

Ant 348: Human Origins and Evolution (31730, 31735, 31740, 31745)

Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR: John Kappelman

Office: SAC 5.160: telephone: 471-0055; office hours M W 10-11 am or by appointment

Web Site: <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/anthropology/faculty/jwk5664>

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Chris Davis

Office: SAC 5.170: telephone: 232-3905; office hours: W 12-2 pm or by appointment

LECTURE MEETINGS: M and W: 11-12 pm in SAC 5.172

LABORATORY MEETINGS: M 1-3 pm (31735); F 12-2 pm (31730); F 2-4 pm (31740); F 4-6 pm (31745), all in SAC 5.172

COURSE WEB SITE: <http://www.utexas.edu/cc/blackboard>

We will use Blackboard for lecture and lab announcements, assignments and notices. You need to have an UTEID to access the Blackboard site.

INTRODUCTION: This course examines the evidence for the origin and evolution of humans with particular emphasis placed on reconstructing the paleobiology of extinct hominins. Lectures draw upon a diverse range of disciplines (anatomy, archaeology, ecology, ethology, genetics, geology, paleontology) and integrate these topics into a framework for understanding the history of this unusual group of primates. The laboratories provide the student with an opportunity to examine firsthand the fossil evidence for human evolution.

READINGS: The following textbooks are required for the course:

Klein, R.G. 2009. *The Human Career*. The University of Chicago Press. Second edition.

Kappelman, J. 2007. *Virtual Laboratories in Physical Anthropology*. Wadsworth Publishing Company. Edition 4.0 (CD ROM or online access code). If you have purchased Virtual Labs for another course, it will probably still work.

Sourcebook and lab materials. A number of required articles from the primary literature along with the laboratory readings and assignments are available on Blackboard.

The following popular books are optional for the course and can be found in the UT library:

Arsuaga, J. 2002. *Neanderthal Necklace: In Search of the First Thinkers*.

Lewin, R. 1993. *Human Evolution: An Illustrated Introduction, Third edition*.

Aiello, L. and Dean, C. 1990. *Human Evolutionary Anatomy*.

Reader, J. 1981. *Missing Links: The Hunt for Earliest Man*.

EXAMINATIONS: The two exams are computer-based multimedia exams and are administered during regular lab times. A take-home open book essay question is assigned with each.

GRADING: Course material is introduced during lecture, and weekly laboratory problem sets serve to highlight specific topics. The final grade for the course (no + or -) is calculated as follows:

1. Laboratory and Readings Assignments 40%
2. Examination #1 20%
3. Examination #2 30%
4. Class and Lab Participation 10%

TOTAL 100%

A 348 Lecture Schedule

Jan. 13	Brief introduction to the course
Jan. 15	Observations on Human Evolution I
Jan. 20	Observations on Human Evolution II
Jan. 22	Natural Selection I
Jan. 27	Natural Selection II
Jan. 29	Adaptation
Feb. 3	Geological Dating Techniques
Feb. 5	Miocene Hominoids
Feb. 10	Hominoid Phylogeny
Feb. 12	Climates and Environments of the Late Miocene
Feb. 17	Early Hominins of Africa
Feb. 19	Hominin bipedalism
Feb. 24	Early Hominin Paleobiology
Feb. 26	Early Hominin Phylogeny
Mar. 3	The World of Taung
Mar. 5	Early <i>Homo</i>
Mar. 7	EXAM #1 given during lab times (includes all material through the lecture of 26 Feb. and Lab 5) TAKE HOME ESSAY #1: available on 3 March and due on 7 March
Mar. 10-15	Spring Break (no lecture or lab)
Mar. 17	<i>Homo erectus</i>
Mar. 19	Archaic <i>Homo sapiens</i> I
Mar. 24	Archaic <i>Homo sapiens</i> II
Mar. 26	Lower and Middle Paleolithic Archaeology I
Apr. 2	Lower and Middle Paleolithic Archaeology II
Apr. 7	Modern <i>Homo sapiens</i>

Apr. 8-12	Paleoanthro and AAPA Meetings in Calgary
Apr. 9	The Evolution of Brain Size and Body Mass
Apr. 14	Late Pleistocene Archaeology /Paleolithic Art
Apr. 16	Humans enter the New World
Apr. 21	Sedentism and the Rise of Agriculture
Apr. 23	Modern Human Adaptations I
Apr. 23-27	SAA meetings in Austin
Apr. 28	Modern Human Adaptations II
Apr. 30	Concluding Remarks
May 2	EXAM #2 given during lab times TAKE HOME ESSAY #2: available on 28 April and due on 2 May

WEBSITES:

Other websites that you will find useful include in the study of the course materials:

