

Anthropology 2E03

Introduction to Biological Anthropology

McMaster University

Fall (Term 1) 2019



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Office and Office Hours:

Chester New Hall (CNH) Room 536

Mondays 9:15-10:15am; Wednesdays 2:45-3:45pm



Course Description:

This course introduces students to biological anthropology, its subfields, and the methods and evidence that biological anthropologists use to investigate human origins. Each week, we will critically evaluate hypotheses, evidence, and concepts related to human origins, evolution, and variation in the past and present. The biological and genetic basis for inheritance and evolutionary change will be reviewed. Changes in living and fossilized human and non-human primates will be studied in order to better understand human origins and variation.

Throughout the course we will also explore the complex interaction between culture and biology and how this has led to the development of variation among modern humans. The adaptation of humans to different environments and diets will be discussed, and the meaning of 'race' from a biological and socio-cultural perspective will be critically evaluated.

This course includes a practical laboratory component. Weekly labs/tutorials will provide students with hands-on experience with the methods and observations that biological anthropologists use to investigate human variation and evolution. **This class is a prerequisite for advanced courses in biological/physical anthropology and is a required course for degrees in anthropology**

Class Schedule & Format:

Lectures: Monday & Wednesday 10:30-11:20am T13 123

Labs: Mondays (see below) CNH 407

Laboratory Sessions:

L01	L02	L03	L04	L05	L06
9:30-10:20	11:30-12:20	12:30-13:20	13:30-14:20	14:30-15:20	15:30-16:20

(Please only attend the laboratory session you are enrolled in)

Required Texts:

Keenleyside, A. and Lazenby, R. (2015). *A Human Voyage: Exploring Biological Anthropology*, 2nd ed. Toronto: Nelson Education. ISBN: 978-0-17-653191-1.

Available in Titles Bookstore in book form or as an e-book. If you wish to purchase the e-book, you can find cards with the access code on the shelf next to the textbooks at the bookstore.

Learning Objectives

At the end of this course you will be able to:

- Understand what biological anthropology is and how academic and applied biological anthropologists use valid, scientific research (e.g., hypothesis testing) to investigate human origins and variability
- Articulate how biological anthropologists study human origins, evolution, and variation using evidence from living and fossil non-human primates, hominid fossils, archaeological skeletons, and contemporary humans
- Explain how traits are inherited and summarize and compare the mechanisms of evolution
- Describe and compare the evidence for evolutionary change in living and fossilized human and non-human primates
- Evaluate the evidence in support of different hypotheses for the population of Europe/Asia and the Americas
- Critique the concept of biological race and discuss how this idea is changing in anthropology
- Justify and use specific examples to explain the complex interaction between biology and culture

Teaching Assistants

To Be Announced

See contact information posted on Avenue to Learn

Assessments:

Assessment	Due Date	Percent of Total Grade
Lab Attendance and Participation	-	5%
Find, Cite, & Paraphrase a Bioanthropology Article	September 23 rd	5%
Midterm Exam	October 23 rd	25%
Critical Thinking Assignment	November 13 th	25%
Lab/Course Reflection Assignment	November 27 th	15%
Final Exam	TBA	25%
Total		100%

Assignments must be submitted via Avenue to Learn. Assignments submitted via email **will not be accepted**. No extensions will be given unless accompanied by written certification, approved by your faculty office.

Policy on late/missed exams and assignments:

You are responsible for completing all of the learning assessments on the dates for which they are scheduled.

Late Penalties: Late assignments will be penalized at 15% per day. Late assignments will not be accepted after 5 days (including weekends) beyond the original deadline.

In the event of missed course work and/or exam(s) for medical or other reasons, the student must review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”. <https://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf/>

Rules governing the MSAF are as follows:

- The timeframe within which the MSAF is valid has been reduced from 5 days to 3 days.
- The upper limit for when an MSAF can be submitted has been reduced from ‘less than 30%’ to ‘less than 25%’ of the course weight.
- The ‘one MSAF per term’ limit is retained.
- As per the policy, an automated email will be sent to the course instructor, who will determine the appropriate relief. **Students must immediately follow up with their instructors. Failure to do so may negate the opportunity for relief.**

Note: All work in this class must be completed.

GRADES IN THIS COURSE WILL NOT BE RE-WEIGHTED.

In the event of a MSAF, a MSAF simply gives you an extension on work missed.

Please note – all deferred and makeup exams will be in essay format – no multiple choice.

Online elements:

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

Course Materials & Avenue to Learn

Please familiarize yourself with the Avenue to Learn website. It can be accessed at: avenue.mcmaster.ca . Check Avenue to Learn frequently for course announcements.

