

San José State University
Department of Anthropology
Anthropology 12: Introduction to Human Evolution
Spring 2012

Instructor:	Ana Julia Casareto
Office Location:	Clark Hall 465
Telephone:	(408) 924-5342
Email:	ana.casareto@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	M/W 3:30 p.m. – 4:20 p.m. (or by appt)
Class Days/Time:	M/W 4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Classroom:	Clark 310

Course Description

This course introduces students to those biological aspects of humanity that classifies us as animals, mammals, primates, and humans. In the course of the semester, we will discuss the history of evolutionary thought, what led to the Darwin's theory of natural and sexual selection, and why these theories are important in understanding human evolution. We will look at comparative skeletal and behavioural data that encapsulate us as primates and will use molecular and fossil data that, not only help us situate humans within the hominid line, but also provide a preliminary view of human culture. We will then briefly delve into the evolution of language and end our journey of human evolution on the human life cycle.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

GE/SJSU Studies Learning Outcomes (LO), if applicable

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

- LO1 use methods of science and knowledge derived from current scientific inquiry in life or physical science to question existing explanations;
- LO2 demonstrate ways in which science influences and is influenced by complex societies, including political and moral issues; and
- LO3 recognize methods of science, in which quantitative, analytical reasoning techniques are used.

Course Content Learning Outcomes

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

1. Knowledge of the history of anthropological thought and its place in modern intellectual history.
2. Understanding of culture as the distinguishing phenomenon of human life, and the relationships of human biology and cultural processes in human behavior and evolution.
3. Knowledge of the significant findings of archaeology, cultural anthropology, and biological and physical anthropology, and familiarity of the important issues in each sub-discipline.
4. Awareness of human diversity and the ways in which humans categorize diversity.
5. Knowledge of the research methods of the sub-disciplines of anthropology, and ability to apply appropriate research methods in at least one sub-discipline.
6. Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature.
7. Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences.

Classroom Protocol

- The following are not permitted in class at any time:
 - Laptops iPads, tablets, cell phones, or any other type of electronic devices (If needed, the request must be made in writing and supported by valid documentation.)
 - Sleeping in class.
 - Non-anthropology 12 related material.
- Failure to abide by the classroom protocol, results in dismissal from class for the day, but you (not me) will be held responsible for any/all material covered that you would have missed. (I will not repeat lecture in office hours.)

Required Texts/Readings and testing material:

Textbook

Stanford, Craig *et al.* Biological Anthropology, 2nd edition

ISBN 10#: 0-13-814586-5

ISBN 13#: 978-0-13-814586-6

Testing material

Blue or green book (any size ok) for quizzes

Scantron form T&E 0200 for midterm and comprehensive final exam

Assignments and Grading Policy

- Readings: Read the chapters **before** coming to class.
- **Assignments:** There are **three (3) take-home assignments**, each of which will consist of 500 words minimum. All writing assignments must be e-mailed to ana.casareto@sjsu.edu **before** (not during or after) class begins on the scheduled due date.

Topics are designed to address the GE learning objectives. Each assignment will have its own grading rubric and will also be graded in accordance to GE guidelines, which state that “writing shall be assessed for grammar, clarity, conciseness and coherence.” Writing assignments cannot be re-written after they have been graded.

Assignments are posted on the following website:

[/a/sjsu.edu/anthro-12---intro-human-ev/](http://a/sjsu.edu/anthro-12---intro-human-ev/)

WARNING: Failure to turn in any of the writing will result in an F in the class, regardless of achievement on other portions of the course (this is a university policy on GE courses).

- **Late work:** Accepted ONLY in cases of extreme circumstances. These circumstances must be accompanied by valid official documentation on the matter. Official documentation consists of written notification by police, by a doctor, by a dentist, by the emergency room, etc. It is your responsibility to e-mail me on the matter. **Late work will not be accepted without valid documentation.** Late work will be deducted $\frac{1}{4}$ point for every day it is late. No late work will be accepted after the fourth (4th) consecutive day after the due date. Any/all late work must be submitted via e-mail only.
- **Make-up Exams:** If you know in advance that you will be unable to attend an exam, contact me to set up a time to take the exam prior to its scheduled date. Only students with a valid documented excuse will be able to take a make-up the midterm or final exam.
- **Examinations:**
 - Weekly quizzes = 20% of overall grade (I will drop the lowest three grades.)
 - Midterm = 20% of overall grade
 - Written assignments (3 @ 10% each) = 30% of overall grade
 - Comprehensive final exam = 30% of overall grade
 - Weekly quizzes will be held at the **beginning** of lecture and will take a maximum of five (5) minutes. The material will be from the previous

week and could be from lecture, videos, and/or from the textbook. You will use the same blue or green book for all the quizzes. There are **no** make-ups for missed quizzes (which is why I drop the lowest three grades).

- Midterm and Final exam = material from textbook, videos, and/or lectures will be included.

