



Anthropology & Geography Department

ANTH 2301 - Physical Anthropology

CRN 17645 – Summer I 2016

Distance Education Course

3 hour lecture course / 48 hours per semester/ 16 weeks

Instructor: Professor Laura Ayers

Instructor Contact Information: Please contact me by email at laura.ayers@hccs.edu. If HCC email is down or you do not receive a response in 24 hours, my alternate email is ProfAyers@gmail.com. *You must use your HCC student email when contacting me, per school policy.*

Department Contact Information: The department phone number is 713-718-5625. Secretary: Ms. Tomi Middleton (tomi.middleton@hccs.edu). Chair: Dr. Ann Bragdon (ann.bragdon@hccs.edu).

Office location and hours

Please feel free to contact me concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course.

You do not need to wait until you have received a poor grade before asking for my assistance.

Your performance in my class is very important to me. I am available to hear your concerns and just to discuss course topics. Feel free to come by my office anytime during these hours.

Spring Branch Campus-By appointment only. Virtual Office Hours in Canvas.

AskOnline Tutoring Service is available through HCC.

HCC Policy Statements

Access Student Services Policies on their Web site:

<http://central.hccs.edu/students/student-handbook/>

Course Description

ANTH2301 Physical Anthropology provides an overview of human origins and bio-cultural adaptations. Also introduces methods and theory in the excavation and interpretation of material remains of past cultures. (ACGM)

ANTH2301 Physical Anthropology explores the relationship between culture and biology through the methods, theory and research of biological anthropology. Students learn about basic mechanisms of genetic change in populations and the relationships between humans and the other primates. The appearance of humans and their bipedal ancestors approximately six million years ago and their culture history through the Paleolithic age are examined in detail. Students learn about biological variation and adaptation in human populations, responses to the environment, race, and other issues and their applications. Core Curriculum Course. (HCC Course Catalog)

Course Goal

To provide students with reliable knowledge about human cultural and biological evolution and variation with an anthropological approach and understanding of how that knowledge was gained.

Prerequisites

- a) Reading: Placement in co-requisite GUST 0342;
- b) Writing: Placement into ENGL 0310/0349

Student Learning Outcomes

- Apply the scientific method to empirical data and evaluate hypotheses
- Evaluate contrasting scientific viewpoints regarding the process of evolution.
- Explain the basic terms and processes of Mendelian genetics.
- Describe the structure of DNA and the process of mutation.
- Identify and define the forces of evolution.
- Describe at least one human biological variation that represents an adaptation to environmental factors.
- Distinguish between the major categories of the living primates.
- Describe variation in primate social behaviors and the reasons for that variation.
- Identify major trends in early primate evolution.
- Compare and contrast various Australopithecine and early *Homo* fossils and sites.
- Describe the skeletal characteristics and culture of *Homo erectus*.
- Compare early *Homo sapiens*, skeletally and culturally, to both *Homo erectus* and later *Homo sapiens*.
- Evaluate different theories, based on both skeletal and genetic evidence, regarding the origins of anatomically modern humans.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Describe key concepts and theories of physical anthropology.
2. Explain the principles and processes of human evolution.
3. Describe how the scientific method is used in physical anthropology.

Core Competency Objectives

- **Critical Thinking** – There will be one or more assignments in which students will have to demonstrate their ability to analyze and synthesize information involving scientific topics (e.g. genetics, human adaptation, human variation, human origins, primatology) and how they apply to hypothetical situations.
- **Communication Skills** – There will be one or more exercises in which students will have to demonstrate their competency in written and/or verbal communication skills with respect to lab topics (e.g. genetics, human adaptation, human variation, human origins, primatology).
- **Empirical and Quantitative** – There will be one or more exercises in which students will have to demonstrate their understanding of the scientific method, render observations into data, and perform basic computations using basic linear algebra, common and natural logarithms, and other college-level math.
- **Teamwork** – There will be one or more exercise where students will have to work together in small groups to analyze and evaluate data and research. Students will work in collaborative teams for all labs and will turn in a single assignment for each. They will be required to discuss differences in data that they observe and will need to account for observer bias. Students will be evaluated on the ability to work together, self-management, and cooperation.

HCC Core Curriculum

All students seeking an Associate in Arts (AA), Associate in Science (AS), or Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) degree are required to complete the core curriculum or a state-approved field of study curriculum. (See guidelines, *HCC 2011 College Catalogue*.)

Evaluation for CORE Competencies

Reading - Text, research for assignments, quizzes, exams.

Writing - Essays on exams, weekly discussion responses, writing assignments.

Listening - Film assignment; lecture on the Internet, and observation at zoo.

Critical Thinking - Quizzes, exams, written assignments, discussions, problem solving in exams/assignments, science news updates.

Computer Literacy - Internet competence in performing essential tasks of course.

Speaking - In class assignment.

