ahead of the due date.

The exercises are questions that cover the material from the labs and need to reflect your command of the course material - both lab and module. Many of the questions require critical thinking and the application of course concepts; for these a restatement of the material will not be enough. Be sure the responses fully address the question by including the pertinent material from both the module and Lab. To receive full credit for exercise questions, your answers must be correct and include all the possible information available from the course material on the subject and be well written. Points will be deducted for incomplete and incorrect answers. The idea is to make clear to me that you understand the course material--if you don't write it, I won't know that you understand it. **Answers must be clearly numbered.**

Lab #	Exercise
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1	E1
2	E2
3	E3
4	E4
5	E5
6	E6
7	E7
8	E8
9	E9
10	E10
11	E11
12	E12

Tests: There are 6 objective tests (T1-T6) found in the "Assignments, Tests, and Survey" tool. Tests may cover material from the modules and Labs (one test covers two labs, for example, T1 covers labs 1 & 2). Test questions may be taken from the self-quizzes and Self Tests from within the Labs. Tests are not timed; once you have finished reading the module, working on the Lab, and writing the exercise, set time aside to take the test. Tests can be started and stopped up until the due date. Late tests will not be accepted regardless of the reason. This includes computer problems, internet issues, illness, etc. Work ahead of the due dates to avoid unforeseen problems that may keep you from turning your test in on time.

Test Labs & Modules Covered

T1	1 & 2
T2	3 & 4
T3	5 & 6
T4	7 & 8
T5	9 & 10
T6	11 & 12

There will be no make-up or redo tests, regardless of the reason. Once a test is finished/submitted, you will no longer be able to alter that test, regardless of the reason-no exceptions.

Grading: Your course grade is based on points earned from Exercises and Tests. The point breakdown is as

follows:

Exercises	12 for a possible 20 points each	240
Tests	6 (points vary)	123.5
Total possible points		363.5

A =	327 - 363.5
B =	290 - 326
C =	254 - 289
D =	217 - 253
F =	216 and below

Please note:

*No extra credit will be offered.

Class Participation: If you fail to turn in the first exercise by the due date you will be dropped as a "No Show" and your space will be given to another student.

Failure to turn in tests and exercises may result in being you being dropped from the section for lack of participation.

Please remember it is ultimately your responsibility to drop a course that you do not plan on completing. (See current schedule of classes for dates.)

Last date to drop classes without a "W" Friday, Aug 30

Last date to drop with a "W" Friday, Oct 4

Course Outline

Complete Exercises and Tests for each week listed. Work ahead whenever possible.

Module	Lab from CD-ROM	Exercises & Tests
Week 1:		
Start Here		
Module 1: Intro. to Primates	Lab 1: Introduction to Primates	E1
Week 2:		
Module 2: Genetics & Evolution (Covering Labs 1 & 2)	Lab 2: Genetics and Evolution of...	E2 T1
Week 3:		
Module 3: Functional Morphology	Lab 3: Primate Functional Morphology	E3

Module 4: Primates in Motion (Covering Labs 3 & 4)	Lab 4: Primates in Motion	E4 T2
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Week 4:

Module 5: Diet & Feeding Behavior	Lab 5: Primate Diet and Feeding Behavior	E5
Module 6: Primate Behavior (Covering Labs 5 & 6)	Lab 6: Primate Behavior: The Ethnogram	E6 T3

Week 5:

Module 7: Primate Evolution	Lab 7: Primate Evolution	E7
Module 8: Australopithecines (Covering Labs 7 & 8)	Lab 8: The Australopithecines	E8 T4

Week 6:

Module 9: Bipedalism	Lab 9: The Evolution of Bipedalism	E9
Module 10: Fossil Hominids (Covering Labs 9 & 10)	Lab 10: Fossil Hominids of the Genus H...	E10 T5

Week 7:

Module 11: Archaeological Record	Lab 11: The Archaeological Record	E11
Module 12: Modern Humans	Lab 12: The Origin and Evolution of...	E12

Week 8:

(Covering Labs 11&12)**T6**

Academic Integrity Statement

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.

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@wlac.edu

Communicating in Class

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.**

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 48 hours during weekdays (except holidays).

Student Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcomes: This course will help students achieve the following institutional Student Learning Outcomes as listed in the Schedule of Classes:

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.

Course Level: Identify the major bones of the human skeleton.

After successfully completing this course, the student will be able to:

- 1) distinguish physical anthropology as a branch of anthropology.
- 2) understand how genetic information is passed from one generation to the next.
- 3) explain why change in allele frequencies between generations is evolution.
- 4) explain the importance of classifications systems and distinguish between them.
- 5) recognize the bones of the human skeleton.
- 6) understand the aging process of hominids.
- 7) identify means of locomotion from skeletal features.
- 8) explain general similarities and differences between primate groups.
- 9) explain the importance of understanding non-human primate behaviors.
- 10) identify earliest fossil primates.
- 11) explain ancestral relationship between humans and non-human primates.
- 12) understand paleoanthropological evidence for human evolution.
- 13) understand what kind of measures can be made to describe human biological variation.
- 14) list common pathology and anomalies in the skeleton.
- 15) understand the role of anthropology as a forensic science.