

Introduction to Biological Anthropology

ANT3514C

Spring 2019



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Course Communications: Please use Canvas to communicate with the Instructor and the TA.

Required Text:

Jurmain, R, Kilgore, L, Trevathan, W, Ciochon, RL, and Bartelink, EJ. 2018. Introduction to Physical Anthropology, 15th edition. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.

This textbook has long been a leader in the field, and all chapters are required. There will be additional readings and links to online resources as well, posted in Canvas, by module.

Course Description:

ANT 3514C is a four-credit course, which satisfies the biological science and laboratory requirements for General Education, and partially satisfies the general distribution requirement for Liberal Arts and Sciences. This course is required of all Anthropology majors; it introduces the subfield of anthropology that focuses on the natural history of humankind.

Through lecture and laboratory, the course surveys a range of materials that focus on the diversity of the Order Primates with emphasis on human and primate variation, adaptation and evolution.

Purpose of Course:

Anthropology is a holistic discipline. As such, anthropologists attempt to view humans, their activities, and their cultural and biological history in as broad a context as possible. Such a vast field is divided into a number of subfields, of which biological anthropology (= physical anthropology) will be introduced to you in this course. Its goal is to understand the biological nature and history of humankind and their living (= extant) relatives.

Biological anthropology is firmly rooted in evolutionary theory. The evolutionary biology of humans is thus the central focus of the course. We will cover many topics pertaining to the group of mammals to which humans belong, the Order Primates. Basic concepts of genetics, geology, paleontology, comparative anatomy, primate biology, ecology, and material culture provide the foundation for understanding humanity's place in nature. Fundamentals in biology and geology will be related to understanding the context and circumstances that have allowed our bodies and behaviors to change over time. The inheritance of genetic variation will be discussed as it relates to evolutionary change. Aspects of human biological variation, both genetic and "physical," will be discussed with respect to modern human polymorphisms and the evolutionary forces affecting adaptation. "Primates" will be introduced as we learn about the fields of primatology, comparative anatomy, and conservation biology. We will learn about the newest techniques in molecular biology used to address a whole range of issues in evolutionary biology, wildlife conservation, and forensic anthropology.

Stepping far back in time, as paleoanthropologists, we will learn about some of the more significant fossil primate finds with particular emphasis on the common ancestor of humans and the African great apes. At about 2.5 million years ago, our genus *Homo* first appears in the fossil record. At about this same time, the first evidence of material culture in the form of stone tools appears in the record. We will review the archaeological and biological evidence of our hominin ancestry and focus on the biocultural revolution that took place from that time in prehistory to the present. Biomedical aspects of health and disease will be reviewed as will the overall state of the human condition.

Course Goals:

Through lectures, readings, online media, assignments, and discussions, you will develop the basic skills and knowledge to:

- Identify, describe, explain, and apply factual, conceptual, and procedural knowledge in biological anthropology
- Apply the scientific approach to investigate human variation in its biological, social and cultural dimensions
- Integrate different sources and types of knowledge into holistic perspectives about human variation
- Evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information and apply it effectively to solve problems

In addition to course outcomes, each of the 12 modules of this course is structured by detailed objectives that are specific to the subject of that module. Descriptions of module objectives are published on the Canvas e-Learning site for this course.

Student 'mastery' of these outcomes is measured from the overall effectiveness that the course

has in meeting its objectives. Student performance on exams, quizzes, assignments, and through participation on discussion boards, all translate to individual performance based on explicit grading criteria (discussed below). There are a number of criteria used to evaluate course outcomes and student success, and much of these criteria are included within the 'student learning outcomes' (or 'SLO's) as established by General Education mandates in the state of Florida. Below (in parentheses) are how outcomes will be assessed for each student enrolled in this course.

Content: Students demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, theories and methodologies used within the discipline (quizzes, exams, lab assignments, group discussions).

Communication: Students communicate knowledge, ideas and reasoning clearly and effectively in written and oral forms appropriate to the discipline (lab assignments, group discussions).

Critical Thinking: Students analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline-specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems (lab assignments, group discussions).

This course also meets General Education Subject Area Objectives for 'Biological Sciences': 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.

Assessment and Grading:

Grades are determined based on student performance on exams (n=3), course quizzes (n=12), course assignments (n=5), course discussions (n=5), lab assignments (n=12), and lab practicals (n=2). There are three exams in this course that will increase in rigor and percentage of course grade as the course progresses. Exams are non-cumulative and will include objective questions (matching, multiple choice, true/false). Exams may include short 'problems' to solve; however, no calculators are required. Each exam will also incorporate a 'lab practical' component, thus labs must be completed prior to taking each exam. Exams will not be comprehensive, but concepts will be used as needed throughout the course, and these will be routinely integrated into course assessment.

