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ANTH 365.01: Human Evolution

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HUMAN EVOLUTION

ANTHROPOLOGY 365
MWF 2:10-3:00 in FOR 305

Dr. Randy Skelton
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GOALS AND OUTCOMES

This is a class in paleoanthropology, in which we will explore selected details of the human fossil and archaeological records. During the first part of the course, we will examine methods and theories of evolutionary analysis. In the second part of the course we will cover the fossil record from the origin of life through the emergence of culture-bearing human ancestors. In the last third of the course we will explore the coevolution of human biology and culture.

Students who successfully complete this class will have a broad knowledge of the human fossil and archaeological records. They will also be familiar with modern techniques of evolutionary analysis using data from the fragmentary, incomplete, and often baffling fossil and archaeological records.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Klein, Richard G., 1999. *The Human Career*, 2nd Edition. University of Chicago Press.

A FacPac containing supplemental materials is available at the U.C. bookstore

Class lecture notes and other materials are available on the World Wide Web. Point your web browser at <http://www.anthro.umt.edu/notes/365/> to access these materials. Human Evolution is a rapidly changing field and there will be some material presented in lecture that is not in the notes. For help with accessing the World Wide Web, and other computing questions, see the friendly people at the Computing Helpdesk in the LA Building. All materials are copyright 2002 by Randy Skelton.

GRADING

Three non-cumulative midterms will be offered, one after each third of the course. A cumulative final exam will be offered on the scheduled final exam day. Your grade will be based on your best 3 scores out of these 4 exams, which will be weighed equally. I will assign grades based on your cumulative score using this scale: A = 100-90, B = 89-80, C = 79-60, D = 59-50, F = < 50. An opportunity for 5% extra credit is present in the facpak.

LECTURE AND READING SCHEDULE

Readings are from Klein and should be read before coming to class each day.

DATE	DAY	LECTURE	READING
9/4	W	1. What Is Paleoanthropology	xxiii-xxx
9/6	F	2. Evolution	1-9
9/9	M	3. Methods of Archaeological Inference	19-61
9/11	W	4. Skeletal & Dental Anatomy	62-66, Facpak
9/13	F	5. What Old Bones Can Tell Us	
9/16	M	6. Taxonomy, Neontology, Paleontology	6-18, 66-90, Facpak
9/18	W	7. Approaches to Evolutionary Analysis	
9/20	F	8. Cladistics I - the Basic Method	Facpak
9/23	M	9. Cladistics II - Compatibility	Facpak
9/25	W	10. Cladistics III - Problems	Facpak
9/27	F	11. Dating, Taphonomy, and Fossilization	
9/30	M	*** FIRST MIDTERM EXAM ***	
10/2	W	12. Evolution and the Early Earth	Facpak
10/4	F	13. Strepsirhines and Haplorhines	90-101
10/7	M	14. Catarrhine Non-apes and Monkeys	101-126
10/9	W	15. The Apes I - Fossil Apes	126-143
10/11	F	16. The Apes II - The Living Apes	
10/14	M	17. The Origin of Bipedalism	208-209, 248-251
10/16	W	18. Human Brains and Teeth	186-198
10/18	F	19. The First Hominids	169-186, 198-210
10/21	M	20. The Gracile Australopithecines	144-169, 210-212
10/23	W	21. The Robust Australopithecines	212-217
10/25	F	22. Earliest Homo	217-221
10/28	M	23. Australopithecine Phylogenetics	222-227
10/30	W	24. The Australopithecine Way of Life	
11/1	F	25. Video: "Search for Human Origins, Part 1"	
11/4	M	*** SECOND MIDTERM EXAM ***	
11/6	W	26. Early Homo's Brain and Language	
11/8	F	27. The Scavenging Stage	228-254
11/11	M	!!! VETERANS' DAY HOLIDAY !!!	
11/13	W	28. Middle Homo	255-275, 283-295
11/15	F	29. The Big Game Use Stage	314-366
11/18	M	30. Video: "Search for Human Origins, Part 2"	
11/20	W	31. Transitional Late Homo	275-283, 295-314
11/22	F	32. Neanderthals	367-394, 477-493
11/25	M	33. The Middle Paleolithic	406-476
11/27-29		!!! Thanksgiving Holiday !!!	
12/2	M	34. The Origins of Modern People	394-406, 494-519
12/4	W	35. The Upper Paleolithic	520-556
12/6	F	36. Peopling the World	556-573
12/9	M	37. Video: "Search for Human Origins, Part 3"	
12/11	W	38. Summary of Human Evolution	574-595

12/13 F *** THIRD MIDTERM EXAM ***

12/19 R *** FINAL EXAM 1:10-3:10pm ***