ANTH 101: Human Bio-Cultural Origins

Course Description:
This course will introduce students to the study of biological anthropology. Since anthropology is the study of humans, this course will focus on the evolution of humans and their closest relatives. We will delve into the theory of evolution (the development of the theory and the people behind the breakthrough), genetics (the proof needed to make evolution stick), human biology and variation, primatology, and the fossil record of the primate order (which includes humans). We will also investigate archaeological inquiries that have shaped much of what is known about past cultures.


Instructor: Sam Kobari
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Email is the best way to reach me, please put your class and school on the subject line.

Office Hours:
Monday: 12:00 - 1:30
Or by appointment.

Grading: The class will be based on a total of 100 percent. These percentage points will come from exams, participation, and assignments. Grades will not be curved. The total percentage earned will determine the grade. Exams will each be worth 20 percent. The first assignment is worth 10 percent. The second assignments will be worth 20 percent. Your homework or participation points will be worth 10 percent. The following scale will be used to calculate final grades:

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\begin{align*}
100\%-94\% &= A \\
93\%-90\% &= A-
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\begin{align*}
89\%-87\% &= B+ \\
86\%-84\% &= B \\
83\%-80\% &= B-
\end{align*}
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\begin{align*}
79\%-77\% &= C+ \\
76\%-74\% &= C \\
73\%-70\% &= C-
\end{align*}
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\begin{align*}
69\%-67\% &= D+ \\
66\%-64\% &= D \\
63\%-60\% &= D-
\end{align*}
\]

59% and lower=F
**Exams:** There will be three (3) exams each worth 20 percent of your grade. These exams are required. Make-ups will only be given with a valid excuse, such as illness with a doctor’s note or equivalent. You must contact me at least 2-hours before the exam in order to be able to take the make-up exam. Exams will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and matching (all done on scantron). The final exam will not be cumulative. Any material from lectures, the textbook, and films can be included on the test. It is the student’s responsibility to get notes from another student if they miss a class. There will be study guides and I will post each lecture on-line prior to class so more complete notes may be taken.

**Participation:** There will be participation questions regarding each week’s lecture or in class videos. I will post these questions on Blackboard every Sunday and they will expire Saturday at 11:30 pm. HINT: These questions will also likely be good study questions).

**Assignments:** There will be two out of class assignments. Any assignments turned in late will receive 10% grade deduction for each day it is late.

The first will be a set of genetics questions. These questions will be available on Blackboard no later than end of the 2nd week of class. This assignment will be due the date of your first exam (see class schedule).

The second assignment will be a three page research paper. Detail for this assignment will be up on Blackboard by the end of the 3rd week of class. Everyone will need to turn in a topic they have chosen by March 24th. This will only need to be two to three sentences, however it will count toward the final research project grade. Don’t worry, it is easier than it sounds.

**Video Questions:** There will be videos shown during the course of this class. I will post video questions as part of the participation questions on BlackBoard.

**Extra Credit:** There will be multiple opportunities for extra credit. Extra credit will be worth 15 exam percentage points in total, meaning you will have the opportunity to improve an exam by a full grade and a half. You may choose to do a primate behavior observation at the San Diego Zoo 7 percentage points. Semester passes are available for purchase for students enrolled in the course. Zoo passes are $25 (which gets you unlimited entry to the Zoo for the entire semester) and will be available the 3rd week of class at the guest relation’s booth at the front of the Zoo. There will also be other opportunities for extra credit that will be announced in class. These other options usually pertain to exhibits at the Museum of Man, or guest lectures offered through the SDSU Department of Anthropology As will be explained in class, each of these will have their selective advantages. For instance, visits to the museum will be less time consuming but will require a paper as well. A visit to the zoo will require you to fill out a worksheet write a few sentences and will give you access to the zoo for an entire semester.
**Class Conduct:** All students will be attentive and respectful in class. The practice of reading, talking to others, sleeping, sending or receiving text messages, viewing media such as blackberry or iPhone videos, and listening to MP3 players in class is not permitted. Please do not have impromtu dance parties in the middle of class. All cell phones must be turned off during class. If you become disruptive to the class or rude I will ask you to leave and your grade will be jeopardized. Also, please do not leave class early unless you have told the instructor about the reason for leaving before class is over.