HCC Grading Scale

A = 100 – 90;	4 points per semester hour
B = 89 – 80:	3 points per semester hour
C = 79 – 70:	2 points per semester hour
D = 69 – 60:	1 point per semester hour
59 and below = F	0 points per semester hour
IP (In Progress)	0 points per semester hour
W(Withdrawn)	0 points per semester hour
I (Incomplete)	0 points per semester hour
AUD (Audit)	0 points per semester hour

Textbooks and Required Materials

Physical Anthropology, 11th edition 2013
Stein and Rowe, ISBN: 978-0078035036

Textbooks may be purchased at any HCC bookstore **including Spring Branch/ Katy/Stafford /West Loop/Central campuses**. Call ahead to ensure that your text is in stock. Textbook rentals are an alternative to purchase – inquire at the bookstore. **NOTE:** A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Grade Distribution:

- 3 regular exams: 40%
 - Top 2 scores are 15% each, lowest score is 10%.
- Comprehensive Final: 20%
- “Big Idea” Assignments: 16% (4% each)
 - Four short “big idea” assignments (1-2 pages).
 - Grading rubrics always provided in instructions.
- Quizzes: 10%
 - Two lowest quizzes will be dropped.
- Assignments (includes discussions): 14%
- ***Extra credit opportunities will become available throughout the course. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of each and every one--the worst feeling at the end of the semester is to be borderline between two letter grades, and extra credit could have been that boost you needed to achieve that higher grade!***

Instructional Activities

- **Exams:** Exams will be in a multiple-choice, true/false, or fill in the blank format and will cover material from lecture, films, the text, and any additional assigned readings.
- **Comprehension Quizzes:** For each week there will be a short (5-10 questions) quiz. This is to let you know what kind of questions will be asked on the exam about the previous week's materials, as well as test your knowledge of the material.
- **Movie Worksheets:** You are required to watch the movie (15-60 minutes) and fill in the corresponding worksheet. Every student is expected to do their own work. **Sharing worksheets is not allowed and will result in a failing grade on the assignment for any students involved.**
- **“Big Idea” Assignments:** There will be 4 “big” assignments (1-2 page) required. Instructions for each will be announced in class and posted on Eagle Online as they arise. Please check the rubric in the instructions before submitting. **Plagiarism (including no in-text citation) on any paper will result in an automatic failing grade on the paper.**

Instructional Approach

For a student to successfully complete this course they must attend class, read the assigned materials each week, participate in discussion, and actively engage with the material. Students are expected to read the material. The textbook is a guide and support for lecture and discussion. It is not a given that all of the chapter material will be lectured on or discussed in class. Students though, are responsible for in-text material. The topics and material in biological anthropology can be difficult. Physical anthropology is influenced by a number of disciplines including, biology, environmental studies, anatomy, geology, nutrition, zoology, and cultural studies, therefore it is necessary to cover the material adequately on your own. You are responsible for all assigned readings and additional materials as they are introduced. Please do not stop completing your class work or drop the class without first talking with me. Dropping a course should be your last step. Be aware that dropping may impact your grade point average, financial aid, and health insurance policies (some require you to be a full-time 12-hour student). As an experienced instructor, there may be options that I can point out that have not occurred to you. I am here to help you, but you must be willing to help yourself. **Do not wait until the end of the semester to ask for advice. When you are successful as my student, I am successful as your instructor!**

To successfully complete this course, the student must be able to learn the material without the benefit of a lecture and laboratory session. Students are responsible for setting their own study pace for the course, but must comply with due dates for the exams and assignments (see below). **Just because this course is online and self-paced DOES NOT mean it is easier or less time consuming than other classes**, but it permits the student flexibility in arranging their study and testing schedule. The course may be completed at a faster or slower pace (within limits), depending on your individual schedules and needs. Any student who does not complete the assignments by their due dates will receive zeros for the assignments, unless they use their **one-time Spiderman Pass**. There will be no extensions for exams past the due dates except in cases of extreme emergency (e.g. military service, illness requiring hospitalization of self or dependent, etc.) which are up to the instructor's discretion, and will require documentation of the circumstances.