The primate skeleton: www.eSkeletons.org

The famous fossil Lucy: www.eLucy.org

The human fossil record: www.eFossils.org

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students who cheat not only cheat themselves but also cheat other students in the course and the University. This course has a zero tolerance policy for cheating. Any student found cheating (e.g., discussing or exchanging answers on exams or lab assignments, submitting work on behalf of another student, etc.) will receive an F in the course and be directed to the appropriate University authorities. To review the UT policy, see <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/>

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

16 January	Last day of official add/drop period
29 January	Twelfth Class Day
11-15 March	Spring Break
28 April	Last day a student may, with dean's approval, withdraw or change pass/fail status

LABORATORY SCHEDULE

<u>Week of:</u>	<u>Lab topic</u>
Jan. 13 - 17	No Lab Meetings
Jan. 20 - 24	Lab 1: An introduction to primates. Taxonomy, body size and allometry, diet, biomechanics, behavior. (review CD 1-5)
Jan. 27 - 31	Lab 2: Methods in digital functional morphology.
Feb. 3 - 7	Lab 3: Fossil Hominoidea of the Miocene Period. Origins, adaptations and phylogeny. Are there any Miocene hominins? (CD 7)
Feb. 10 - 14	Lab 4: Molecular phylogenetics. DNA-DNA hybridization, mitochondrial DNA, immunological studies, sequencing studies. What do molecules tell us about primate phylogeny? (CD 2)
Feb. 17 - 21	Lab 5: The australopithecines. Origins of bipedalism. Sexual dimorphism. Diet. (CD 8 & 9)
Feb. 24 - 28	Lab 6: The origin of <i>Homo</i> . Changes in postcranial, cranial, and dental anatomy. (CD 10)
Mar. 3 - 7	Exam #1 given during regular lab hours (no formal lab)
Mar. 10 - 15	Spring Break
Mar. 17 - 21	Lab 7: <i>Homo erectus</i> and archaic <i>Homo sapiens</i> . Further increases in brain size. Hominins expand their range. Who were the Neanderthals? (CD 10)
Mar. 24 - 28	Lab 8: Hominin systematics. Cladistics on the computer.
Mar. 31 - April 4	Lab 9: The origin of modern humans. Paleontological and molecular evidence. The "Eve" hypothesis and mtDNA. (CD 12)
Apr. 8-12	No labs (Paleoanthropology and AAPA meetings, Calgary, Canada)
Apr. 14 - 18	Lab 10: Paleolithic archaeology. Faunal analysis. (CD 11)
Apr. 21 - 25	Lab 11: Modern Humans. Skeletal Biology: Studies of form and function on the computer (CD 12)
Apr. 23 - 27	SAA meetings in Austin
Apr. 28 - May 2	Exam #2 given during regular lab hours

INTRODUCTION TO THE LABORATORIES

The laboratory sections of this course are designed to provide you with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with the materials and methods of paleoanthropology. Because such experience is vital to a better understanding of the course of human evolution, the grade you receive in lab will account for 40% of your total grade in the class. It is essential that you attend lab. The following guidelines will be followed for lab sections:

- 1) All lab assignments are due at the **beginning** of the following week's lab.
- 2) **NO** late lab homework will be accepted unless a documented and verifiable excuse (e.g., doctor's note, obituary, etc.) is provided by the student. If you anticipate a difficulty ahead of time, or have a documented conflict as a consequence of a university activity, you should contact the TA or professor **ASAP**.
- 3) You must attend the lab section for which you are registered. If an unforeseen problem arises and you cannot attend this lab, talk to the TA in order to see if you can attend a different session. Your lab assignment will still be due at the beginning of the lab section that you are registered for.
- 4) While we encourage you to interact and exchange ideas with other students, the lab assignments that you submit **must be your own work**.

COURSE POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students who cheat not only cheat themselves but also cheat other students in the course and harm the reputation of the University. **Any student found cheating will receive an F in the course** and will be directed to the appropriate University authorities for additional sanctions that may include dismissal from the University. Please see the [Honor Code](#) to review the UT policy.

Students **ARE NOT** permitted to copy by any means down exam questions, **ARE NOT** permitted to copy by any means down the answers to the exam questions, and **ARE NOT** permitted share this information with another student(s). Students **ARE NOT** permitted to discuss the content of the exams with each other, and this includes all possible venues (informal hallway chat, websites, forums, Facebook, etc.).

Students **ARE NOT** permitted to discuss or share laboratory assignments and answers with another student(s), **ARE NOT** permitted to collaborate on the completion of these assignments unless specifically directed to do so, and **ARE NOT** permitted to submit assignments for one another.

A student(s) who requests any exam or lab information puts the other students in the course at risk and will receive an F in the course even if no information is supplied by other students.

This course has a zero tolerance policy for cheating. Any questions about the lab assignments and exams should be directed to the professor and teaching assistant, NOT to your fellow students.