

Physical Anthropology (Anth&205)

Section W09 5141

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Instructor

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Course Description

Anthropology 205 offers an anthropological view of how human biological characteristics arose, our relation to non-human primates, and how we continue to be shaped by evolutionary forces. Major topics include human genetics, adaptation, monkeys and apes, fossil evidence for human evolution, and the study of biological diversity in contemporary human populations. Note: Fulfills natural science course requirement at Bellevue College.

Course Objectives

1. To introduce the history of evolutionary theory
2. To establish the position of humankind among life form on earth
3. To review the major fossil discoveries and current interpretations as to the phylogeny of humanity
4. To explain human physical diversity through biology
5. To explore the biocultural approach.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

To demonstrate an understanding of the historical contexts and consequences of natural science and social science concepts developed for and directed at a holistic and comparative approach to human behavior.

1. To recognize, identify and use the scientific method, in particular the principles of biocultural evolution, and to distinguish coherent arguments based on such principles from other claims.

2. To show knowledge of the general elementary principles of molecular, Mendelian and population genetics and their synthesis with evolutionary explanation.
3. To apply contemporary concepts in human biocultural variation, and distinguish such approaches from older paradigmatic formulations.
4. To recognize behaviors found throughout the primate order with particular attention to the social ecology of primate behavior.
5. To compare the gross anatomy of modern hominids and non-human primates and gain knowledge of their taxonomic classification.
6. To demonstrate detailed paleoanthropological knowledge of fossil hominoids and hominids, enabling the contrast, comparison and construction of hypothetical phylogenetic interpretations of hominid lineages and the selective evaluation of competing theories of hominization.

Academic Honesty

The College regards acts of academic dishonesty, including such activities as plagiarism, cheating and/or violations of integrity in information technology, as serious offenses. In the event that cheating, plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty are discovered, each incident will be handled as deemed appropriate.

Course Materials

Text book: Essentials of Physical Anthropology, 7th edition. Robert Jurmain, Lynn Kilgore, Wenda Trevathan, Cengage Learning.

Online Lectures and links to websites

The online lecture note and reading material are organized into ten weeks as indicated below. The content of the course is in the lecture notes, the links to website and the textbook. They are designed to complement and enhance each other to support your learning experience. You need to go over all this information to do well in this course. I will draw from all the sources when giving you questions in the discussion, quizzes and exams.

Equipment and Skills Requirements

Basic skills

Taking an online course requires basic computer literacy and little more. You must be proficient in navigating the Web and may have to be able to download

and install plug-ins and have a reliable Internet Service Provider. You need to be able to write on a word processor, save, copy and paste documents in another application, and attach documents to email and retrieve them.

Software

Word Processor. Microsoft Word is the only word processor supported at BCC. You must use Microsoft Word to prepare any documents to be submitted by attachment. Documents submitted in Microsoft Works or other formats that cannot be read by Word will not be accepted.

Web Browser. You must use a Web browser supported by Blackboard and it must be properly “tuned”. Information about supported browsers and how to tune them is posted on the section “Welcome to the Online Learning” of **Getting Started**.

Course Schedule

See calendar

Course Assumptions

It is an interaction between the instructor and the students. The instructor takes responsibility for the overall goals and direction of the course, the material, pacing, lessons, and assessment. But the students must take responsibility for their own learning. They must bring questions to the table, and act critically upon the material course. Learning cannot be passive.

Online courses are in many ways more focused and intensive learning communities than those encountered in a classroom on the campus. You will be reading, writing and communicating intensively with your fellow class members.

You should log into the classroom at least once a day (or more) to receive the week assignments, read email, post commentaries and other assignments, and read and discuss the work of others.

Course Assignments and means of assessment

In order to receive credit for the course, students must complete all of the following.

Class participation (Discussions)

This refers to your contribution to the online discussions on topics in Biological Anthropology. I will open (and close) forums for discussions on topics in as we move through the course. Each week you should:

1. Post detailed, comprehensive and well cited answers of the discussion questions asked on the discussion board, and at least 10 additional (though much shorter) messages in reply to other student's answers or replies. (You will meet one of the discussion questions as an essay on each

quiz, so the work you do in discussion will materially benefit your grade on the quizzes and exams.)