Drop/Late/Make-Up Policies

- Make-up exams, quizzes or assignments WILL NOT be given or accepted unless the absence can be demonstrated, in writing, to be excused according to instructor policy. Students must ask for a make-up and provide proof of excused absence in a timely manner. It is also advised that the student inform the instructor ahead of time of the absence, in person or by email.
 - **Excused absences are defined as followed: military service (with orders), documented illness of self/dependent, and funerals (with paperwork).**

- Transportation issues or work conflicts **typically do not count** as excused absences, as they cannot usually be documented. The instructor will use their discretion in special circumstances.
- If you have to miss an exam, please notify instructor and provide documentation so it can be arranged to take the exam with another class section that same week. If this is not possible, all make up exams will be administered through a testing center. Student must make arrangements with instructor and testing center prior to July 6th.
- Late assignments or papers without excused absences or use of Spiderman Extension WILL NOT be accepted under any circumstances. See “Classroom Policies” for information about late submissions.
- Every student will get **one** “Spiderman Pass: Life Happens” extension card. This will allow you to submit any module up to **24 hours** late. **You must submit the module within the 24-hour period, and tell me in the comments that you are using your extension. Extensions cannot be used on Exams.**
- After the date of record, dropping a class is YOUR responsibility-- Student must email instructor to request at any point before the deadline. Failure to attend will not result in a drop.
- **For this Class: Last day for administrative withdrawal is June 27 by 4:30 p.m.**

Classroom Policies

- Adult content, including discussions of sex and reproduction, is part of the course scope.
- Adult behavior is expected. Disruptive behavior/activities that interfere with teaching and/or learning will not be tolerated and may result in an administrative withdrawal without refund.
- Any student who receives below a 70% on an exam must meet with the instructor in office hours, virtual office hours, or by appointment within one week of the exam.
- Any student who uses their Canvas or HCC account to email the instructor the correct number of humans killed by hippos per year by June 6th at 11:59 pm will receive a perfect score on the Syllabus Quiz.
- As with any course, all of the work submitted in this course must be that of each individual student. Students **ARE NOT** permitted to collaborate in the completion of assignments by sharing answers or worksheets, nor are they permitted to assist each other by sharing questions or answers from the examinations. Any violation of this policy will be treated as cheating, will result in a failing grade on the assignment in question, and will be referred to HCC’s office of student academic honesty for investigation and disciplinary action.
- As you have plenty of time to complete your assignments and exams, personal computer problems and Canvas issues are NOT excuses to not have items turned in by the due dates. *There will be no individual extensions to any assignment beyond the Spiderman Pass, and no extension to exam without excused justification.* **Therefore, it is highly recommended that you complete assignments or exams BEFORE the day they are due, to have time to find solutions if personal computer problems or Canvas issues arise.**
- All assignments must be submitted electronically on through Eagle Online-Canvas.
 - Your file must be attached and open to be accepted. Files that are not attached or do not open correctly will not be accepted. The same policy for late files applies if your file does not open correctly or is not attached.
 - If Eagle Online is not working, student can email assignment to laura.ayers@hccs.edu from their HCC email address. Emails from non-HCC email addresses will not be opened or received.

Semester Outline of Content/Timeline

***Remember:** You can always work AHEAD of schedule, but cannot fall behind. If you wish the assignments were due at midnight, pretend they are due at midnight the night before.

Once again, it is highly recommended that you complete assignments or exams BEFORE the day they are due, to have time to find solutions if personal issues/computer problems/Canvas issues arise*

You are now a college student. It is your responsibility to keep up with due dates; do not expect reminders. Ignorance of the syllabus is no excuse.

**This is a tentative schedule for the semester, and is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

You will be alerted in class and/or by email of any changes to this schedule.**

Remember: all assignments are due by 5:00 pm unless stated otherwise!

Due Wednesday, June 8, 5 pm a) Start Here Module: Instructor Introduction, *Discussion: SuperHeroes*, *Assignment: Scavenger Hunt*, **Syllabus Quiz**.

b) Unit 1 - Topic: What is Anthropology? *Assignment: Class Agreement*. *Assignment: Mendelian Survey*. **Quiz 1**. Read Chapter: 1.

Due Friday, June 10, 5 pm Unit 2: Topic: The Biological Basis of Life. *Discussion: Mendelian Evaluation*. **Quiz 2**. Read Chapter: 2 and 3.

Due Monday, June 13, 5 pm. Unit 3: Topic: The Scientific Method and Anthropology. *Assignment: "A War on Science" movie worksheet*. *Discussion: Natural Selection*. **Quiz 3**. Read Chapter: 5 and 6.

EXAM 1 must be completed online in Canvas by **5:00 pm on Tuesday, June 14**.

Due Wednesday, June 15, 5 pm Unit 5: Topic: Population Genetics, Sexual Selection, and Taxonomy. **Big 1 Assignment: Evolution Example**. **Quiz 4**. Read Chapter: 4.

Due Friday, June 17, 5 pm Unit 6: Primate Characteristics, Classification and Behavior part 1. **Big 2 Assignment: OTA Essay**. **Quiz 5**. Read Chapters: 9.

Due Monday, June 20, 5 pm Unit 6: Primate Characteristics, Classification and Behavior part 2. **Big 3 Assignment: Primates Wiki Entry**. **Quiz 6**. Read Chapters: 7 and 8.

EXAM 2 must be completed online in Canvas by **5:00 pm on Tuesday, June 21**.

