

Anthropology 111A - Human Ancestry & Adaptations

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Sec – 003

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This beginning course in archaeology and biological anthropology is designed to introduce you to these rich and quite varied subfields of anthropology. This basic survey will cover language, primatology, human genetics and variation, human origins and the fossil record, human adaptations of domestication and settlement, as well as the rise and fall of cities and states. We will examine the evolution and biological adaptations of the human species, and the development of culture through archaeological investigation.

GOALS:

This course strives to familiarize students with anthropology and introduce them to the varieties of human adaptations and the past. Through the readings, activities and projects, students will be encouraged to use anthropological concepts to critically reflect on their lives and call into question things taken for granted, to 'push open the door' of our assumptions. It also strives to improve students' critical thinking abilities.

TEXTS:

Feder, Kenneth (2nd Ed)
Linking to the Past

Fuentes, Agustin (2007)
Core Concepts in Biological Anthropology

Parker, M. P. and E. Angeloni (editors) (9th Ed)
Annual Editions: Archaeology

Angeloni, Elvio (19th Ed)
Annual Editions: Physical Anthropology

CODES FOR READINGS:

LINK

CORE

ARCH (article number, not unit)

PHYS (article number, not unit)

READING ASSIGNMENTS:

You are expected to have ALL the books listed above for this class. You are responsible for all material in the reading assignments. After the first class, you will be expected to have completed each reading assignment before coming to class. This preparation is necessary if you are to participate in class discussion. You should be warned that reading assignments will cover material not presented in class lecture. **ALL** is fair game on the exams!

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

There will be **THREE** short writing assignments. The intention is to give you the opportunity to improve your communication skills through the written word. No assignments will be accepted that do not meet the specified criteria. The writing assignments are meant to be a building process throughout the course. This will allow you and me to track your progress and areas in need of attention. All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period, not after. **Late assignments will be reduced by 25% of the total points for each calendar day passed the due date. Absolutely no** sliding papers under my office door. This means **I won't accept it**. They will be dated the day I receive them regardless of when you drop them. You will be required to use SafeAssign for all writing assignments, as well as turning in a hardcopy. Please refer to <http://www.siue.edu/its/bb/safeassign.shtml> to help with submission (student section is toward the bottom). The assignments will focus on: summary, analysis and comparison. I am willing to read drafts. However, you must get it to me so there is adequate turnaround time. These will be worth a total of **80 points**. The assignments will be explained as the class progresses.

EXAMS:

There will be **TWO** exams in this course. Each will be worth **100 points** and will cover only the material since the last exam. There is NO cumulative final for this class. Exams will be made up of multiple choice and matching. YOU must provide 8 ½ x 11 scantron sheets for the exams. They are available at the front counter in the bookstore in MUC. Make-up exams will be given only under real and extenuating circumstances. **You MUST contact me within 24 hours of the scheduled exam. A documented excuse is required in addition to approval by the instructor. Do not assume you can just take a make-up.** All effort must be made on your part to contact me as soon as the situation develops and you are responsible for scheduling the make-up. Make-up exams will be primarily essay. **No cheating will be tolerated.**

QUIZZES:

There will be **SEVEN** scheduled quizzes during the class. The purpose is to help you concentrate on the material presented in this class. Quizzes will be a mix of matching, multiple choice, and fill-in. They will be given at the **very beginning** of class. Each will be timed and late comers have NO opportunity for a make-up. Each quiz is worth 10 points. Quiz material will NOT be seen again on any exam.

VIDEOS:

There will be several videos shown throughout the semester. You are expected to take notes during the videos. You will see this material on the exams or used as part of in-class and/or writing assignments.

ATTENDANCE:

I consider attendance and class participation important. This also includes being punctual. Late arrival tends to disrupt the class and takes away from your fellow students' learning. You are responsible for all lecture material. If you miss a lecture, it is up to you to borrow someone's notes.

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES:

Students with disabilities will be happily accommodated, but all arrangements must be made through Disability Support Services office located in Student Success Center, room 1270, and the student must present to me his or her ID CARD. If the student must take an exam at DSS, a DSS Test Release Form must be given to me by the student during the class period prior to the exam.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM:

Cheating and plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. During all exams and quizzes ALL portable electronic devices (i.e. cell phones, laptops, iPods, etc) MUST be turned off AND put away. If you are found with an accessible device it will be considered cheating; no exceptions. Plagiarism includes either presenting someone else's words without quotation marks (even if you cite the source) or presenting someone else's ideas without citing that source. If you plagiarize, your instructor cannot evaluate your understanding of the topic. When paraphrasing from another source, at the very least the student should change the wording, sentence syntax, and order of ideas presented in the paper. Ideally, the student will integrate ideas from multiple sources while providing critical commentary on the topic in a way that clearly identifies whether words and ideas are those of the student or are from another source. University policy states that "Normally a student who plagiarizes shall receive a grade of F in the course in which the act occurs. The offense shall also be reported to the Provost." (<http://www.siue.edu/POLICIES/1i6.html>). The University policy discusses additional academic sanctions including suspension and expulsion from the University.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:

Class time is very limited during any given semester and in order to get through all the necessary material everyone must work together. Considerate and respectful behavior toward **ALL OTHERS** in the class is mandatory! Absolutely no side conversations will be permitted once class has started. Common sense should tell you that it disturbs those around you and presents an air of disrespect. Failure to abide by this could result in your expulsion from that class hour. Unless in cases of dire emergency, stay seated throughout the scheduled class time. Getting up for breaks during class is completely disruptive. Deal with these needs either before or after class.

