**Southern Illinois University Edwardsville-Winter Session 2 2024**

**ANTH 111A-WS2 Online: Human Ancestry and Adaptations**

**Course Dates: December 18 – January 7**

**Instructor: Taryn Pelch Email: tpelch@siue.edu**

**Best times to reach me by email: 11 AM - 6 PM (Monday - Friday)**

**Virtual Office Hours (Zoom) by Appointment**

**Course Description:**

This course will introduce students to all four major subfields of anthropology, but will focus on biological anthropology and archaeology. We will cover topics such language and culture, evolutionary theory, primatology, human genetics and biological variation, human origins and the fossil record, archaeological methods and the importance of archaeology in studying the human past, human adaptations of domestication and settlement, as well as the rise and fall of cities and states. This course is designed to prepare and encourage students for further study in anthropology and archaeology.

**Course Goals/Objectives:**

Upon successful completion of the class, students will be able to/have:

1. Identify the four main subfields of anthropology.
2. Understand the basic perspective of anthropology in the study of human behavior.
3. Understand the steps of the scientific method and how science is different from other methods of investigation.
4. Knowledge of key concepts in the subfield of archaeology.
5. Knowledge of key concepts in the subfield of biological anthropology.

**Instructor Biography:**

This begins my eighth year of teaching at SIUE! Starting out in musical theater and vocal performance, I discovered anthropology early on in college, and have loved the field ever since. I began teaching at local colleges and universities in 2009, and have taught biology, anatomy, and sociology in addition to anthropology. I have experience in botany and ethnobotany, and worked as a curator and research assistant at the Missouri Botanical Garden for three years. I have also participated in archaeological and ethnographic research in Native American communities across the U.S., Mexico, and Belize. I have experience analyzing human skeletal remains, and am very interested in forensics and paleopathology. I earned my first master’s degree in anthropology from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois, and just earned a second master’s in museum studies at UMSL. I hope to share this enthusiasm for anthropology with my students!

**Textbooks:**

**There are no required textbooks for this course:** readings, PowerPoint lectures, and other course materials will all be posted on Blackboard.

**Blackboard:**

**Everything you will need for the course, including the syllabus and schedule, will be posted on Blackboard. Quizzes, discussions, exams, and extra credit will be posted under separate tabs. There will be a tab for each Unit (1-3), containing instructions, PowerPoints with audio commentary and linked websites, study guides, readings, videos, and other course materials.** Grades will be posted on Blackboard under **My Grades**. The web address is: <http://bb.siue.edu>. After clicking the “Login” button, a window will appear, asking for your e-ID and password. For example, if a student’s SIUE email address is [nsmith@siue.edu](mailto:nsmith@siue.edu), this would make their e-ID: nsmith. Your password is the same as for your SIUE student email account. After logging in, select “Human Ancestry and Adaptations-ANTH-111A-WS2-202415." Please let me know if you are having trouble with Blackboard.

**Email: (Important to check every day!)**

**Make sure that your student email is activated and accessible**: you will need to check your student email every day for announcements, important information, and updates. My faculty email ([tpelch@siue.edu](mailto:tpelch@siue.edu)) is the best way to contact me. **The best time to reach me is from 11 AM - 6 PM, Monday - Friday**: I am usually off the computer after 6 PM and would not be able to respond until the next day. I will be able to respond to emails the same day if sent before 6 PM.

**Electronic Devices and Requirements:**

As this is an online course, it is important to make sure that you have access to an updated laptop or desktop computer with reliable Internet access, including the most recent versions of Microsoft PowerPoint and Word programs.A working webcam device is recommended. **You may download Microsoft Office software for free as an SIUE student. Here is the link:** <https://www.siue.edu/its/office365/index.shtml>.

