ANTH 361: Human Evolution

Spring 2016

University of Oregon
(4 Credit Hours; Satisfies SC requirement)

Note: Please print this document for your records.

Course Location: 111 Lillis Hall (LIL)
Course Time: 8:30-9:50 am, Tuesday and Thursday
Lab Location and Time: Condon Hall, Rm 368, Wednesdays

Instructor: Dr. Lawrence Ulibarri
  Office: 354 Condon Hall
  Office Hours/phone: Thursday 3:30 to 5:00, Friday 12:00-1:30 and by appointment, 541-346-8188
  E-mail: larryu@uoregon.edu

GTF: Ms. Diana Christie, M.S.
  Office: 365 Condon Hall
  Office Hours: Thursday 9:50-11:45
  Open lab/ Review: Tuesdays 1-2
  E-mail: dchristi@uoregon.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores human evolution from the time of our divergence from the other African apes through the appearance of anatomically modern humans. It is focused on the human fossil record, but includes other aspects of human evolution such as archaeological material as well as evidence from living human populations including genetic evidence. Human evolution, by its nature, is a multidisciplinary and diverse subject. We will not be able to cover all aspects in this course. This course will emphasize the human fossil record and comparative morphology, but will also include relevant aspects of geology, paleoclimatology, paleontology, genetics, evolutionary biology, zoology, mammalogy, and archaeology.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After successful completion of this course, students will have an understanding of the following key issues:
• How to identify the bones of the human (primate) skeleton and how to interpret them functionally.
• Descriptions of where, when, and the theories of why early hominins evolved.
• Descriptions of where, when, and the theories of why Australopithecines and Paranthropines evolved.
• Descriptions of where, when, and the theories of why early and later Homo species evolved, and the debates about early and later Homo diversity.
• Descriptions of where, when, and the theories of why modern humans evolved.

COURSE FORMAT

The course is designed in a Lecture and Laboratory Format, meaning that the lecture and laboratory components complement each other, and both are required to pass this course. There will be two lecture meetings per week and one lab meeting. Most often, lectures will consist of an exploration of the material we are reading, while highlighting background and theoretical concepts. The laboratory component focuses on observation, measurement, and interpretation of data on human evolution.

In total, students should expect to spend 15+ hours of work outside of class time for this course, including the time devoted to reading, studying, constructing a well thought-out presentation, and completing assignments.

CANVAS

This course is supported by an online CANVAS site. Our Canvas learning support site will help you to complete academic work and study for exams. As this is an online site, you can access it anywhere. Online articles, relevant links, notes, and other relevant information will be included on the course site. PLEASE GO TO MODULES to find all of this information, which will be uploaded each week. Course notes will not be uploaded until after class, usually by the end of the week.

When you register for the class, you will automatically be enrolled to the site. All problems concerning the use of Canvas should be handled at the ITC center in the Knight Library. Issues more specifically related to the accessibility of course material should be directed to me.

Make sure that you regularly check your e-mail account which will notify you of material and announcements placed on our Canvas site.

EXPECTATIONS AND GRADING

Regular attendance, participation, and maintaining course readings are required to pass this course. Grades are based on a midterm and final exam, weekly lab exercises, two lab practical exams, and a presentation. Under no circumstances will make-up
assignments or extensions be given without a documented and cleared excuse (see Accommodations). If you miss a scheduled lab or lab practical you will not be able to make it up, given the amount of time and material required to set-up each lab and practical. You will not receive credit for a late assignment unless you notify your GTF in advance. Evaluation of your course grade will be based on the following four components:

1) **Midterm & Final Exams:** The midterm and final exam will be based on lectures, readings, and videos, and will include predominately objective multiple choice & matching questions, and a number of fill-in-the-blank, short answer (2-3 sentences), and/or short essay questions (4-5 sentences). **The final exam is basically cumulative.** I write basically because we are building on concepts as we work through the course. Will I ask questions from the midterms on the final exam? Not exactly. But I will use the terminology, the understanding, and the framework of those concepts to phrase new questions that may not have been specifically covered in the last 1/2nd of the course.

