

University of Montana

## ScholarWorks at University of Montana

---

University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025

---

Spring 2-1-2022

### ANTY 104.50: Ancient Migrations

Randall Royce Skelton

*University of Montana, Missoula*, [randy.skelton@umontana.edu](mailto:randy.skelton@umontana.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi2021-2025>

**Let us know how access to this document benefits you.**

---

#### Recommended Citation

Skelton, Randall Royce, "ANTY 104.50: Ancient Migrations" (2022). *University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025*. 59.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi2021-2025/59>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025 by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

# Ancient Migrations

Instructor information will be posted on Moodle.

## COURSE CONTENT

This course explores migrations by which the world's peoples came to live where they do today. The focus is worldwide in scope and primarily on prehistory. Data from DNA studies, archaeology, linguistics, and bioarchaeology will be considered.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students who successfully complete this course will ...

- Obtain a wide ranging knowledge of the impact that migrations have had in prehistory.
- Understand the impacts of migrations on peoples' genes, their culture, their languages, and what they look like.
- Acquire an understanding of how various sources of data including DNA, archaeology, linguistics, bioarchaeology, and oral histories are used to investigate ancient migrations.
- Know the broad outline of when each region of the world was first inhabited by modern humans and major migrations into and out of each region through time.

## ADMINISTRIVIA

### Moodle Access:

This class is offered online through the University of Montana's Moodle System <http://umonline.umt.edu/>. Your instructor is only responsible for the content of the course -- not for the administration of Moodle and/or your access to it. For help with Moodle access or technical issues contact UOnline Tech Support: (406) 243-4999, [umonline-help@umontana.edu](mailto:umonline-help@umontana.edu).

### Textbook and Other Readings:

- The primary text is Bellwood, Peter, 2013. First Migrants: Ancient Migration in Global Perspective. Chichester, UK: Wiley Blackwell. ISBN: 978-1-4051-8909-5.
- However, Bellwood's text is not comprehensive and is organized in a manner that to me seems maddeningly random. Therefore, additional readings will be required and the textbook readings will mostly consist of small chunks from various locations in the text. These readings will be posted or linked on Moodle.

### Grading

Grades will be based on 3 exams (75% of your grade) and 12 assignments (25% of your grade). The following scale will be used for assigning grades: A: 90-100%, BELLWOOD 80-89%, C: 60-79%, D: 50-59%, F: under 50%. If appropriate, I may assign + and - modifiers to these grades. The grading mode is "open" meaning that you can take the class for a traditional grade or CR/NCR. If you take a class CR/NCR you cannot count it toward specific major, minor, option, or certificate requirements that require a minimum grade.

## Miscellaneous

- Students with disabilities will be accommodated as much as possible upon recommendation by Disability Student Services (DSS). The Anthropology Department does not have facilities for special testing accommodations, so these will have to be provided by DSS.
- This class and the students enrolled in it are subject to the Student Conduct Code: <http://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php>.

# ANTY 104 Provisional\* Lecture and Reading Schedule

Readings should be done before watching the lecture videos. "BELLWOOD" refers to readings from the Bellwood text. Other readings are available as documents or links on Moodle.

## LECTURE, READING, AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

### Week 1

- Lecture 1: Intro to ancient migration studies  
Reading: BELLWOOD Preface and Chapter 1.
- Lecture 2: The importance of migration  
Reading: BELLWOOD Chapter 10.
- Assignment 1: Navigating this Course

### Week 2

- Lecture 3: DNA and Simple Inheritance  
Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 17-22. Foundations of Biology pp. 73-82.
- Lecture 4: DNA Markers Used in Comparisons  
Reading: Genetic Variation in Nature
- Assignment 2: Pedigree Analysis

### Week 3

- Lecture 5: The mechanisms of evolution  
Reading: The Major Forces of Evolution.
- Lecture 6: Group Formation and Population structure  
Reading: Population Structure & Population History
- Assignment 3: Mechanisms of evolution

### Week 4

- Lecture 7: Inheritance of Complex Traits  
Reading: Human Genetics – Multifactorial Inheritance.
- Lecture 8: Craniometrics and non-metric traits  
Reading: Measurement & Morphological Analysis of Human Bones
- Assignment 4: Bioarchaeology

### Week 5

- Lecture 9: Linguistics and language families  
Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 22-30.
- First Exam

### Week 6

- Lecture 10: Archaeology, dating, and prehistory  
Reading: Studying the Distant Past. Stone Bronze & Iron Ages.
- Lecture 11: Archaeology and migrations  
Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 30-35.
- Assignment 5: Pottery Analysis

### Week 7

- Lecture 12: Phylogenetics  
Reading: Evolution and Phylogenetics
- Lecture 13: Homo erectus and the First Hominin Migrations  
Reading: A Synthesis of the Theories & Concepts of Early Human Evolution
- Assignment 6: Tree Thinking Quiz

### Week 8

- Lecture 14: Neanderthals, Denisovans, and Modern Humans  
Reading: Neanderthals. Who Were the Denisovans Anyway? Modern Human Origins.
- Lecture 15: The early human migrations  
Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 36-54, 60-68.
- Assignment 7: The Enormity of Africa

Week 9

Lecture 16: Early migrations & peoples of Africa

Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 54-60.

Lecture 17: Later migrations of Africa

Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 109-111, 169-172, 210-219.

Assignment 8: African Countries Quiz

Week 10

Lecture 18: South Asia & Mainland Southeast Asia

Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 112-113, 153-157, 168-169, 182-187.

Second Exam

Week 11

Lecture 19: Island Southeast Asia and Oceania

Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 71-81, 191-205.

Lecture 20: Australia and the Middle East

Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 113-121, 123-138, 140-146, 172-173.

Assignment 9: Asian Countries Quiz

Week 12

Lecture 21: Central and North Asia

Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 151-152, 163-165.

Lecture 22: East Asia

Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 81-83, 178-182, 187-191.

Assignment 10: Oceanian Countries Quiz

Week 13

Lecture 23: Europe

Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 147-151, 165-168.

Lecture 24: Language Families of Europe

Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 96-101, 157-163.

Assignment 11: European Countries Quiz

Week 14

Lecture 25: Initial Migrations to the Americas

Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 83-93, 219-242.

Lecture 26: The Na-Dene, Eskimo-Aleut, and Other Early Migrations to the Americas

Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 101-109, 234-239.

Assignment 12: Central and South American Countries Quiz

Week 15

Lecture 27: Mexico, Central America, and South America

Reading: BELLWOOD pp. 219-234.

Third Exam

Finals Week

Final Exam

\*Sometimes schedules don't work out the way you think they will. Therefore, this schedule is tentative. The current schedule will always be reflected on Moodle.