

Anthropology 111A - Human Ancestry & Adaptations

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Winter Term 2019-20
100% Online Course – 3 weeks

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.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES At the end of the course, students should be able to:

- ❖ describe the fundamentals of biological anthropology and archaeology.
- ❖ explain how anthropologists study these topics.
- ❖ apply some of the methods anthropologists use in conducting research at a beginning level.
- ❖ critically reflect on their lives and call into question things taken for granted, to 'push open the door' of our assumptions.
- ❖ frame useful questions from the perspective of cultural relativism.

NO TEXTBOOKS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE COURSE.

COURSE STRUCTURE - BLACKBOARD: This is an online course which uses BlackBoard, a web site that will be used as a closed interactive environment for the students and instructor of this class. Many necessary items will be available throughout the semester on this site including: grades (broken down by item), video links, topic presentations, reading assignments, exams, and quizzes. At designated times throughout the course, we will participate in a blend of self-paced and group-paced activities using BlackBoard and alternative Internet-based technologies. Activities may consist of timed quizzes, discussion forums, and timed exams. For BlackBoard assistance, go to Information Technology Services. You can reach them via email: ftc_help@siue.edu or by phone: 618.650.5500. They're also located in the basement of Lovejoy Library. Website: <http://www.siue.edu/its/>

BLACKBOARD ACCESS: You will need access to the Internet and a supported Web browser <http://www.siue.edu/its/bb/browsers.shtml>. To access this course on BlackBoard go to: http://www.siue.edu/its/bb/students/getting_started.shtml. 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 - Human Ancestry & Adaptations." If you are having any trouble, check out <http://www.siue.edu/its/bb/index.shtml> (far right column for students) for assistance.

COURSE COMMITMENTS:

Instructor: As an online faculty member, I am committed to providing a quality learning experience through thoughtful planning, implementation, and assessment of course activities. I am also committed to being readily available to students throughout the semester by returning emails, Monday-Friday, within 24 to 48 hours and to returning graded course work within 3 days. Furthermore, I am committed to selecting appropriate course materials and making them available in an organized and timely manner in our virtual classroom.

Students: By registering for this online course, you commit yourself to self-motivated study, participation in online course activities, and the submission of all assignments and activities on time. Furthermore, you commit to accessing the course website and checking your SIUe email **AT LEAST ONCE A DAY**. You also commit to devoting at least as much time to this online course as to a comparable traditional class on campus. In other words, since this is a 3-credit hour course offered during a 3-week session, you commit to spend a minimum of **45 hours per week** on this class.

TOPIC LECTURES: Each topic may consist of a number of narrated PowerPoint sessions for students to view at the beginning of the time allotted for that topic. These are found in the 'Lectures' folder in BlackBoard. Although these are asynchronous activities, the content within them will be the core material in the course. Depending on your learning style, note taking and/or watching the presentations multiple times may be appropriate. Additional links may include: videos, Podcasts and news articles.

READINGS: **All required readings for this course will be available electronically (links/pdf files).** You will find them posted within the BlackBoard course for the class grouped according to the 4 segments of the course. You are responsible for all reading assignments. You should be warned that reading assignments will cover material not presented in PowerPoint lectures. Questions from readings will be on the quizzes.

VIDEOS: There will be several videos you will need to view throughout the course. Links to these will be posted in BlackBoard. You are expected to take notes during the videos. You will see this material on the quizzes.

QUIZZES: There will be **11** quizzes for the course. The purpose is to help you concentrate on the material presented in this class. Articles and videos posted on BlackBoard will provide your quiz material. Quizzes will be multiple-choice questions. All quizzes will be online and available under the BlackBoard 'Quizzes/Exams' folder. They will be **due at 11:59pm (see table, last page; note color coding)**. Each will be timed, and you will only have one attempt. Do to the organization of the class segments, some quizzes will be 6 questions, worth 6 points, taken in 6 minutes while others will be 9 questions, worth 9 points, taken in 10 minutes, for a total of **90 semester points**. There will be NO opportunity for a make-up. I will post an extra quiz toward the end of the course, giving you a '1 quiz slush factor.' Sooooo, for example if you forget to take one you get a pass; if you have a tech issue while taking a quiz you get a pass; if you bomb a few you have a way to save the day; AND if you score perfectly on all of them, giving you 96 out of 90 points, you get 6 points extra credit. Quiz material will NOT be seen again on any exam. **TAKE YOUR QUIZZES AT A REAL, ACTUAL COMPUTER WITH A HARD-WIRED INTERNET CONNECTION – NOT ON WIFI, NOT YOUR PHONE, NOT YOUR TABLET!**

EXAMS: There will be **FOUR** scheduled exams. All will be **due at 11:59pm (see table, bottom last page; note color coding)**. You will have one attempt and they are timed (33 minutes). There is **NO** cumulative final. Material will come from our topic lectures. Format will be 27 or 28 multiple choice and/or matching questions. There will be **NO** opportunity for a make-up. Exams are worth **a total of 110 points**. If you experience ANY technical difficulty with these contact ITS immediately by phone (618.650.5500) to see if they can assist, **DO NOT** wait for me to get back to you via email. **JUST LIKE WITH QUIZZES, TAKE YOUR EXAMS AT A REAL, ACTUAL COMPUTER WITH A HARD-WIRED INTERNET CONNECTION – NOT ON WIFI, NOT YOUR PHONE, NOT YOUR TABLET!**

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. **No cheating will be tolerated**.