2. Clearly contribute information to further understanding of the concepts involved in the readings.
3. Derive information only from sources and properly cite sources (author and title) and page, table or figure numbers if available.
4. Exhibit a correct and comprehensive understanding of the issues, given that late messages can be used to revise earlier ones.
5. Be courteous and “scientific” in attitude (see Class Courtesy and Scientific Approach in “Course Info”)

Quizzes

9 quizzes will be given, once a week (one practice quiz not graded and 8 quizzes graded). They will usually be accessible from Friday morning through midnight Sunday each week (except for the week of the midtem when it will be available earlier). Quizzes are timed and consist of (1) multiple-choice questions drawn from the texts and lectures and (2) one or two essay questions that will be very similar to the discussion questions for the week.

Midtem and Final exams

These two exams will be timed-limited multiple-choice and essay questions which will be posted mid-quarter and at the end of the course. Each exam will cover one-half of the course materials (see calendar for days and times). You will have two hours to complete each of these two exams.

Grading

Assignments	Total points	% of the Grade
Discussion: 9 @ 20 points each	180	18%
Quizzes: 8@ 40 points each	320	32%
Midtem Exam 1@250 points	250	25%
Final Exam 1 @ 250 points	250	25%
Total	1000	100%

Grades

Letter	% scale
A	100%-95%

94%-90%	A-
89%-87%	B+
86%-83%	B
82%-80%	B-
79%-77%	C+
76%-74%	C
73%-70%	C-
69%-67%	D+
66%-60%	D
50%-59%	D-
<50%	F
W	Official Withdrawal
HW	Hardship Withdrawal
I	Incomplete

Grade Policy

Official grade policy is given in the BCC Student handbook, in print or online at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/catalog/enroll/grades.asp>. Grades A through D are passing grades in the course. The grade W is an official withdrawal from the course and is only given by the college, not by the instructor. If you withdraw from the course by the 10th day of the quarter there will be no indication on your transcript. If you officially withdraw after the 10th day but before the end of the 7th week, you will receive a W on your transcript. To officially withdraw from an online class, you must contact the Registration Office and withdraw from the course via any approved media (see the BCC course catalog, in print or at <http://www.bcc.ctc.edu/enrollment/registration/withdrawing/>). If you simply stop doing the class online, or attempt to delete the course from myBlackboard directory, you will still be officially registered in the class. This usually results in receiving a final grade of F in the course.

A Hardship Withdrawal (HW) after the official withdrawal period is over can be given by the instructor to students who have achieved a passing grade up to the time of the request and can demonstrate extenuating circumstances. Normally this is given only when medical or other unavoidable emergencies preclude finishing the course. A confirming note from a medical practitioner may be required.

An Incomplete (I) grade can be given, at the instructor's discretion, to students who have achieved a grade C or better through the 10th week of the class but cannot complete the final exam due to extenuating circumstances. Granting of the incomplete is purely the prerogative of the instructor. An I will be posted to the transcript when submitted by the instructor with a contractual form that specifically indicates the work the student must complete to make up the deficiency and the date by which the deficiency must be resolved. The work for

the course must be made up by the end of the next quarter. If the students fails to complete the designated assignment, an F grade will be posted.

Some Words on plagiarism

Plagiarism may be defined as copying something that someone else has written, or using someone else's idea, without permission and without citing the source. The source may be either a published article, book, Web site, **or the work of another student**. All Assignments submitted must be the student's own work. Whenever you have the occasion to use someone else's words, even if only a single phrase, you must indicate this fact by quotation marks and by a citation. If you paraphrase a source, you must cite the source and page number directly after the paraphrase. Somewhere in your document (be it commentary, discussion, or an exam), usually at the bottom, you must fully document **all** the sources, giving the author's full name, the publication date, the title of the article or book, the title of the publication if it is an article, the publisher or the full URL to the Web site. If you borrow without acknowledging a source you are plagiarizing. Please do not try to pass off someone else's work as your own!

BCC has an account with Turnitin.com and all suspect cousework will be submitted, via the BCC Library Media Center, to that company for evaluation. <http://turnitin.com/> and <http://www.plagiarism.org/>.

Penalty for plagiarism

Students who are found to have plagiarized will receive F in the course , or a lesser penalty, at the instructor's discretion. Don't let something like this damage your career. If in doubt, cite; if still in doubt, ask.

I look forward to working with you this quarter

Isabelle Sarton Miller Ph.D.