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ANTY 312.50: Human Evolution

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HUMAN EVOLUTION

ANTHROPOLOGY 312

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 master this class can expect the following outcomes:

- Have a grasp of the basics of evolution theory
- Know the general outline and some details of the human fossil and archaeological records
- Understand how we make sense of the fragmentary fossil record
- Be able to evaluate claims about human evolution

TEXT

Klein, Richard G., 2009. *The Human Career*, 3rd Edition. University of Chicago Press. ISBN: 9780226439655

MOODLE

This class is offered online through Moodle. I can only be responsible for the content I place on Moodle – not for its administration or for technical issues. For help with accessing Moodle contact the UMontana Help Desk at: 406.243.4999 or umonline-help@umontana.edu.

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. 70% of your grade will be based on your best 3 scores out of these 4 exams, which will be weighed equally. There will also be 15 weekly assignments each worth 2% of your grade. 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. I may modify these grades with a + or - in special cases. 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 upon recommendation by Disability Student Services (DSS)
- This class and the students enrolled in it are subject to the Student Conduct Code, http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php.

SCHEDULE

The schedule of topics, lectures, readings, assignments, and exams is reflected in the weekly organization of the Moodle shell for this class.