Due Wednesday, June 22, 5 pm (Last day to drop the course) Unit 7: Topic: Fossilization & Overview of Primate Evolution. *Assignment: "First Primates" movie worksheet*. **Quiz 7**. Read Chapters: 11 and 12.

Due Friday, June 24, 5 pm Unit 8 Topic: Hominid Origins. *Assignment: Becoming Human: Part 1 movie worksheet*. **Quiz 8**. Read Chapter: 13.

Due Monday, June 27, 5 pm (Last day to drop the course) Unit 9 Topic: Pre-modern Humans, Part I & II. *Assignment: Becoming Human: Part 2 movie worksheet*. **Quiz 9**. Read Chapter: 14.

Due Wednesday, June 29, 5 pm Unit 10 - Topic: Pre-modern Humans, Part II (cont), The Origin and Dispersal of Modern Humans. *Assignment: Becoming Human: Part 3*. **Quiz 10**. Read Chapter: 15.

Due Friday, July 1, 5 pm **Big 4 Assignment: Movie Evaluation**.

EXAM 3 must be completed online in Canvas by **5:00 pm on Saturday, July 2.**

Due Tuesday, July 5, 5 pm Unit 11 Topic: Human Variation and Adaptation. Assignment: "Race the Power of an Illusion" movie worksheet. **Quiz 11: Reading: Skin Deep.** Read Chapters: 16 and 17.

Comprehensive Final must be completed on paper at the testing center by Testing Center last exam time on Saturday, July 9.

Paper Exams will be given at:

Fridays, Central Campus: 4pm - 9pm; Last admit 7 pm
Saturdays, Alief Hayes Campus: 10am -3pm; Last admit 1 pm

Please start making arrangements immediately to attend one of these times/locations or to find another certified proctor location to take the exam.

HCC POLICIES

Houston Community College Mission Statement

The Houston Community College is an open-admission, public institution of higher education offering associate degrees, certificates, academic preparation, workforce training, and lifelong learning opportunities that prepare individuals in our diverse communities for life and work in an increasingly international and technological society. HCC will provide affordable and accessible education, university transfer and general education, workforce development, customized training, continuing education, adult literacy and developmental programs, personal enrichment opportunities, comprehensive student support services, and an environment conducive to learning.

Campus Safety

Until August 2017, firearms are prohibited on all HCC properties (including buildings, parking lots, and grounds). Students who violate state law and/or HCC policy will be subject to disciplinary and/or legal action (see HCC Student Code of Conduct for further information).

EGLS3 -- Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System

At Houston Community College, professors believe that thoughtful student feedback is necessary to improve teaching and learning. During a designated time, you will be asked to answer a short online survey of research-based questions related to instruction. The anonymous results of the survey will be made available to your professors and division chairs for continual improvement of instruction. Look for the survey as part of the Houston Community College Student System online near the end of the term.

Academic Honesty: Disciplinary provisions established in HCC guidelines will be followed with regard to scholastic honesty. Refer to the HCC Student Handbook for detailed rules and regulations. Failure to abide by the institutional code of honesty, referred to as "scholastic dishonesty", includes, but is not limited to, cheating (talking, passing notes, sharing answers) on tests, plagiarism, and collusion. Scholastic dishonesty will result in a "0" for the assignment on first offense. The second offense will result in an "F" for the course.

ADA – Disability Policy

Please inform me ASAP about any accommodation you will require for this course. Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty is authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office. For questions, please contact the Disability Counselor at your college. To visit the ADA Web site, please visit

<http://www.hccs.edu/district/students/disability-services/ada-counselors/>

HCC NW Counselors:

Lisa Parkinson: 713-718-5667 or lisa.parkinson@hccs.edu

Dr. LaRonda Ashford: 713-718-5408 or laronda.ashford@hccs.edu

HCC Course Withdrawal Policy

Beginning Fall 2007, the State of Texas imposes penalties on students who withdraw/drop courses excessively. Students are limited to no more than SIX total course withdrawals throughout their educational career at a Texas public college or university. Students are encouraged to review the [HCC 6 Drop Policy](#). To help you avoid having to withdraw from any class, contact your professor regarding your academic performance. You may also want to contact your counselor to learn about helpful HCC resources (e.g. online tutoring, child care, financial aid, job placement, etc.).

HOW TO DROP

- **If a student decides to withdraw from a class upon careful review of other options, the student can withdraw online prior to the deadline through their [HCC Student Center](#).**
- **HCC and/or professors may withdraw students for excessive absences without notification.**
- **Students should check HCC's Academic Calendar by Term for withdrawal dates and deadlines.**

Classes of other duration (flex-entry, 8-weeks, etc.) may have different final withdrawal deadlines. Please contact the HCC Registrar's Office at 713.718.8500 to determine mini-term class withdrawal deadlines.

- **For this Class: Last day for administrative withdrawal is April 5th by 4:30 p.m.**