GRADING:

Writing assignments	80 points
Exam 1	100 points
Exam 2	100 points
Quizzes	70 points

TOTAL 350 points

GRADE SCALE:

A = 90-100%	(315 - 350 points)
B = 80-89%	(280 - 314 points)
C = 70-79%	(245- 279 points)
D = 60-69%	(210 – 244 points)
F = 59-↓%	(0 - 209 points)

BLACKBOARD:

This is a course web site that will be used as a closed interactive environment for the students and instructor of this class. Many useful items will be available throughout the semester on this site including: grades (broken down by item), video handouts, exam study guides, and writing assignment criteria. You will find it a useful tool for the duration of the semester, especially for monitoring your course progress. The web address for this is: <http://bb.siue.edu>. You then click "Log in ". A window will come up asking for your ID and Password. Example: student's SIUE email address is atorrel@siue.edu. That would make her ID=atorrel. The Password is the same as for your SIUE email account. Then click "[ANTH111A 001 - Human Ancestry & Adaptations](#)." If you are having any trouble, check out <http://www.library.siue.edu/ftc/blackboard/support/student.htm> for assistance.

GETTING A HOLD OF ME

Email and office hours are always good. Office hours are for YOU to help you through this class. If the above office times do not work for you, just let me know and we can easily schedule another time to meet. You can also put a message in my mailbox in the Anthropology Dept. office. FYI - I am unable to call off campus. So...if you leave me a voicemail, I will not be returning your call. Please email me if you need a reply.

Also, in the **very rare** instance you might email an assignment to me, I have a set procedure for this. I will send you a short, but sweet, reply message that it was received and printed. IF YOU DO NOT GET A REPLY MESSAGE, I DIDN'T GET IT AND IT IS IN THE ETHER. It is then up to you to get it to me hardcopy.

FINAL NOTE:

I am here to help YOU learn about anthropology. We will be covering many diverse topics having to do with anthropology this semester. Some you may find more difficult than others. PLEASE do not let a bit of confusion or a particular topic get you frustrated or upset. Come and talk with me and if I can't help, I'll find someone who can.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Week	Dates	Topics	Required Reading	Recommended Reading
1.	11-13 Jan	Beginnings		
2.	18-20 Jan	Intro to Anthropology		CORE intro
3.	25-27 Jan	Language	PHYS 31	
4.	1-3 Feb	Human Genetics	BlackBoard	CORE ch 1, 2, & 4
5.	8-10 Feb	Human Variation & Adaptation	PHYS 36	CORE ch 10
6.	15-17 Feb	Primatology	BlackBoard (<i>Bushmeat</i>)	CORE ch 5
7.	22-24 Feb	Primatology	BlackBoard; PHYS 16	
8.	1-3 Mar	Archaeological Record		LINK preface & ch 1
No Class – SPRING BREAK – Enjoy!!!				
9.	15-17 Mar	Human Origins		CORE ch 7 & 8 (ending pg 239)
10.	22-24 Mar	Early <i>Homo</i> & <i>Homo erectus</i>	PHYS 21	CORE ch 8 (starting pg 240)
11.	29-31 Mar	<i>Homo sapiens</i> Slush	ARCH 14 & 9	CORE ch 9
12.	5-7 Apr	Domestication & Settlement	BlackBoard	
13.	12-14 Apr	Cities & States		
14.	19-21 Apr	Cities & States	ARCH 18; BlackBoard	
15.	26-28 Apr	And Now What??		

COURSE QUIZ DATES:

Qz 1	Thurs	20	Jan	Geography quiz – countries - Blackboard	
Qz 2	Thurs	3	Feb	<i>The Gift of Gab</i> (PHYS 31)	<i>The Resistance Movement</i> (BlackBoard)
Qz 3	Thurs	17	Feb	<i>How Real is Race?</i> (PHYS 36)	<i>Bushmeat</i> (BlackBoard)
Qz 4	Thurs	24	Feb	<i>Savanna Chimpanzees, Hunt with Tools</i> (BlackBoard)	<i>What Are Friends For?</i> (PHYS 16)
Qz 5	Thurs	31	Mar	<i>The Woman Who Shook up Man's Family Tree</i> (PHYS 21)	<i>New Women of the Ice Age</i> (ARCH 14)
Qz 6	Thurs	7	Apr	<i>Who Were the First Americans?</i> (ARCH 9)	<i>Worst Mistake in the History of the Human Race</i> (Blackboard)
Qz 7	Thurs	21	Apr	<i>The Maya Collapses</i> (ARCH 18)	<i>Adaptive Failure: Easter's End</i> (Blackboard)

Exam 1	3	Mar	Thurs
Exam 2	3	May	Tues, noon

Writing Assignment 1- 20 pts	8	Feb	Tues
Writing Assignment 2- 20 pts	17	Mar	Thurs
Writing Assignment 3- 40 pts	28	Apr	Thurs

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary to meet the students' instructional needs. Students will be notified of changes as they occur.