

School of Liberal Arts



ANTH 101
Biological Anthropology
Fall 2021

3 Credits

Course Outline

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|---|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| INSTRUCTOR | N. A. Easton | OFFICE HOURS | M/W 10:30 am - Noon |
| OFFICE | A2801 | CLASSROOM | A2202 |
| E-MAIL | neaston@yukonu.ca | CLASS TIME | 9:00 – 10:30 am |
| TELEPHONE | 393-8012 | CRN | 10233 |
| Liberal Arts office: Ayamdigut Campus A2501, liberalarts@yukonu.ca, 867-668-8770 | | | |

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a broad review of the principles and facts of human evolution and adaptations. The first half of the course examines the biological principles of evolutionary theory, population genetics, human variation, and our taxonomic relationship with and sociality of the other extant primates. The second half of the course will focus on the evidence for the evolution of primates, hominids, and hominins in the existing fossil record, the migration of the Genus Homo throughout the globe, and the biological effects on our species of cultural/technological change since the advent of agriculture. A term paper will allow students to explore a topic in the discipline in more detail using published scientific papers while Laboratory exercises will develop students' technical skills in the application of theory to practical problems.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisite(s): Admission to Liberal Arts. Note that ANTH 101 is now designated as an eligible course to fulfil the Liberal Arts science requirement.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

AU ANTH 278 (3) CAMO ANTH 1XX(3) TRU ANTH 1110 (3)

TWU ANTH 1XX(3) UBC ARCL 140 (3) UVIC ANTH 1XX(1.5)

UNBC ANTH 1XX(3)

Students are reminded that it is always the receiving institution that determines whether a course is acceptable as an applicable, equivalent course or if it may be transferred to their program for credit. Find further information at: <https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/transfer-credit>

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand the philosophy and methods of the scientific exploration of our evolutionary history through time.
- Understand the biological mechanisms of inheritance, adaptations, and evolutionary change.
- Understand the principles of systematics, taxonomy, and our primate heritage.
- Have a broad understanding of the evidence for and theories of explanation of the evolutionary history of the Genus Homo.
- Gain proficiency in basic laboratory methods related to the treatment, measurement, identification, and analysis of skeletal remains.

COURSE FORMAT

Delivery format

- This course is delivered online with two meeting times (synchronous delivery) during which students are expected to attend by web-conferencing (i.e., Zoom) and engage with the instructor and other students. On Campus delivery, following established Yukon University Covid-19 protocols, will also be available.

Workload

Classes will consist of 2 1.5 hours of lectures and discussions on the current week's topic and weekly laboratory assignments.

The class will proceed on a timetable with set assignments and due dates. This is not a self-paced course.

Weekly readings and lab assignments will generally take an additional 3 to 4 hours a week.

EVALUATION

Engagement and Participation

All students will be expected to attend and actively participate in class and online discussions and activities, as assigned by the instructor. The material covered in the classroom is cumulative in nature, and missing classes may put students at a disadvantage. Regular attendance will be graded out of 20 marks; informed participation in class discussions will be worth up to 10 marks.

Assignments

Laboratory Assignments

Students will undertake 12 short written assignments consisting of short answer and multiple choice questions related to the week's topic. Scores on each assignment will be prorated at the equivalent of 10 course marks. Assignments are due on the Thursday the following week (e.g. Week 1 assignment is due Thursday September 16). Late assignments will be accepted for grading with a late penalty of minus 1 course mark per day until the following Thursday, after which a grade of Zero marks will be applied.

Research Paper

Choosing from a list of options provided by the Instructor, Students will prepare a term paper which explores a topic in bioanthropology in further detail, appropriately **referencing a minimum of 6 peer reviewed scientific papers or texts** on the topic.

Essay topics must be **chosen and approved no later than week three** of the course – **Wednesday, 22 September 2021**.

The final paper is **due in Week 11 – Wednesday 17 November 2021**. Up to 50 course marks will be awarded for the submitted research essay. Late papers will receive a penalty of 5 course marks per day.

Submitted papers showing evidence of plagiarism will receive Zero course marks.

Exam

A comprehensive final examination will be written during the designated exam period at the end of term. It will combine multiple choice, true or false, and short answers, and be worth a total of 100 marks.

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|------------------------------|-------------|
| Participation 30 marks | 10% |
| Assignments 120 marks | 40% |
| Term Research Paper 50 marks | 17% |
| Final Exam 100 marks | 33% |
| Total | 100% |

TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIALS

The primary text for this course is an open access text:

EXPLORATIONS: AN OPEN INVITATION TO BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY.

Editors: Beth Shook, Katie Nelson, Kelsie Aguilera and Lara Braff .American Anthropological Association, Arlington, VA 2019 available online at:

<http://explorations.americananthro.org/>

Additional supplementary readings on recent discoveries and issues will also be assigned. Lab exercises will be distributed throughout the term. A full reading list will be made available after the first week of classes and should be combined with this outline for course transfer credit.

COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Students may officially withdraw from a course or program without academic penalty up until two-thirds of the course contact hours have been completed. Specific withdrawal dates vary, and students should become familiar with the withdrawal dates of their program. See withdrawal information at www.yukonu.ca/admissions/money-matters

Refer to the YukonU website for important dates: www.yukonu.ca/admissions/important-dates

Refunds may be available. See the Refund policy and procedures at www.yukonu.ca/admissions/money-matters

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when a student submits work for credit that includes the words, ideas, or data of others, without citing the source from which the material is taken. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of work, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Students may use sources which are public domain or licensed under Creative Commons; however, academic documentation standards must still be followed. Except with explicit permission of the instructor, resubmitting work which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the University.

Please refer to Academic Regulations & Procedures (updated bi-annually) for further details about academic standing, and student rights and responsibilities: www.yukonu.ca/policies/academic-regulations

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon University website at www.yukonu.ca/policies/academic-regulations)

It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations by contacting the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): LearningAssistanceCentre@yukonu.ca.

TOPIC OUTLINE

| Anthropology 102 - Introduction to Biological Anthropology | |
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| Week/Chapter | Topic |
| 1/1 | Anthropology, Biological Anthropology and the Enlightenment of Empiricism Lab 1: Biological Anthropology and the Scientific Method |
| 2/2 | The Story of Evolution Lab 2: Introduction to the Skeleton |
| 3/3 | Genetics Lab 3: Principals of Genetics |
| Selection of Term Paper Topic | |
| 4/4 | Population Genetics Lab 4: Inheritance and Forces of Evolution |
| 5/13+14 | Human Variation Lab 5: Modern Human Variation |
| 6/5 | The Primate Order Lab 6: Primate Characteristics |
| 7/7 | Primate Behaviour Lab 7: Primate Behavior |
| 8/6 | Understanding Deep Time, Geology and Fossils Lab 8: Understanding the Fossil Context |
| 9/8 | Primate Origins No Lab - Work on Term Paper |
| 10/9+10 | Hominin Origins Lab 9: Early Hominins |
| 11/11 | Emergence of Genus Homo Lab 10: Early Genus Homo |
| Term Paper Due | |
| 12/12 | Emergence of Modern Humans Lab 11: Later Members of the Genus Homo |
| 13 | The Last 10,000 years Lab 12: Bioarchaeology and Forensics |
| 14/15+16 | Bioarchaeology, Forensics, Contemporary Applications |