

Introduction to Biological Anthropology (ANT3514C)

Syllabus – Spring 2025

- Lectures:** Tuesday 7th period and Thursday 7-8th period in FAB 0105
- Laboratories:** Monday 3rd (0316), 4th (0319), 5th (0322), or 6th (0323) period in TUR B304
- Instructor:** **Dr. Valerie Burke DeLeon**
Department of Anthropology
University of Florida
352-294-7602
- Email:** vdeleon@ufl.edu * *Best to Communicate with Instructor in CANVAS* *
- Office hours:** TUR B374; Wednesday 10:30-12:30pm and by appointment
- Teaching Assistants:** **Ryan Cousins**
Sections 0316 and 0319 (3d and 4th periods)
Office hours (TUR B307): Tuesday 11:50am-1:50pm and Thursday 12:30-1:30pm
ryancousins@ufl.edu; * *Best to Communicate with TA in CANVAS* *
- Shima Pourmomeni**
Sections 0322 and 0323 (5th and 6th periods)
Office hours (TUR B307): Wednesday 12:30-3:30pm
shimapourmomeni@ufl.edu; * *Best to Communicate with TA in CANVAS* *

Course Description:

Anthropology is the holistic study of the human condition. Biological anthropology is a subfield of the larger discipline that studies humankind as a zoological species. As biological anthropology is firmly rooted in evolutionary theory, the evolutionary biology of humans is the central focus of the course. Basic concepts of genetics, geology, paleontology, comparative anatomy, primate biology, and material culture provide the foundation for understanding humanity's place in nature. ANT 3514C is a four credit General Education Biological Sciences ('B') course that also satisfies the CLAS Science Laboratory Requirement. This 'core' course is required of all Anthropology majors. A minimum grade of C is required for General Education credit.

ANT3514C meets the General Education Objectives for Biological Sciences (B)

Biological science courses provide instruction in the basic concepts, theories and terms of the scientific method in the context of the life sciences. Courses focus on major scientific developments and their impacts on society, science and the environment, and the relevant processes that govern biological systems. Students will formulate empirically-testable hypotheses derived from the study of living things, apply logical reasoning skills through scientific criticism and argument, and apply techniques of discovery and critical thinking to evaluate outcomes of experiments.

**In this course, students will be assessed for General Education Biological Sciences
Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) in three areas: Content, Critical Thinking, and Communication**

Content SLOs:

Identify, describe, and explain the basic concepts, theories and terminology of natural science and the scientific method; the major scientific discoveries and the impacts on society and the environment; and the relevant processes that govern biological and physical systems.

- At the end of this course students will be able to identify, describe, explain, and apply factual, conceptual, and procedural knowledge in the scientific method as applied to biological anthropology and related disciplines. Achievement of this learning outcome will be assessed through in-class and online quizzes, three in-class exams, eleven graded lab-based reports, and two lab-based practical exams.

Critical Thinking SLOs:

Formulate empirically-testable hypotheses derived from the study of physical processes or living things; apply logical reasoning skills effectively through scientific criticism and argument; and apply techniques of discovery and critical thinking effectively to solve scientific problems and to evaluate outcomes.

- Through class-based lecture, lab-based exercises and problem sets, and assigned reading, students will apply the scientific approach to investigate human variation in its biological, social and cultural dimensions. Students will also integrate different sources and types of knowledge into holistic perspectives about human variation. Finally, students will evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information and apply it effectively to solve problems.

Communication SLOs:

Communicate scientific knowledge, thoughts, and reasoning clearly and effectively.

- In lab, students must synthesize and write cogent answers to questions posed about materials covered in weekly meetings. Each week, lab-based reports will be submitted and evaluated for content and clarity.

Course Materials:

Required text: Jurmain R, Kilgore L, Trevathan W, Ciochon RL, Introduction to Physical Anthropology, 15th edition (2017), Cengage Learning. **Note:** *Digital and/or paper copies of the textbook are acceptable.*

Socrative: We will use an audience participation program to go over review questions in class. You can access the FREE student version on a browser (socrative.com) or by downloading the app (Socrative Student). Our classroom code is JGR0FKKB. There is one practice question posted to try it out in advance.

Website: This course is administered through e-learning in Canvas (<http://ufl.instructure.com>). The syllabus, lab worksheets, supplemental materials, quizzes and your grades are all accessed here.