Lectures will be delivered using PowerPoint. **Abbreviated** PDF versions of the lecture PowerPoints will be posted on Avenue to Learn after each lecture.

Week	Date	Topic(s)	Readings
1	Sept 4	Introduction to Biological Anthropology	Ch 1
2	Sept 9 & 11	History of Evolutionary Thought Evolution: Inheritance, & Variation	Ch 2, Ch 3
3	Sept 16 & 18	Evolution: Species & Mechanisms	Ch 4
4	Sept 23 & 25	Living Non-Human Primates Primate Behaviour <i>Find, Cite, Paraphrase Due Sept 23rd (5%)</i>	Ch 5, Ch 6
5	Sept 30 & Oct 2	Fossil Non-Human Primates Bipedalism	Ch 7 Ch 8
6	Oct 7 & 9	Early Hominins (<i>Sahlethropus, Orrorin, Adripithecus, Australopiths</i> , etc.)	Ch 9
7	Oct 14 & 16	Reading Week – No Classes	
8	Oct 21 & 23	Early <i>Homo</i> (<i>Homo habilis, H. erectus, H. floresiensis, H. naledi</i>) <i>MIDTERM October 23rd (25%) (examines weeks 1-5)</i>	Ch 10
9	Oct 28 & 30	Early Homo Continued Archaic Hominins (e.g., <i>Homo antecessor</i> , Neanderthals)	Ch 11
10	Nov 4 & 6	Archaic Hominins Continued Anatomically Modern Humans (incl. Migration & Movement)	Ch 12
11	Nov 11 & 13	Modern Human Diversity Human Adaptability, Race & Skin Colour, Nutritional Anthropology <i>Critical Thinking due Nov 13th (25%)</i>	Ch 13, Ch 14 (p. 316-337)
12	Nov 18 & 20	Bioarchaeology (stories from skeletons)	Ch 14 (p. 337-346)
13	Nov 25 & 27	Applied Biological Anthropology (Medical, Forensic, Evolutionary, etc) <i>Lab/Course Reflection Assignment due Nov 27th (15%)</i>	Ch 15
14	Dec 2 & 4	Content Overflow & Review for Final Exam	-
-		<i>Final Exam in Exam Period (25%)</i>	-

Note on modification to course materials:

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Student Behaviour and Responsibilities:

Your learning – it is your responsibility to **keep up with the readings** – do not leave them until the night before the exams. Attendance in this class (both lectures and labs) is **essential** if you want to do well in this course. You are expected to think about the readings and integrate them into the information and concepts presented during lecture.

Classroom behavior – Please **do not be afraid to ask questions** or provide constructive comments! If you do not understand something, or if I have gone over a concept too fast, stop me and ask a question. Chances are if you do not understand something, other people in the class are in the same position.

Please ensure that **cell phones are turned off** (including text messaging, Facebook, Twitter, etc...) and **arrive on time for class**. If you have to leave class early, please sit near one of the exits.

Laptop computers may be used in class for taking notes, but students using their computers for any other purpose (e.g., checking Facebook) will be asked to turn their computers off.

Please be polite to your neighbours and **keep conversation to a minimum**.

Faculty of social sciences e-mail communication policy:

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. **If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.**

Email Forwarding in MUGSI: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/support/email/emailforward.html>

*Forwarding will take effect 24-hours after students complete the process at the above link

(Approved at the Faculty of Social Sciences meeting on Tues. May 25, 2010)

I will check my email throughout the work-week and will strive to respond within approximately **48 hours**. Please put **2E03 in the subject line** of your email and **include your name and student number** at the end of all correspondence.

Academic dishonesty:

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g., the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, Appendix 3, www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g., the submission of work that is not one’s own for which other credit has been obtained. (Insert specific course information, e.g., style guide)
2. Improper collaboration in group work. (Insert specific course information)
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Turnitin.com (Avenue to learn)

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal plagiarism. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically to Turnitin.com and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work to Turnitin.com must still submit a copy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity

USE OF COMPUTERS: Computer use in the classroom is intended to facilitate learning in that particular lecture or tutorial. At the discretion of the instructor, students using a computer for any other purpose may be required to turn the computer off for the remainder of the lecture or tutorial.

Academic accommodation for religious, indigenous or spiritual observances (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students requiring a RISO accommodation should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

Academic accommodation of students with disabilities:

Academic Skills Counselling and Services for Students with Disabilities are available through the Student Accessibility Services (SAS)

Tel: 905-525-9140 x28652

Email: sas@mcmaster.ca

Website: <http://sas.mcmaster.ca>

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University's Policy for Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities.

AODA:

If you require this information in an alternate/accessible format, please contact Marcia Furtado at 905-525-9140 extension 24423 or email furtam1@mcmaster.ca