**You may access the course using your phone, but many features will not be accessible to you as they would be if you are using a regular computer. I recommend using a laptop or desktop computer to view the PowerPoints, as the audio commentary will not be accessible to you if you are using the Blackboard phone app. It is also best to take the quizzes and exams on a laptop or desktop, not on your phone or tablet.**

**Instructor Responsibilities:**

As your instructor, I will do my best to provide you with interesting and accurate course materials, available according to the course schedule. I will participate in online discussion and will always respond to your emails within 12 hours. While quiz and exam grades will post instantly, I will have your discussion posts graded within 2-3 days of the due date. I will also do my best to help you learn the material and have a positive experience with the course. (I am glad that you are here!)

**Student Responsibilities:**

As a student, you will need to check your student email at least once a day and respond to my emails as soon as possible (within 12 hours). Students should be familiar with the information in all posted announcements along with the syllabus and course schedule. It is your responsibility to study all course materials and to complete assignments by the posted due dates and times. As this is a condensed course offered during a 5-week session, you will need to spend more time on coursework per week than in a regular semester: be prepared to dedicate 10 or more hours a week to the course based on your learning style and study habits.

It is your responsibility to address any computer problems that might occur. Such problems are not an excuse for delays in meeting expectations or for missing course deadlines.

Contact ITS at [618-650-5500](mailto:618-650-5500) or at [help@siue.edu](mailto:help@siue.edu) with any technical concerns. You can also check the functionality of University systems, including Blackboard, at the [ITS System Status page](https://status.siue.edu/), or search the [ITS Knowledge Base](http://kb.siue.edu) for various how-to and troubleshooting guides.

Tips for taking online assessments:

* Set up a wired (Ethernet) Internet connection on your computer
* Do not use a mobile device, such as a phone or tablet
* Read the instructions and directions carefully
* Be prepared to complete the assessment in the allotted time

**Study Tips:**

I definitely encourage you to set aside certain study times during the week, and not wait until the last minute to begin working on assignments. It is a good idea to write your main discussion post the first day that the discussion is available: this way, you will have plenty of time to read and respond to other students’ posts. You may want to type it in Microsoft Word first, save the file, then copy and paste it to Blackboard.

For each topic, fill out the study guides as you read and listen to the PowerPoints (click on the red speaker symbols shown on certain slides), pausing to watch the linked videos and websites. **It is important that you view the PowerPoints on a regular desktop or laptop computer, as the voice commentary (red speaker symbols) will not be accessible through the Blackboard phone app.** Assignment due dates are posted on the course schedule: please keep a copy on your desktop, and look at it often as it is important to submit assignments by the correct due date and time. I will also send emails and post announcements to remind you when assignments are due.

**GRADING POLICIES AND COURSEWORK:**

**Exams: (3 exams at 100 points each = 300 points total)**

Exams 1 and 2 will consist of 40 multiple-choice and true/false questions. Exam 3 (the final exam) will consist of 30 multiple-choice and true/false questions. Each exam will be worth 100 points and will cover only the material since the last exam; they will not be comprehensive. Exams will primarily cover material from the PowerPoints, but may also include information from assigned readings and films. To prepare for the exams, fill out the study guides posted for each topic.

**Exams must be completed by the assigned due dates and times, and will be posted on Blackboard under the Exams tab.** Each will be timed at 75 minutes and you will have two attempts. Your highest score of both attempts will be saved under My Grades.

**Quizzes: (10 quizzes at 10 points each = 100 points total)**

There will be a quiz over each topic (each worth 10 points). Quiz material will be based on terms and concepts discussed in the PowerPoints, and will be a mix of fill-in-the-blank, matching, and multiple-choice questions. The best way to study for each quiz is to use the corresponding study guide. **Quizzes must be completed by the assigned due dates and times and will be posted on Blackboard under the Quizzes tab.** Each will be timed at 20 minutes and you will have two attempts. Your highest score of both attempts will be saved under My Grades.

