

San José State University
Social Sciences/Anthropology Department
ANTH154, Monkeys, Apes, and Humans, Section 01, Fall,
2009

Instructor:	Dr. Elizabeth Weiss
Office Location:	CL404R
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Email:	eweiss@email.sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	TR 1500 – 1630; W 1245-1445 (Or available by appointment via prior arrangement)
Class Days/Time:	Wednesday 1500 - 1745
Classroom:	WSQ 004
Prerequisites:	Any lower division anthropology or psychology course or instructor consent.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page accessible through the Quick Links>Faculty Web Page links on the SJSU home page. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor).

Course Description

Behavior, ecology and evolution of our closest animal relatives, the nonhuman primates. Interpretive emphasis toward broader understanding of human evolution and behavior.

We are members of an extremely interesting order of mammals, primates. This course will cover the various primate groups, highlighting their anatomy, behavior, and how understanding primates helps us to understand ourselves and our evolution.

Major topics will include:

- 1) Classification of Primates
- 2) Basic Primate Evolution
 - a) The Fossil Record
 - b) Using Living Species to Study Evolution
- 3) Methods for Studying Primates
- 4) Anatomy
- 5) Behavior

- 6) Primate Ecology
- 7) Survey of the Primates: Behavior and Morphology
 - a) Prosimians
 - i) Galagos and Lorises
 - ii) Tarsiers
 - iii) Lemurs
 - b) Anthropoids
 - i) Old World Monkeys
 - ii) New World Monkeys
 - iii) Lesser Apes
 - iv) Greater Apes
 - v) Humans

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Primatology is a rapidly changing field; new information is added all the time. This course hopes to teach the basics about primates, some of the latest findings, how these relate to humans and human evolution. Most importantly, this course should enable you to understand the scientific literature and think critically about popular media's portrayal of primates and their interpretation of the newest findings.

Course Content Learning Outcomes

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

- 1) Understanding culture as the distinguishing phenomenon of human life, and the relationships of human biology and cultural processes in human behavior and evolution.
- 2) Awareness of human diversity and the ways in which humans categorize diversity.
- 3) Knowledge of the significant findings of archaeology, cultural anthropology, and physical anthropology, and familiarity of the important issues in each sub-discipline.
- 4) Knowledge of the history of anthropological thought and its place in modern intellectual history.
- 5) Comprehension of migration, colonialism, and economic integration as significant phenomena shaping global society.
- 6) Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature.
- 7) Awareness of the importance and value of anthropological knowledge in contemporary society, and the ability to apply it to social issues.
- 8) Knowledge of the research methods of the sub-disciplines of anthropology, and ability to apply appropriate research methods in at least one sub-discipline.
- 9) Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences.
- 10) Knowledge of political and ethical implications of social research.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Fleagle JG. 1999. Primate Adaptations and Evolution, 2nd Edition. Academic Press.

Library Liaison

Bernice Redfern; Librarian; (408) 808-2038; Bernice.Redfern@sjsu.edu

Classroom Protocol

Students are responsible for being aware of assignment due dates, midterm date, and the final exam schedule.

Students who miss classes should keep up with course readings and obtain notes from a classmate.

If you have any concerns about your class performance or comprehension, come by my office during office hours or schedule an appointment. I am always willing to help students and I care about whether students are grasping the material and enjoying the class.

Newspaper reading is not allowed in class. If you read a newspaper in class, I will ask you to leave class.

No electronics (which include Ipods, Mp3 Players, Sidekicks, Cell phones, Laptops, etc.) will be allowed out in class. Before class begins, you should turn off all electronics and put them out of sight. If you have electronics out, I will ask you to leave class.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. [Information on add/drops are available at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html). [Information about late drop is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/](http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/). Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

Assignments and Grading Policy

EXAMS: There will be a midterm and a final exam. The **comprehensive final** will be given on the scheduled final day.

PAPER: A research paper will due near the end of the term, December 2nd. The paper can be a research paper of a primate with essential readings, plus data gathered from watching the primates at one of the local zoos. Or, it can cover a specific controversy in primatology with essential readings. The papers will be 5 to 8 pages long, 1-inch margins, 12 pt font, and the references can be either APA or AJPA style. Each student is required to see me about their topic during my office hours (or at a scheduled time) before starting the paper.

PARTICIPATION: This will be based on the outlines or summaries from the group discussions and any additional in-class assignments.

ZOO VISIT: Each student must visit a zoo at least once during the semester and provide a ticket/receipt of entry along with a 1 to 2 page description of the primates at the zoo.

GRADING POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Assignments are graded on a scale of 100.

Midterm	20%
Final	30%
Paper	20%
Participation	20%
Zoo Visit	10%

Grading is as followed:

97% and Above	A+	77-79%	C+
91-96%	A	71-76%	C
90%	A-	70%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
81-86%	B	61-66%	D
80%	B-	60%	D-
		59% and Below	F

Make-up Work

If you know in advance that you should be unable to attend an exam, it is your responsibility to contact me immediately by either e-mailing or telephoning me, leaving a message for me at the main department office, or coming by during my office hours.

Only students with a valid documented excuse will be able to take a make-up exam or hand in a late assignment. Late assignments will not be accepted otherwise.

LATE PAPERS

- Papers are due at the beginning of class.
- No late papers without a documented valid excuse will be accepted.
 - Documents need to be official and verifiable, such as hospital receipts, police records, etc.
 - Events that occur the night before the paper is due will not be accepted as an excuse since your paper should be done or nearly done by that time.
- No emailed papers, papers slid under my office door, or put in my office box will be accepted without prior permission.
- Occurrences that involve family members or friends will be considered only with documentation and collaborative evidence of relationships and the necessity of your attendance.
- These are examples; each case will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and all decisions are final.

University Policies

Academic integrity

Students should know that the University's [Academic Integrity Policy is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf). Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University's integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for [Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html).

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

ANTH154 / Monkeys, Apes, and Humans, Fall 2009, Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug. 26	Introduction
2	Sept. 02	Adaptation and Evolution; Chapter 1
3	Sept. 09	Primate morphology & behavior; Chapters 2 & 3
4	Sept. 16	Prosimians; Chapters 4
5	Sept. 23	Monkeys; Chapters 5 & 6
6	Sept. 30	Monkeys; Chapters 5 & 6
7	Oct. 07	Review
8	Oct. 14	MIDTERM
9	Oct. 21	Apes; Chapter 7
10	Oct. 28	Apes; Chapter 7
11	Nov. 04	Primate Communities & Adaptations; Chapters 8 & 9
12	Nov. 11	No Class – Veteran's Day
13	Nov. 18	Fossil Primates; Chapters 10 -13
14	Nov. 25	Fossil Primates; Chapters 14 -16 & 18
15	Dec. 02	Review; Papers Due
Final Exam	Dec. 16	WSQ 004 at 1215 – 1430