2) Lab Practical – this includes two lab exams. In order to pass these exams, you will need to **attend your lab sections.** The material covered in lab will be on the lab practical.

3) Lab exercises / assignments – each lab has an exercise which will be graded in terms of your participation, completion, and understanding of the materials.

4) Presentation - each student will be divided into small groups, and each group will lead present on a topic of their choice related to one of the designated presentation days (out of 5 possibilities — weeks 4, 5, 7, 8, and 10). This will require you to go beyond the reading and lecture, and to work in groups. Grading will be based on the quality put into your presentations. Groups will consist of 3 to 4 people, presentations should be between 25 and 35 minutes in length, and should include a discussion or Q&A element (preferably a discussion). A sign-up sheet will be discussed during the first week of classes.

**GRADING**

The weight of each form of evaluation to the total course grade is as follows:

- Midterm exam 20% (100)
- Final exam 20% (100)
- Lecture presentation/discussion 20% (100)
- Lab exercises 10% (50)
- Lab Practical 1 15% (75)
- Lab Practical 2 15% (75)

**TOTAL** 100% (500)
Grades will be assigned as follows:
A+ = 97% and above.
A = 93-96.9%,
A- = 90-92.9%

B+ = 87-89.9%
B = 83-86.9%,
B- = 80-82.9%

C+ = 77-79.9%
C = 73-76.9%,
C- = 70-72.9%

D+ = 67-69.9%
D = 63-66.9%,
D- = 60-62.9%

F = 59.9% and below

The grading system used in this course is as follows:

A – Outstanding performance relative to that required to meet course requirements; demonstrates a mastery of course content at the highest level.
B – Performance that is significantly above that required to meet course requirements; demonstrates a mastery of course content at a high level.
C – Performance that meets the course requirements in every respect; demonstrates an adequate understanding of course content.
D – Performance that is at the minimal level necessary to pass the course but does not fully meet the course requirements; demonstrates a marginal understanding of course content.
F – Performance in the course, for whatever reason, is unacceptable and does not meet the course requirements; demonstrates an inadequate understanding of the course content.

There is no extra credit for this course

REQUIRED TEXTS


ACCOMMODATIONS

Appropriate accommodations will be provided for students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet or discuss with me immediately. You will need to provide me with a notification letter from Disability Services outlining your approved accommodations.

I will post my lecture slides online after each lecture, and typically at the end of the week.

Exams and assignments must be taken/turned in at the scheduled time—under no circumstances will make-up exams or assignment extensions be given without a documented excuse (see Personal issues). If you will not be able to take an exam or turn in an assignment, you must notify your GTF or me in advance (preferably by e-mail).

PERSONAL ISSUES

If there is a serious issue related to your ability to participate in our course, you need to contact me immediately. Delay in asking for help right away will cause you to fall seriously behind in the course, and make-up work will not be accepted unless prior accommodations have been made. Examples of serious issues include you are ill or there is a family death, and can provide a doctor’s note explaining that it is not advisable for you to participate in our class. Additionally, a conference participation, participation in or travel associated with other events related to campus organizations, clubs, or groups so long as you can provide verification from student services.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The University of Oregon and I consider academic honesty to be essential for each student’s intellectual development. As an institution fundamentally concerned with the free exchange of ideas, our University depends on the academic integrity of each of its members. In the spirit of this free exchange, students and teachers of our University recognize the necessity, and accept the responsibility, for academic honesty. As a student who enrolls in this course, you agree to respect and acknowledge the research and ideas of others in your work and to abide by those rules in both lecture and lab classes.
**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is defined as the use of intellectual material produced by another person without acknowledging its source. For example:

- Wholesale copying of passages from works of others into a discussion or presentation
- Using the views, opinions, or insights of another without acknowledgment
- Paraphrasing another person’s characteristic or original phraseology, metaphor, or other literary device without acknowledgment

For further information about the UO policy on plagiarism and matters of social conduct, please refer to your student handbook. Also, the UO provides excellent resources to help you avoid plagiarism. Check out [http://library.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students/index.html](http://library.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students/index.html).