There are 12 course modules, and each module includes a quiz to assist in your review of the material. Quizzes will be open book, open note, and students will have unlimited attempts until the designated closing time of the quiz. Students will have 60 minutes to complete each exam once the exam has been initiated. For the lab practicals, students will have 20 minutes to complete the practical once it has been initiated. Discussions for the course will be required for even numbered modules, starting with Module 2. Assignments for the course will be required for odd numbered modules, starting with Module 1. However, there is no discussion or assignment

for modules 11 and 12. Students' original posts are due at 11:59pm on Fridays, while responses to at least one other classmate are due at 11:59pm the following Monday.

- Exam 1 12%
- Exam 2 13.5%
- Exam 3 14.5%
- Quizzes (n=12) 10%
- Labs (n=11) 20%
- Lab Practicals (n=2) 10%
- Assignments (n=5) 10%
- Discussions (n=5) 10%

Percentile Breakdown:

Percent	Grade
100-93	A
92.9-90	A-
89.9-87	B+
86.9-83	B
82.9-80	B-
79.9-77	C+
76.9-73	C
72.9-70	C-
69.9-67	D+
66.9-63	D
62.9-60	D-
59.9-0	E

Late Work:

No late work is accepted for full credit. There are no opportunities for making up missed assignments or exams except for reasons of medical or family emergency (documentation is required). Such work missed may be made up by arrangement with the Course Instructor. Exams may not be retaken.

Course Outline and Schedule:

ANT3514C is divided into twelve modules. The class is presented to you in the Canvas platform of e-learning, which lists all requirements and deadlines for each module, as well as abundant information that is useful for succeeding in this course. Canvas is your interface for downloading material, taking quizzes, exam, and lab practicals, holding group discussions, uploading assignments, and checking your grades.

For each Module, you have lectures to view (the powerpoints are also available as downloadable PDFs), textbook chapters to read, and a quiz to take. Discussions and assignments alternate for Modules 1-10 (there is no discussion or assignment for Modules 11 and 12). For 5 of the modules, you have a discussion to contribute to, both an original post and a response to the post

of at least one other student. For the other 5 of the modules (the ones without discussions), you will have an assignment to do. All required readings and videos are posted with the materials for that module.

Unless otherwise indicated, due dates and other relevant dates for each Module are scaled to the respective week, which starts on Monday at 12:01AM and runs through the following Monday at 11:59PM. Thus, each week has a one-day overlap on Mondays to avoid any assessments being due over the weekend. Quizzes and assignments for each Module will open at the beginning of respective week and close at the end of that week (Monday to Monday). Discussions require that you make your original post no later than Friday at 11:59 for that week and post your additional response by Monday at 11:59PM at the end of that same week. The weekly labs will open on Mondays and be due on Fridays at 11:59PM. The three exams open on Wednesdays at midnight and close on Fridays that follow at 11:59PM. You have three full days to schedule each of the three exams; however, as noted previously, once you start an exam, you will have only 60 minutes to complete it. Finally, your lab practicals will also be open for three days, and you will have 20 minutes to complete each; there is one mid-semester and one at the end of the semester. See Canvas for their specific dates.

Specific Course Schedule:

Module 1, January 7-14:

******NOTE:** to accommodate anyone who adds this course during the Drop-Add period, Quiz 1 and Assignment 1 for Module 1 are pushed back until the end of the material for Module 2, Monday January 14th. Lab 1 is pushed back until Friday, January 18th.

DUE DATES: **Quiz 1:** opens Monday, January 7 and closes Monday, January 14
 Assignment 1: opens Monday, January 7 and closes Monday, January 14
 Lab 1: opens Monday, January 7 and closes Friday, January 18

Note: Monday, January 21st is a holiday, so anything normally due on Mondays is pushed back to Tuesday, January 22nd.