WRITING ASSIGNMENT: You will complete **ONE** assignment associated with lecture, videos, and perhaps individual research. This will give students an opportunity to ‘play’ with the concepts, methods and knowledge introduced. The paper will be worth a maximum of **20 points**. Guidelines and links will be posted on BlackBoard. No assignments will be accepted that do not meet the specified criteria. **Late assignments will be reduced by 25% of the total points for each calendar day passed the due date (see table at the end of the syllabus)**. You will be required to use Turnitin for your submission. Please refer to the tutorial link on Blackboard (under Writing Assignment) to help with submission. **You are responsible for the Turnitin receipt** as proof of successful submission. If anything goes ‘amuck’ this may be needed for me to accept your assignment. (Yes, this does happen. And, yes, I have had students miss points because s/he did NOT get/keep the email receipt.)

SPECIAL 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. Students who believe they have a diagnosis but do not have documentation should contact ACCESS for assistance and/or appropriate referral. 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 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.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM: Cheating and plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. 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. 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.

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; also see your 'Start Here' button on BlackBoard.

- ❖ Remember that the person receiving your message is someone like you, someone who deserves and appreciates courtesy and respect.
- ❖ Be brief; succinct, thoughtful messages have the greatest impact.
- ❖ Your messages reflect on YOU; take time to make sure that you are proud of their form and content.
- ❖ Use descriptive subject headings in e-mail messages.
- ❖ 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, Internet 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; needless repetition is ineffective communication.
- ❖ Cite appropriate references whenever using someone else's ideas, thoughts, or words.

SEXUAL HARRASMENT: Since learning is best achieved in an environment of mutual respect and trust, the college has adopted a clear and firm policy prohibiting sexual harassment. Even though this is an online class, sexual harassment can, nonetheless, occur. Such conduct will not be tolerated in this class, and victims are encouraged to report any unwelcome sexual advances to appropriate school authorities (<http://www.siue.edu/policies/2c5.shtml> for more information).

GRADING:

Quizzes (11)	90 points
Writing Assignment	20 points
Exams (4)	110 points

TOTAL	220 points

GRADE SCALE:

A = 90-100%	(198 - 220 points)
B = 80-89%	(176 - 197 points)
C = 70-79%	(154 - 175 points)
D = 60-69%	(132 - 153 points)
F = 59-↓%	(0 - 131 points)

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

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Dates	Topics	Quiz	Quizzes--All Materials found on BlackBoard (yellow highlighted are videos)
16-19 Dec	Syllabus & Intro to Anthropology	1.	<i>Profile of an Anthropologist; How Climate Shaped Humanity</i>
	Language	2.	<i>Gift of Gab; The Writing on the Cave Wall; With & Without Words (56min)</i>
	Human Genetics	3.	<i>Resistance Movement; Curse and Blessing of the Ghetto; The Perfect Plague</i>
20-25 Dec	Human Variation and Adaptation & Primatology	4.	<i>Mixed Blood; Bushmeat; What Are Friends For?</i>
	Primatology	5.	<i>Titus: The Gorilla King (50min); Savanna Chimpanzees, Hunt with Tools; Mothers and Others</i>
	Archaeological Record	6.	<i>In Search of Fort St. Joseph (30min); Lost Cities of the Amazon</i>
26-31 Dec	Human Origins	7.	<i>Climate Effects on Human Evolution; First of Our Kind</i>
	Transitional Biped, <i>Homo erectus</i> , Archaic <i>Homo sapiens</i> , <i>Homo sapiens</i> , & Upper Paleo	8.	<i>Becoming Human: Birth of Humanity (52min); Twilight of the Neandertals; New Women of the Ice Age</i>
	Upper Paleo & Migrations	9.	<i>The Evolution of Grandparents; A Cave Beneath the Sea (26min); Who Were the First Americans?</i>
1-4 Jan	Domestication & Settlement; Cities & States	10.	<i>Superdirt Made Lost Amazon Cities Possible?; Guns, Germs, & Steel (Out of Eden) (55min); Dynasties of Power: China (51min)</i>
	Cities & States; And Now What??	11.	<i>Lofty Ambitions of the Inca; Why Did Mayan Civilization Collapse?; Powerful Partners</i>

QUIZZES, EXAMS AND PAPER WILL BE DUE 11:59pm

Exam 1	19 Dec, Thurs
Exam 2	25 Dec, Wed
Exam 3	31 Dec, Tues
<i>Before the Flood Paper</i>	3 Jan, Fri
Exam 4	4 Jan, Sat

Quizzes	
1	16 Dec
2	17 Dec
3	18 Dec
4	20 Dec
5	23 Dec
6	24 Dec
7	26 Dec
8	27 Dec
9	30 Dec
10	1 Jan
11	2 Jan
'slush Quiz'	3 Jan

FYI – If you do not take the syllabus quiz and Quiz 1, you will be dropped from the course.