

ANTHP101:
Introduction to Human Evolution
Spring 2014

Mon, Wed 4:10 – 5:25pm

Hunter North Building, Room #1403

Instructor: Prof. Andrea Baden

Office hours: Tuesdays, 2-3pm or by appointment

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Prerequisites: *none*

COURSE DESCRIPTION & GOALS:

This course will provide an overview of the basic tenets of biological anthropology. Some of the major topics that will be covered are evolutionary theory, cell biology and genetics, primate biology and behavior, primate fossil history and the human fossil and archaeological record. Lectures will generally follow the organization of the textbook, with additional information and examples provided in the lectures. ***Therefore, it is important for students to complete the assigned textbook readings, as well as attend lectures.***

Lectures are the most important part of the course because exams will be based primarily on the material presented in lecture. Lectures will typically be accompanied by power point presentations. ***PLEASE NOTE: It is not necessary to write down everything said in lecture, but it is suggested that you take notes on the important points emphasized by the instructor. Feel free to ask questions during lectures.*** Topics discussed in lecture are also covered in more detail in the textbook. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what material you missed. The power points will be condensed and made available online; however, be aware that you will be tested on topics discussed during class, and as such, not all material will be available in documents posted online.

A blackboard account will be maintained for this class and will have any updates to the syllabus or special announcements related to the class. I will also post weekly Key Terms to Know and Key Concepts to Know, which can be used as a study guide for exams. Note, however, that students will not be tested on all terms provided on this list, nor is this list intended to be exhaustive. Students are responsible for periodically checking Blackboard.

REQUIREMENTS, GRADING, AND POLICIES:

REQUIREMENTS

(1) Readings:

Required books (*available at Shakespeare & Co. Booksellers or Amazon*):

- How Humans Evolved, 6th Edition. 2012. Boyd, R and Silk, JB., editors. New York: W. W. Norton.

Chapters from the text should be read **before** coming to the scheduled lecture covering that material. Required readings are noted at the end of your syllabus.

(2) Assignments:

Students will be responsible for ONE take-home assignment (a primate phylogeny) that should be completed during the second and third sections of this course. Details will be provided over the course of the semester and I will gladly provide assistance to students who make an effort to attend office hours. This assignment will comprise 15% of your class grade and is intended to guide your studies for the second and third exams. Students are allowed to work together in groups, *HOWEVER* each student is expected to complete his or her own work. *Everyone must turn in their own phylogeny at the end of the semester. Copying or plagiarism will result in a FAILING GRADE for the class, without exception.* See statement on Academic Integrity.

(3) Exams:

Exams will be based primarily on material covered in class during lectures. Because the textbook will also be covering this same material in more detail, questions on the exam may also be formulated from assigned readings. Make-up exams are **not** permitted except in *documented* cases of illness, injury, or family emergency (i.e., you **MUST** provide a written and signed doctor's note). If you know in advance that you will miss an exam, you must contact me ahead of time (at least 48-hours in advance), preferably via email. If you **do not** contact me before missing an exam, you will receive a **zero (0)** for that exam.

(4) Attendance policy:

Lectures and labs will cover large amounts of material. Regular attendance is thus strongly advised for those seeking to succeed in the course. Although attendance will not be taken during lecture sessions, exam questions will draw from both the readings and my lectures such that students with good attendance will undoubtedly perform better on exams than a student with poor attendance. ***Be aware that attendance and participation may be taken into consideration during the assignment of final grades.***

GRADING

Exam I. Evolution & Adaptation	15%
Exam II. Primate Behavior	15%
Exam III. Primate Evolution	15%
Take-home assignment	15%
Lab	40%

POLICIES

Academic Integrity:

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

Accessibility:

Hunter College offers a range of services to students. Contact the Office of Student Services for more information <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/student-services>.

In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (Emotional, Medical, Physical and/or Learning) consult the Office of AccessABILITY located in Room E1124 to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance please call (212-772-4857)/TTY (212-650-3230).

COURSE SCHEDULE

Lecture	Date	Topic	Reading
PART I		How Evolution Works	Ch. 1-4
I.1	Mon, Jan 27	What is Biological Anthropology?	B&S, Prologue
I.2	Wed, Jan 29	History of evolutionary thought	Suppl. 1 Online
I.3	Mon, Feb 3	Adaptation by natural selection	B&S, Ch. 1
I.4	Wed, Feb 5	Genetics, I: Cells & genes	B&S, Ch. 2
I.5	Mon, Feb 10	Genetics, II: Inheritance	B&S, Ch. 2
-	Wed, Feb 12	NO CLASS	-
-	Mon, Feb 17	NO CLASS	-
I.6	Wed, Feb 19	Genotype to phenotype	B&S, Ch. 3
I.7	*Thurs, Feb 20	Forces of evolution	B&S, Ch. 3
I.8	Mon, Feb 24	Species concepts & speciation	B&S, Ch. 4 (p. 74-84)
-	Wed, Feb 26	EXAM 1	-
PART II		Primate Ecology & Behavior	Ch. 4-8
II.1	Mon, Mar 3	Systematics	B&S, Ch. 4 (p. 85-98)
II.2	Wed, Mar 5	Intro to Primates, I: Strepsirrhines	B&S, Ch. 5
II.3	Mon, Mar 10	Intro to Primates, II: Haplorrhines	B&S, Ch. 5
II.4	Wed, Mar 12	Primate anatomy	Suppl. 2 Online
II.5	Mon, Mar 17	Primate adaptations	Suppl. 3 Online
II.6	Wed, Mar 19	Socioecology	B&S, Ch. 5
II.7	Mon, Mar 24	Mating systems	B&S, Ch. 6
II.8	Wed, Mar 26	Cooperation & cognition	B&S, Ch. 7-8
-	Mon, Mar 31	EXAM 2	-
PART III		Primate & human evolution	Ch. 9-10, 12-15
III.1	Wed, Apr 2	Geology, taphonomy & fossilization	B&S, Ch. 9
III.2	Mon, Apr 7	Primate origins & evolution	B&S, Ch. 9
III.3	Wed, Apr 9	From hominoids to hominins	B&S, Ch. 9-10
-	Mon, Apr 14	SPRING RECESS	-
-	Wed, Apr 16	SPRING RECESS	-
-	Mon, Apr 21	SPRING RECESS	-
III.4	Wed, Apr 23	<i>Australopithecus</i> & kin	B&S, Ch. 10
III.5	Mon, Apr 28	From hominins to <i>Homo</i>	B&S, Ch. 12
III.6	Wed, Apr 30	<i>Homo erectus</i> & OOA I	B&S, Ch. 12
III.7	Mon, May 5	Neanderthals & Archaic <i>H. sapiens</i>	B&S, Ch. 12
III.8	Wed, May 7	Evolution of Modern <i>Homo</i> & OOA II	B&S, Ch. 13
III.9	Mon, May 12	Human variation & population genetics	B&S, Ch. 14
III.10	Wed, May 14	Modern human behavior	B&S, Ch. 15-16
	Wed, May 21	FINAL EXAM (& Phylogeny due)	3-5 pm