Module 2, January 14-22 (21st is a holiday)

DUE DATES: **Quiz 2:** opens Monday, January 14 and closes Tuesday, January 22
 Discussion 1: opens Monday, January 14 and closes Friday, January 18
 Response to Other Post: opens Monday, January 14 and closes Tuesday, January 22
 Lab 2: opens Monday, January 14 and closes Friday, January 18

Module 3, January 22-28

DUE DATES: **Quiz 3:** opens Tuesday, January 22 and closes Monday, January 28
 Assignment 2: opens Tuesday, January 22 and closes Monday, January 28
 Lab 3: opens Tuesday, January 22 and closes Friday, January 25

Exam 1, Modules 1-3

DUE DATES **Opens** Wednesday, January 30 and closes Friday, February 1

Module 4, January 28-February 4

DUE DATES: **Quiz 4:** Opens Monday, January 28 and closes Monday, February 4
 Discussion 2: Opens Monday, January 28 and closes Friday, February 1
 Response to Other Post: Opens Monday, January 28 and closes Monday, February 4
 Lab 4: Opens Monday, January 28 and closes Friday, February 1

Module 5, February 4-11

DUE DATES: **Quiz 5:** Opens Monday, February 4 and closes Monday, February 11
 Assignment 3: Opens Monday, February 4 and closes Monday, February 11
 Lab 5: Opens Monday, February 4 and closes Friday, February 8

Module 6, February 11-18

DUE DATES: **Quiz 6:** Opens Monday, February 11 and closes Monday, February 18
 Discussion 3: Opens Monday, February 11 and closes Friday, February 15
 Response to Other Post: Opens Monday, February 11 and closes Monday, February 18
 Lab 6: Opens Monday, February 11 and closes Friday, February 15

Lab Practical 1, Modules 1-6

DUE DATES **Opens** Wednesday, February 20 and closes Friday, February 22

Module 7, February 18-25

DUE DATES: **Quiz 7:** Opens Monday, February 18 and closes Monday, February 25
 Assignment 4: Opens Monday, February 18 and closes Monday, February 25
 Lab 7: Opens Monday, February 18 and closes Friday, February 22

Note: Spring break is from March 2 - March 9; nothing is due during this period.

Exam 2, Modules 4-7

DUE DATES **Opens** Wednesday, March 13 and closes Friday, March 15
Note: Exam 2 is all that is due for this week.

Module 8, March 18-25

DUE DATES: **Quiz 8:** Opens Monday, March 18 and closes Monday, March 25
 Discussion 4: Opens Monday, March 18 and closes Friday, March 22
 Response to Other Post: Opens Monday, March 18 and closes Monday, March 25
 Lab 8: Opens Monday, March 18 and closes Friday, March 22

Module 9, March 25-April 1

DUE DATES: **Quiz 9:** Opens Monday, March 25 and closes Monday, April 1
 Assignment 5: Opens Monday, March 25 and closes Monday, April 1
 Lab 9: Opens Monday, March 25 and closes Friday, March 29

Module 10, April 1-8

DUE DATES: **Quiz 10:** Opens Monday, April 1 and closes Monday, April 8
 Discussion 5: Opens Monday, April 1 and closes Friday, April 5
 Response to Other Post: Opens Monday, April 1 and closes Monday, April 8
 Lab 10: Opens Monday, April 1 and closes Friday, April 5

Module 11, April 8-15

DUE DATES: **Quiz 11:** Opens Monday, April 8 and closes Monday, April 15
 Lab 11: Opens Monday, April 8 and closes Friday, April 12

Module 12, April 15-22

DUE DATES: **Quiz 12:** Opens Monday, April 15 and closes Monday, April 22
 Lab 12: Opens Monday, April 15 and closes Friday, April 19

Exam 3, Modules 8-12

DUE DATES **Opens** Wednesday, April 17 and closes Friday, April 19

Lab Practical 2, Modules 6-12

DUE DATES **Opens** Monday, April 22 and closes Wednesday, April 24

University Honesty Policy:

All students must comply with the University of Florida's Student Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>):

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

The Honor 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 the TAs in this class.

Disability Statement:

The Disability Resource Center (0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering

disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services, and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. NOTE: The student must provide the instructor with this documentation within the first two weeks of class. Documentation will not be accepted as a “pass” for students to miss and/or retake any quizzes or exams. This is to protect those students who legitimately require assistance and to protect academic integrity. It is also the student’s responsibility to arrange with the instructor and/or TA concerning accommodations.

Harassment and Discrimination:

“Harassment” is defined as conduct that (1) is of any type (written, oral, graphic, or physical), (2) is directed towards or against a person because of their personal status (i.e., race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, political affiliation, national origin, age, disability, marital status, pregnancy or others), and that (3) unreasonably interferes with the individual’s work, education, or participation in activities or programs at UF or creates a working or learning environment that a reasonable person would find threatening. “Discrimination” is defined as a conduct that (1) adversely affects any aspect of an individual’s employment, education, or participation in activities or programs at UF, and (2) is based on one or more personal characteristics listed above. Any student who feels that his/her rights have been violated may speak to the instructor who will direct the complaint through the proper university channels, or the student may directly file a complaint with UF Department of Human Resources.