Grading Policy and Procedures: To pass this course, you must receive a final grade of D- or higher. **The class is not curved.**

The final semester grade will be based on the following (each is graded on a scale of 100):

Writing Assignments 1-3	3 X 10% each	=	30%
Midterm	30%	=	20%
Weekly quizzes	20%	=	20%
Comprehensive final	20%	=	30%
TOTAL			100%

Grading is as followed:

A	B	C	D	F
97% - 100% = A+	87-89% = B+	77-79% = C+	67-69% = D+	Below 60% = F
91-96% = A	81-86% = B	71-76% = C	61-66% = D	
90% = A-	80% = B-	70% = C-	60% = D-	

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc.

University Policies

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University's Academic Integrity policy, located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires 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 Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at 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 your assignment or any material you

have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy S07-2 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 Disability Resource Center (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

Student Technology Resources (Optional)

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

Learning Assistance Resource Center (Optional)

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to inspire them to become independent learners. The Center's tutors are trained and nationally certified by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). They provide content-based tutoring in many lower division courses (some upper division) as well as writing and study skills assistance. Small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring are available. Please visit the LARC website for more information at <http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/>.

SJSU Writing Center (Optional)

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/>.

Peer Mentor Center (Optional)

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators,

offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop –in basis, no reservation required. The Peer Mentor Center website is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/>

Anthropology 12: Introduction to Human Evolution
Spring 2012
M/W 4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Schedule is subject to change. I will make the announcement in class and on the website.

Table 1 Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	01/25/12	Class introduction and administrative announcements Anthropology: history and the importance of evolution – <i>Chpt 1 & 2</i>
2	01/30/12 02/1/12	The fact of evolution and the theory of natural selection - <i>Chpt 1 & 2</i> Evolutionary fallacies and the revolutionary impact of the discovery of genes – <i>Chpt 3</i>
3	02/6/12	Molecular basis of evolution and organism function – <i>Chpt 3</i>
QUIZ	02/8/12	Evolution from a gene’s perspective – <i>Chpt 4 & 5</i>
4	02/13/12	Writing assignment #1 due: <i>Evolution as Science</i> Evolution of Sex; Evolution by Sexual Selection – <i>Chpt 4, 5, & 6</i> <i>Evolution of Sex and the Theory of Sexual Selection Exercise</i> VIDEO
QUIZ	02/15/12	Kin Selection – <i>Chpt 5 & 6</i>
5	02/20/12	Parenting ecology and social organization – <i>Chpt 5 & 6</i>
QUIZ	02/21/12	Primates: Evolutionary origins, taxonomy, and distribution – <i>Chpt 6 & 9 (pp 262-269)</i>
6	02/27/12	Primates: The Strepsirrhines – <i>Chpt 6</i>
QUIZ	02/29/12	Primates: The Haplorrhines – <i>Chpt 6, 7, & 9 (pp 269-281)</i>
7	03/5/12	Great apes: Orangutans, Gorillas, Chimpanzees, and Bonobos – <i>Chpt 8</i>
QUIZ	03/7/12	Primate locomotion, feeding ecology, and social systems – <i>Chpt 8</i>
8	03/12/12	Midterm Exam (in class)
QUIZ	03/14/12	Writing assignment #2 due): <i>Genetically modified foods</i> <i>Apes to Australopithecines - Chpt 11 & 12, Becoming Human I</i>
9	03/19/12	Tools and the origins of the genus <i>Homo</i> – <i>Chpt 11 & 12, Becoming Human II</i>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
QUIZ	03/21/12	The genus <i>Homo</i> : from <i>H. erectus</i> to Neanderthals – Chpt 13 & 14
10	3/26-30/12	03/26 – 03/30/12 SPRING RECESS –NO CLASSES
11	04/2/12	Evolution of <i>Homo sapiens</i> – Chpt 15
QUIZ	04/4/12	Appearance of anatomically modern humans – Chpt 15
12	04/9/12	LAB DAY – Meet in WSQ002 (regularly scheduled class time)
QUIZ	04/11/12	Evolution of modern human diversity – Chpt 6
13	04/16/12	Writing assignment #3 due: Evolution of Bipedalism Brain size evolution and the concept of intelligence – Chpt 17
QUIZ	04/18/12	Basic anatomy and functional organization of the brain – Chpt 17
14	04/23/12	How brains develop.
QUIZ	04/25/12	Nature <i>times</i> nurture: Plasticity and sensitive periods – Chpt 16 & 17
15	04/30/12	Language and the brain – Chpt 16
QUIZ	05/2/12	Hormones and sexual differentiation of body and brain – Chpt 17
16	05/7/12	Deviations of human physiology: reproduction, birth, puberty – Chpt 17
QUIZ	05/9/12	Deviations of human life history: maturation, menopause, and secular trends – Chpt 17
17	05/14/12	Review
Final Exam		For time, refer to the final exam schedule found on the www.sjsu.edu website.