Communication: You are encouraged to contact Dr. DeLeon and/or the teaching assistants with any questions or concerns about the course. Canvas is the best way to send emails to Dr. DeLeon or the teaching assistants. If you email Dr. DeLeon directly, please be sure to include “ANT3514C” in the subject line.

Grading: Grades are based on three (3) online exams (60%), five (5) online quizzes (10%), and laboratory performance (30%). The UF Grading policy on assigning grade points is available at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>.

300 pts	Exams (3)	Grade Points to Letter Conversion Chart:					
50 pts	Online Quizzes (5)	A	500-465	B-	414.9-400	D+	349.9-335
100 pts	Lab Reports (10)	A-	464.9-450	C+	399.9-385	D	334.9-315
50 pts	Lab Practicals (2)	B+	449.9-435	C	384.9-365	D-	314.9-300
500 pts	Total Points	B	434.9-415	C-	364.9-350	E	299.9-0.0

Exams are non-cumulative, objective exams administered in lecture and designed to test vocabulary, concepts, and associations relevant to biological anthropology. **Online quizzes** are available in Canvas after Thursday’s lecture and will remain available until the start of the following Tuesday lecture. Upon beginning a quiz, you will have 50 minutes to complete it. **Lab reports** feature questions intended to guide students through hands-on activities in the biological anthropology lab. Some labs will contain additional work to be performed outside of class. Students are expected to print or save a copy of the lab from the Canvas site and bring it to lab each week; failure to do so may result in missed lab points. Students will be required to complete the lab and return it to the TA one week after the lab activity. **Lab practicals** are hands-on exams focused on testing your identification skills. Students will move through the exams in timed rotations. These are taken during your lab periods as indicated in the schedule.

Make-up exams, lab activities, and lab practicals will be allowed under extraordinary circumstances, including excused absences documented through the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu>). Exams may not be retaken. Late online quizzes will be accepted on request for reduced credit.

Attendance: Attendance in laboratory sections is mandatory, and you must attend the section for which you are registered to receive credit. Neither the instructor nor teaching assistants will distribute lab notes outside of class. Attendance in lectures is recommended. Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures for strictly limited purposes, but please ask the instructor in advance. Recording of lab sessions is not allowed. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities: Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Disability Resource Center (<https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started>). The DRC will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive; therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct: UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Cheating and plagiarism, intentional or otherwise, during the course will not be tolerated and disciplinary action will follow university policy as outlined by the UF Dean of Students

Course Evaluation: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Materials and Supplies Fees: N/A

Campus Resources:

Technical Issues: If you have any problems accessing course content on Canvas, visit the helpdesk website at <https://it.ufl.edu/helpdesk/> or call 352-392-4357.

Health and Wellness U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu/ to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit counseling.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit shcc.ufl.edu/.

University Police Department: Visit police.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center.

Course Schedule:

Date	Lecture	Readings	Lab	Assessment
Jan 14 16	Introduction The scientific method	3-19 19-33	No Labs	Online Quiz 1
21 23	Darwin and natural selection Heredity	33-47 81-98	No Labs (MLK Holiday)	
28 30	Genetics Microevolution	49-78 98-110	Lab 1: Classification	Online Quiz 2
Feb 4 6	The tree of life The human body	113-140 507-517	Lab 2: Microevolution	
11 13	Comparative primate anatomy EXAM 1	143-155 155-160	Lab 3: Osteology	EXAM 1
18 20	Primate diversity Anthropoids	none 160-182	Lab 4: Primate Anatomy	
25 27	Primate behavior Communication and culture	185-193 194-223	Lab 5: Primate Function	Online Quiz 3
Mar 4 6	Primate origins Early anthropoids	225-237 237-261	Lab Practical 1	Lab Practical 1
11 13	EXAM 2 Australopithecines **	263-284 287-310	Lab 6: Primate Evolution	EXAM 2
18 20	SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK	none none	No Labs	
25 27	Paleoanthropology Early <i>Homo</i> **	none 310-327	Lab 7: Australopiths	
Apr 1 3	<i>Homo erectus</i> ** Premodern humans	327-345 347-409	Lab 8: Early <i>Homo</i>	Online Quiz 4
8 10	Modern human variation Forensic anthropology	411-430 458-463	Lab 9: Premodern humans	
15 17	Human biology Life history	430-458 467-488	Lab 10: Human variation	Online Quiz 5
22	EXAM 3 <i>Spring classes end Wed, Apr 23</i>	none	Lab Practical 2	Lab Practical 2 EXAM 3

** Guest lectures