**Group Discussions: (3 discussions at 50 points each = 150 points total)**

These will be available under the Discussions tab on Blackboard. For each discussion, you will be required to write one main discussion post in response to a question. **Main posts should contain at least 200 words and be written in essay format**. **Everyone must also respond to at least two of their classmates’ discussion posts. Both responses should be at least 80 words each.** Points will be awarded based on how thoroughly the initial discussion question was answered, the thoughtfulness and originality of your responses to other students’ posts, and if posts were at least the minimum lengths required. It is a good idea to write your main discussion post the first day that the discussion is available: this way, you will have plenty of time to read and respond to other students’ posts. **Main posts and responses must be completed by the scheduled due dates and times.**

Weekly Discussion Post Rubric: 50 points total

Each main post: 30 points each

Two required responses: 10 points each (20 points total)

**Netiquette:**

In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. The following tips for interacting online in e-mail and/or Discussion Board messages are adapted from guidelines originally compiled by Chuq Von Rospach and Gene Spafford:

* Remember that the person receiving your message is someone like you, someone who deserves and appreciates courtesy and respect.
* Your messages reflect on YOU; take time to make sure that you are proud of their form

and content. **Make sure to double-check your spelling and grammar before posting!**

* Use descriptive subject headings in e-mail messages, and include your section number.
* Think about your audience and the relevance of your messages.
* Be careful with humor and sarcasm: without the voice inflections and body language of face-to-face communication, online messages can be easily misinterpreted.
* When making follow-up comments, summarize the parts of the message to which you

are responding.

* Avoid repeating what has already been said: each message should be unique.
* Cite appropriate references when using someone else’s ideas, thoughts, or words. **Do not**

**cut and paste sections of text from my PowerPoints or websites to include in your**

**discussion posts, as this is plagiarism!**

**Make-up Work Policy or Extended Time:**

**Please take your quizzes and exams using a laptop or desktop computer with a reliable Internet connection, not on your phone, as this will help to avoid technical errors.** If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact ITS immediately by phone (618-650-5550) to see if they can help you. Also, please notify me as soon as possible if you are experiencing any technical issues with Blackboard.

**No make-ups or extensions will be given for discussions or quizzes.** **For exams, make-ups or extensions will only be possible in the case of a documented emergency (doctor’s note, etc.) or technical issue. If there is an emergency or technical problem, it is your responsibility to notify me as soon as possible, within 24 hours of the due date and time. Please don’t wait until the evening an assignment is due to begin work on it, as I may not be able to help right away if there is a technical issue.**

**Extra Credit:**

There will be a few online films listed as extra credit options. In order to receive 10 points extra credit, you may watch a film and write a 1-page reflection paper on the topics presented, along with your thoughts on those topics. You may email three of these to me by our last day of class, January 7. **A maximum of 30 points is allowed for extra credit.**

**Final Grade Determination:**

Take your total accumulated points and divide that by the total possible points, and you will come up with your current grade average. If you check the My Grades tab on Blackboard, you should be able to access your current points and letter grade. By the end of the class, the total number of points possible (without extra credit) is **550**.

**INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES**:

**Differing Needs Accommodations:**

Students needing accommodations because of medical diagnosis or major life impairment will need to register with **Accessible Campus Community & Equitable Student Support (ACCESS)** and complete an intake process before accommodations will be given. The ACCESS office is located in the Student Success Center, Room 1270. You can also reach the office by e-mail at [myaccess@siue.edu](mailto:myaccess@siue.edu) or by calling 618-650-3726. For more information on policies, procedures, or necessary forms, please visit the ACCESS website at [www.siue.edu/access](http://www.siue.edu/access). Students with disabilities will be gladly accommodated: please give me your ACCESS documentation during the first week of class, or as soon as possible, so that I can help you as best I can.

**Class Content and Copyright:**

**The PowerPoints and study guides in this course are my legal property and creation, and it is illegal to share them with students outside this course or to post them online.** Faculty recordings of lectures and/or other course materials are meant to facilitate student learning and to help facilitate a student catching up who has missed class due to illness. As such, students are reminded that the recording, as well as replicating or sharing of any course content and/or course materials without the express permission of the instructor of record, is not permitted, and may be considered a violation of the University’s Student Conduct Code (3C1), linked here: <https://www.siue.edu/policies/3c1.shtml>.

