SYLLABUS - ANT 301 (31090)

HONORS INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Spring Semester 2012

PROFESSOR: Dr. Chris Kirk
Office: **SAC 5.154**
Email: eckirk@mail.utexas.edu
Office hours: Thursday 2-3 PM

LECTURES: Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM **SAC 5.172**

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

1. *How Humans Evolved* - 6th Edition - by Boyd and Silk
WW Norton & Co., 2012
Available bound, looseleaf, and as an e-book

2. *Apes of the Impenetrable Forest* - by Craig Stanford
Pearson Prentice Hall, 2008

3. *The Socioecology of Adult Female Patas Monkeys and Vervets in Kenya* - by Jill Pruetz
Pearson Prentice Hall, 2009

4. *Missing Links: In Search of Human Origins* - by John Reader
Oxford University Press, 2011

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Physical anthropology is the study of the behavior, ecology, and evolution of primates (including humans). This course is intended to provide an introduction to the field and an overview of its sub-disciplines. We will begin with a survey of living primates. The remaining course material will be divided between 1) primate behavior and ecology, 2) macroevolution, and 3) primate and human evolution. In-class lab exercises will generally expand on concepts presented in lectures, and will provide students with an opportunity for hands-on exploration of skeletal and fossil materials.

ON-LINE MATERIALS:

Some readings or lab materials may be made available on-line through Blackboard at **http://courses.utexas.edu/**

CLASS LECTURES WILL NOT BE MADE AVAILABLE ON-LINE, AND WILL NOT BE PROVIDED TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE MISSED LECTURES.

GRADING:

There will be three exams covering all lectures, labs, and reading assignments. All exams will be non-cumulative. THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM.

DO NOT MISS AN EXAM. Make-up exams will be given ONLY when medical or family emergencies (such as a death in the family) can be documented. If you miss an exam due to an emergency, you must contact your professor ASAP and provide documentation within 5 days of the exam. FYI: If you are sick on and exam day, don't ask the Student Health nurse who schedules your appointment for a note – get one from the physician who sees you.

If you have any questions about your grade on any exam, I will be happy to recheck your whole exam if it was completed in indelible ink. Simple errors of grading (e.g., incorrect addition) will be corrected immediately. More complicated issues should be addressed in writing within 3 days after the return of the exams. Please include the exam with your request. You have 3 days after the exams have been returned to you to notify Prof. Kirk of any errors or disagreements. After that, grades are final. Your grade for the semester will be based on the following four components:

Exam 1 ---------- 30%
Exam 2 ---------- 30%
Exam 3 ---------- 30%
Lab / Discussion exercises and participation ------- 10%

Final Grade Ranges:
A = 100-90; **B** = 89-80; **C** = 79-70; **D** = 69-60; **F** = 59 and below

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOLLOWING GRADING POLICIES WILL BE ENFORCED:

- Final letter grades are assigned according to the integer ranges shown above. Pluses and minuses will not be assigned for final grades.
- All grades for the semester are final and non-negotiable. Students will not be provided with any opportunities for bonus work to increase their final grade.
- Documentation of excused absences from an exam will not be considered more than 5 days after the date of the exam.

CHEATING POLICY:

During exams, students will not be permitted to wear hats or use electronic devices of any kind (including, but not limited to, cell phones and ipods). *All exams must be completed using a pen with indelible ink, or you will forfeit any opportunity to request a re-grade of your exam.*

BE ADVISED that on exam days, students will only be allowed to take a pen to their seat. All backpacks, book bags, purses, etc. must be left at the front of the classroom.

Without exception, any student found cheating on an exam will receive a grade of zero for the exam and will be referred to the dean's office for further disciplinary action. Note that any attempt to alter a graded, returned exam in order to improve the score will be considered cheating and will result in a grade of zero for the exam.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:

If you require special accommodations for exams (e.g., a reduced-distraction environment or extra time), you must contact your instructor and teaching assistant IN ADVANCE in order to discuss the necessary arrangements. There will be no exceptions to this rule. Proof of qualification for accommodations from the UT Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) office must be provided.

A student is free *not* to use an approved accommodation. However, if a student opts out of an accommodation for one exam and then decides to use it for another exam, it is the responsibility of the student to make advance arrangements with the professor and TAs.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS***

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS	
17 Jan (Tue)	Introduction & Primate Characteristics	B&S Ch. 5	
19 Jan (Thu)	Prosimians	B&S Ch. 5	
24 Jan (Tue)	Monkeys	B&S Ch. 5	
26 Jan (Thu)	Hominoids	B&S Ch. 5	
31 Jan (Tue)	Intro to Primate Ecology	B&S Ch. 6-7	Pruetz and Stanford
2 Feb (Thu)	Group-Living and Mating Systems	B&S Ch. 6-7	Pruetz and Stanford
2 Feb (Tue)	Socioecology and Sociobiology	B&S Ch. 6-7	Pruetz and Stanford
9 Feb (Thu)	Social Behavior	B&S Ch. 6-7	Pruetz and Stanford
14 Feb (Tue)	Primate Intelligence	B&S Ch. 8	Pruetz and Stanford
16 Feb (Thu)	**EXAM 1**		
21 Feb (Tue)	History of Evolutionary Thought	B&S Ch. 1-3	
23 Feb (Thu)	Darwin and the Modern Synthesis	B&S Ch. 1-3	
28 Feb (Tue)	Macroevolution Part 1	B&S Ch. 4	
1 Mar (Thu)	Macroevolution Part 2	B&S Ch. 4	
6 Mar (Tue)	Euarchonta	B&S Ch. 9	
8 Mar (Thu)	Fossil Prosimians	B&S Ch. 9	
12-16 March	**SPRING BREAK**		
20 Mar (Tue)	Fossil Anthropoids	B&S Ch. 9	
22 Mar (Thu)	Fossil Hominoids	B&S Ch. 9	
27 Mar (Tue)	Intro to Human Evolution	B&S Ch. 10-11; Reader	
29 Mar (Thu)	**EXAM 2**		
3 Apr (Tue)	Australopithecines	B&S Ch. 10-11; Reader	
5 Apr (Thu)	Australopithecines	B&S Ch. 10-11; Reader	
10 Apr (Tue)	Australopithecines	B&S Ch. 10-11; Reader	
12 Apr (Thu)	**NO CLASS**		
17 Apr (Tues)	Early *Homo*	B&S Ch. 12-13; Reader	
19 Apr (Thu)	Middle Pleistocene *Homo*	B&S Ch. 12-13; Reader	
24 Apr (Tue)	Middle Pleistocene *Homo*	B&S Ch. 12-13; Reader	
26 Apr (Thu)	Neanderthals	B&S Ch. 12-13; Reader	
1 May (Tue)	Modern Human Origins	B&S Ch. 12-13; Reader	
3 May (Thu)	**EXAM 3**		

*****Note – This schedule of topics is approximate, and is likely to change. Additional readings may also be assigned.**