**Student Disabilities:** Students with disabilities who may need accommodations should discuss options with the instructor during the first week of class. Students with certified disabilities will be given special accommodations. For further information please visit - [http://go.sdsu.edu/student_affairs/disabilities.aspx](http://go.sdsu.edu/student_affairs/disabilities.aspx)

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** Any student who cheats on exams or assignments or who plagiarizes will receive a zero on the exam or assignment and may be dropped from the class or expelled from the college based on the severity of the offense. This includes copying assignments from other students. DO NOT plagerize! If you do not understand the concept of plagiarism, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor for further information not covered in class. No cell phones, headphones, or other electronic devices are to be used during exams -- this includes translating devices.

**GE Fulfillment:** This course will count as 3 units toward your overall unit requirement. This course is part of the foundations courses for Natural Sciences required for all undergraduates. As a natural science class, the goals of this course will ultimately improve your ability:

1) To explain basic concepts and theories of the natural sciences.
2) To use logic and scientific methods to analyze the natural world and solve problems.
3) To argue from multiple perspectives about issues in natural science that have personal and global relevance.
4) To use technology in laboratory and field situations to connect concepts and theories with real-world phenomena.

These goals will be achieved through the different lectures, tests, and assignments you will participate in throughout the course of the semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Activities</th>
<th>Affiliated Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>1,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics Assignment</td>
<td>1,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>2,3,4</td>
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The schedule below indicates the topics, readings, and assignments due for lectures.

**WEEK 1**
1/22 Wednesday: Syllabus/ Introduction
1/24 Friday: Introduction to Biological Anthropology

**WEEK 2**
1/27 Monday: History of Evolution
1/29 Wednesday: History Cont. Genetics and Population Genetics
1/31 Friday: Genetics and Population Genetics, Genetics Assignment

**WEEK 3**
2/3 Monday: Cell Biology
2/5 Wednesday: Mechanisms of Evolution (Read Ch. 4)
2/7 Friday: Darwin Video

**WEEK 4**
2/10 Monday: Human Biology /Race and Adaptibility (Ch. 5)
2/12 Wednesday: Human Biology/Race and Adaptibility
2/14 Friday: Review for test

**WEEK 5**
2/17 MONDAY: EXAM 1 & GENETICS ASSIGNMENT DUE
2/19 Wednesday: Introduction to Primates (Ch. 6)
2/21 Friday: Classification of a species & Classifying primates (Ch. 6)

**WEEK 6**
2/24 Monday: Fossils and Understanding the Past. (Ch. 7)
2/26 Wednesday: Primate Origins and Evolution (Ch. 8)
2/28 Friday: Primate Origins and Evolution (Ch. 8)

**WEEK 7**
3/3 Monday: Early Hominids (Ch. 9)
3/5 Wednesday: Early Hominids
3/7 Friday: Lucy Video

**WEEK 8**
3/10 Monday: Human Evolution: The genus *Homo* (Ch. 10)
3/12 Wednesday: Human Evolution: The genus *Homo* Tools and Culture
3/14 Friday: Becoming Human Video

**WEEK 9**
3/19 Wednesday: Test Review
3/21 Friday: Class Cancelled
WEEK 10
3/24 MONDAY: EXAM 2 Research Topics Due
3/26 Wednesday: Archaeic Homo Sapiens (Ch. 11)
3/28 Friday: The Origins and Dispersal of Modern People

WEEK 11
3/31 - 4/4 Spring Break!!

WEEK 11
4/7 Monday: Leaving the Old World and Evolution of the Brain and Language
4/9 Wednesday: Agriculture and Post-Pleistocene Changes
4/11 Friday: No Class - Physical Anthropology Meeting

WEEK 12
4/14 Monday: Archaeology of Early Human Societies
4/16 Wednesday: Archaeology of Early Human Societies: Theories and Methods
4/18 Friday: Video - Shaman’s Apprentice

WEEK 13
4/23 Wednesday: Bioarchaeology: Paleopathology and Trauma on Bones
4/25 Friday: Botony of Desire

WEEK 14
4/30 Wednesday: Forensics
5/1 Friday: Botony of Desire

WEEK 15
5/5 Monday: Ancient People of Southern California
5/7 Wednesday: Last Class - Exam Review, EXTRA CREDIT DUE

FINAL: May 12, 2014 10:30 am-12:30pm

NOTE: This syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary and will be announced in class. Students absent from class are responsible for determining if any modifications were announced.