**Academic Integrity:**

Students are reminded that the expectations and academic standards outlined in the Student Academic Code (3C2) apply to all courses, field experiences and educational experiences at the University, regardless of modality or location. The full text of the policy can be found here: <https://www.siue.edu/policies/3c2.shtml>.

**Unless expressly allowed by the instructor, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools and applications (including ChatGPT, DALL-E, and others) to produce content for course assignments and assessments is a violation of SIUE’s academic policy and is prohibited.**

**Cheating and Plagiarism:**

Cheating on an exam or quiz will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade in the course and a report to the Provost. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, students working together in any capacity unless specifically stated as acceptable by the teacher. **In this course, students should do their own work and not work together on assignments.** 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.shtml>). The University policy discusses additional academic sanctions including suspension and expulsion from the University.

**Diversity and Inclusion:**

SIUE is always committed to respecting everyone’s dignity. To learn, exchange ideas, and support one another, our virtual and physical classrooms must be places where students and teachers feel safe and supported. Systems of oppression permeate our institutions and our classrooms. All students and faculty have the responsibility to co-create a classroom that affirms inclusion, equity, and social justice, where racism, sexism, classism, ableism, heterosexism, xenophobia, and other social pathologies are not tolerated. Violations of this policy will be enforced in line with the SIUE Student Conduct Code.

The Hub <https://www.siue.edu/csdi> is an excellent resource for students for support and community. Any person who believes they have experienced or witnessed discrimination or harassment can contact Ms. Jamie Ball, Director in the Office of Equal Opportunity, Access and Title IX Coordination at (618) 650-2333 or [jball@siue.edu](mailto:jball@siue.edu). There is also an online form for reporting bias incidents at <https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?SIUEdwardsville&layout_id=10>.

**Pregnancy and New Parent Policy:**

This policy and procedure are established to ensure the protection and equal treatment of pregnant students, students with pregnancy-related medical conditions including because of the termination of pregnancy, and students who become new parents including parents adopting or fostering to adopt for the first 12 weeks a child is in the home, in accordance with Federal and State guidelines and regulations. "New Parents" refers to a parent who has recently welcomed a newborn or adopted a child or is fostering to adopt a child and needs support to mitigate the disruption in academic progress within the first 12 weeks of parenting or a parent that needs support due to medical necessity attributed to pregnancy or delivery of a child; care of newborn; or lactation within the first year of child's life or legal adoption/fostering. Visit [Policies & Procedures - Student Rights and Conduct - Newly Parenting Policy - 3C15](https://www.siue.edu/policies/3c15.shtml) to view the full policy and learn how to request accommodations through the Office of Equal Opportunity, Access, and Title IX Coordination (EOA).

## Academic and Other Student Services:

As an enrolled SIUE student, you have a variety of support available to you, including:

* [Lovejoy Library Resources](http://www.siue.edu/lovejoylibrary/)
* [Academic Success Sessions](https://www.siue.edu/retention/programs/sass.shtml)
* [Tutoring Resource Center](https://www.siue.edu/lss/tutoring-resource-center/)
* [The Writing Center](http://www.siue.edu/lss/writing/index.shtml)
* [Academic Advising](http://www.siue.edu/advising/)
* [Financial Aid](https://www.siue.edu/financialaid/)
* [Campus Events](http://www.siue.edu/events/)
* [Counseling Services](https://www.siue.edu/counseling/)

If you find that you need additional support, please reach out to me and let me know.

## Student Success Coaches:

[Student success coaches](https://www.siue.edu/retention/about/meet-us.shtml?section=coaches) work across campus to serve the SIUE student population with the tools and resources to adjust to and meet the demands of the college experience. Success coaches provide direct services such as time management support and referrals to campus resources. If you find yourself in need of academic or personal support, or in a situation that is preventing you from being successful in the classroom, please utilize [Starfish](https://www.siue.edu/its/starfish/) to connect with a coach as soon as possible. The sooner you engage, the sooner you can access the information or tools you need that may help you get back on track.