Fall 9-1-2015

ANTY 210N.01: Introduction to Physical Anthropology

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Anthropology 210

Introduction to Physical Anthropology

Course Time
MWF 12:00 to 12:50 pm

Instructor
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Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 1:00-2:30 pm, and by appointment.

Course Description
How has evolution molded human biological and cultural diversity? What are the broader social and scientific implications of our evolutionary history? This class seeks answers to these enduring questions. The course is divided into four parts. We begin by examining Darwin's ideas about natural selection and the challenges his ideas have faced over the past 150 years. The second section examines how evolution has shaped the anatomy and behavior of our closest living relatives, the non-human primates. The third part of the class is devoted to investigating the human fossil record and tracing the physical and behavioral evolution of our species over the past five million years. In the fourth section, we study the evolution of modern human behavior in greater depth, and explore the broader social implications of our evolved behavior.

Course Objectives:

At the end of the course, the student will be able engage in informed discussions about and critically evaluate academic and popular media accounts of:

a. The scientific method
b. Biological evolution
c. What non-human primates can tell us about what it means to be human
d. Hominid evolution
e. The evolutionary basis of human behavior
f. The social and scientific implications of our evolutionary history

Readings

Robert Boyd and Joan Silk (2014) *How Humans Evolved*. 7th Edition.

Please read the assigned chapters in the textbook **prior** to attending each lecture. Lecture topics will reference readings, however some topics and examples presented in lecture are not included in the textbook and vice versa. All are fair game for the exams.

Moodle and e-mail
All course materials will be posted on Moodle (http://umonline.umt.edu). Students are responsible for accessing these materials regularly. I will communicate with the class during the term via e-mail. All students are required to have a UM e-mail account and to check it regularly.

InQuizitive
We will be using the online digital resource provided through the text, called InQuizitive, for assignments related to each section of the course. See below for information regarding this resource.
Use this link to access InQuizitive:

https://digital.wwnorton.com/howhumans7

To access the student sets:

Enter your 5-digit Student Set ID number: **12573**
Then CLICK HERE (enable pop-up windows from this site before clicking the link)

The handout will open in a new browser window; print or save it as a PDF from there. Then distribute the handout to students to ensure successful student registration!

Two videos to help get registered and added to the student set:

Student registration: **http://wwnpag.es/i2HBt**
Adding yourself to a student set: **http://wwnpag.es/i3Y4A**

Grading
1. *Exams*: I will give four exams during the term. The scheduled dates are tentative, and may be adjusted. I will announce any changes in class. Exam 4 will not be cumulative. Exams are based on the readings, lectures, and films. Exam format will be discussed in class. Each exam is worth **100 points (75% of the total grade)**.

2. *InQuizitive assignments*: Participation and completion of InQuizitive student sets must be completed within the posted deadline, 2 weeks for each set. There are NO extensions, and NO make-ups for these sets. These sets are worth **25% of the total grade**.

General policies

1. Attendance is required.
2. All students must attend the four exams. Make-up exams will only be allowed with a valid written medical excuse.
3. Qualified students with disabilities needing appropriate academic adjustments should contact the Disability Services for Students (DSS). “Reasonable” means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. (For other options see http://www.umt.edu/disability).
4. Academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with university policies.

- **Cheating** on exams will result in an F in the course.

- **Plagiarism** is a form of cheating. It is defined in the Macmillan Dictionary as "the process of taking another person's work, ideas, or words, and using them as if they were your own." If you plagiarize any assignment, you will receive a zero for the assignment and an F in the course. We are experts at detecting plagiarism.

5. Students must retain all material distributed in class and online. It is especially important that students retain all graded assignments. If a student has a grade dispute, he/she will be required to produce the disputed graded assignment(s).

Course Schedule

Week 1 (8/31-9/4): Introduction and the scientific method
Natural selection
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapter 1

Week 2 (9/7-9/11): NO CLASS 9/7 LABOR DAY
Darwin and Mendel
Mendel (cont.)
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapter 2-3

Week 3 (9/14-9/18): Darwin and Mendel: The modern synthesis
Genes and DNA
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapter 4

Week 4 (9/21-9/25): Evolution Today & Macroevolution
Review for Exam 1

Week 5 (9/28-10/2): **Exam 1 – Monday 9/28**
Our place in nature: The living primates
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapter 5

Week 6 (10/5-10/9): Film 10/5: *Life in the Trees*
Chimpanzees, the almost human primate
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapter 8

Week 7 (10/12-10/16): Film 10/14: *Family of Chimps*
Nice monkeys? Kinship and altruism
Primate Ecology, Sociality & Sexual Selection
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapter 7

Week 8 (10/19-10/23): Primate Ecology, Sociality & Sexual Selection
Review for Exam 2
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapter 6

Week 9 (10/26-10/30): **Exam 2 Monday 10/26**
Dating
The earliest hominids
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapter 9

Week 10 (11/2-11/6): Fossil evidence for human origins
Evolution of the genus *Homo*
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapter 10-11

Week 11 (11/9-11/13): Neanderthals
NO CLASS 11/11 VETERAN'S DAY
Neanderthals (cont.)
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapter 12

Week 12 (11/16-11/20): *Homo sapiens*
Video 11/18: *Decoding Neanderthals*
Review for Exam 3
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapter 13

Week 13 (11/23-11/27): **EXAM 3 Monday 11/30**
NO CLASS 11/25-11/27: THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week 14 (11/30-12/4): Are human races real?
Forensic Anthropology/Bioarchaeology
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapter 14

Week 15 (12/7-12/11): Human Fairness
Evolution and the Human Life Cycle
Human Mate Choice and Parenting
Reading: Boyd and Silk, Chapters 15 and 16

WEEK 16 (12/14-12/18): **FINAL EXAM TBA**