Please, for your protection and development, cite your sources properly and **do not plagiarize**. You can find proper use and examples of the APA citation method at the University of Oregon library website: [http://library.uoregon.edu/guides/citing/apa.html](http://library.uoregon.edu/guides/citing/apa.html)
NOTE: Class schedule is subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, or otherwise modified as appropriate.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates (m/d)</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Required Reading</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>03/29</td>
<td>Course Overview &amp; Requirements, Introduction to Paleoanthropology</td>
<td>For Tuesday: No readings</td>
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<td>03/30</td>
<td>Geochronology and taphonomy</td>
<td>For Thursday: Chapter 2</td>
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<td>03/30</td>
<td><em>Lab 1: Cranial anatomy, aging, sexing (Exercise of this lab is due by the end of Week 2 lab)</em></td>
<td>Lab resource: Online</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>04/05</td>
<td>Early Primate Evolution and Hominoid Evolution</td>
<td>For Tuesday: Chapter 3 (pp. 94-130) and Blackboard readings (Apes)</td>
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<td>04/07</td>
<td>Major African fossil sites</td>
<td>For Thursday: Chapter 4, (pp. 131-183)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td><em>Lab: Postcranial anatomy, aging, sexing (Exercise of this lab is due by the end of Week 3 lab)</em></td>
<td>Lab resource: Online</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>04/12</td>
<td>Bipedalism, the earliest human fossils</td>
<td>For Tuesday: Chapter 4, (pp. 183-188)</td>
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<td>04/14</td>
<td><em>Ardipithecus</em></td>
<td>For Thursday: Chapter 4, (pp. 188-201)</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td><em>Lab: Humans and Apes: skulls, dentition, postcrania (Exercise of this lab is due by the end of Week 4 lab)</em></td>
<td>Lab resource: Online</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>04/19</td>
<td><em>Australopithecus</em></td>
<td>For Tuesday: Chapter 4, (pp. 201-226)</td>
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<td>04/21</td>
<td>First Presentation/Discussion Day</td>
<td>For Thursday: Come ready to discuss</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td><em>Lab 4: LAB PRACTICAL 1</em></td>
<td>Lab resource: LAB EXAM DAY</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>04/26</td>
<td><em>Paranthropus</em></td>
<td>For Tuesday: Chapter 4, (pp. 226-234)</td>
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<td>04/28</td>
<td>Second Presentation/Discussion Day</td>
<td>For Thursday: Come ready to discuss</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td><em>Lab 5: Bipedalism and early hominins (Exercise of this lab is due by the end of Week 6 lab)</em></td>
<td>Lab resource: Online</td>
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<td>Week</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Labs</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>05/03</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>05/05</td>
<td>Early <em>Homo</em> and Oldowan technology</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>Lab 6: Australopithecines (<em>Exercise of this lab is due by the end of Week 7 lab</em>)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>05/10</td>
<td>Third Presentation/Discussion Day</td>
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<td>05/12</td>
<td><em>Homo erectus</em> and Acheulean technology</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>Lab 7: Paranthropines and early <em>Homo</em> (<em>Exercise of this lab is due by the end of Week 8 lab</em>)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>05/17</td>
<td>Middle and Late Pleistocene <em>Homo</em>, Ecology &amp; Behavior</td>
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<td>05/19</td>
<td>Forth Presentation/Discussion Day</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>Lab 8: <em>Homo erectus</em> and <em>H. heidelbergensis</em> (<em>Exercise of this lab is due by the end of Week 9 lab</em>)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>05/24</td>
<td>Neanderthals and Levallois technology</td>
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<td>05/26</td>
<td>Modern Human Origins</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>Lab 9: Later Homo (<em>H. neanderthalensis, H. sapiens</em>) (<em>Exercise of this lab is due by the end of Week 10 lab</em>)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>05/31</td>
<td>Human Evolution</td>
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<td>06/02</td>
<td>Fifth Presentation/Discussion Day</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>Lab 10: SECOND LAB PRACTICAL</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>06/08</td>
<td>Final Exam, same room (111 LIL) Time – 8:00-10:00 am (yes, it’s an 8:00am exam!)</td>
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