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ANTY 213N.00: Physical Anthropology Laboratory

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Anthropology 213

Physical Anthropology Lab



Instructor

Dr. Corey Ragsdale

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

Course Objectives:

Students will engage in lab-based activities involving human genetics and processes of evolution, biology and behavior of non-human primates, human evolution, and modern human adaptation and variation, in order to understand the basic fields of research in physical anthropology. An in-depth coverage of how to generate, test, and report on scientific hypotheses will accompany each of these topics. While this course is designed to stand on its own, the material covered is closely linked with that in ANTY210 (Introduction to Physical Anthropology).

Upon successful completion of this course, you will:

- Understand the scientific method and how it is applied in physical anthropology.
- Understand the theoretical foundations of physical anthropology.
- Understand the principles of human genetics and the process and mechanisms of evolution.
- Be able to observe and evaluate data on the biology and behavior of non-human primates.
- Be able to observe and evaluate data on human evolution and modern human variation.

Course Structure

A handout will be provided on the class Moodle website which you are required to print and bring with you to each class. Failure to do so will result in points (at least 2 per assignment) docked from your assignment.

Lab exercises:

There are 14 lab sessions, 12 of which with lab exercises that will be due at the beginning of the following class. Each lab will fully explain what is required of you. Any 2 questions can be directed to your professor or TA. It is expected that you will attend and participate in the lab exercise and submit assignments from all 14 labs; nevertheless your final grade will be based on performance on your best 13 lab exercises (the lowest score will be dropped).

Lab reports:

Most of the labs will require that you turn in a typed report. In order to ensure that grading time is minimized and papers are easy to read, please follow these standards: 12pt Times New Roman font, double spaced, one-inch margins, black ink, with your name and student ID number included. Failure to comply with these standards will result in loss of points.

Participation:

General attendance and participation in each lab will be noted and scored.

Following guidelines and completing the lab activity will in most cases result in full credit for attendance, however disruptive and disrespectful behavior will be noted and will lead to loss of points. Please note that it is essential that you attend the section you are enrolled in, unless prior approval has been obtained.

Attending other sections: There are five sections of this course and attendance of the section you are enrolled in is highly recommended. On rare occasions where this is not possible, please email both your TA and professor in order to arrange another section to attend. This must be done at least a day in advance. Switching sections should be a rare occurrence.

Grading

The grading structure is as follows:

Lab exercises	10 points each 130 points
Participation	5 points each 65 points

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

98-100%	A+	80-83%	B-	67-69%	D+
94-97%	A	77-79%	C+	64-66%	D
90-93%	A-	74-76%	C	60-63%	D-
87-89%	B+	70-73%	C-	below 60%	F
84-86%	B				

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:	Introduction to course (lab to be completed in class)
Week 2:	The scientific method
Week 3:	Altruism
Week 4:	Human genetics and HWE
Week 5:	Primate osteology
Week 6:	Non-human primates
Week 7:	Human Mate Choice
Week 8:	Radiometric Dating
Week 9:	Early Hominins
Week 10:	Early Homo
Week 11:	Modern Human Origins
Week 12:	Race
Week 13:	Anthropometrics
Week 14:	NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING
Week 15:	Forensic Anthropology (lab completed in class)