

San José State University
College of Social Sciences/Anthropology
ANTH012, Introduction to Human Evolution, Section 4, FALL 2015

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Elizabeth Weiss

Office Location: Clark 404R

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Email: Elizabeth.Weiss@sjsu.edu (for appointment booking only)

Office Hours: TuTh 1045 – 1145 (or by appointment)

Class Days/Time: TuTh 1330 – 1445

Classroom: Sweeney Hall 100

GE/SJSU Studies Category: B2/Life Science

Course Description

The human organism from an evolutionary perspective. The foundations of life and evolutionary theory. Introduction to primate behavior and the fossil record. Human biocultural evolution over the last sixty million years. There are no prerequisites to take this course.

Learning Outcomes and Course Goals

Detailed Course Description: Introduction to Human Evolution is a course designed to allow students to appreciate the evolutionary history of our species and the biological bases that are at the foundation of this process. The course is an introductory one; thus, no specific prior knowledge is assumed.

During the semester, students will acquire basic biological knowledge relating to molecular biology, cell reproduction, fundamental principles of micro- and macro-evolutionary theory (especially the role of natural selection), and the intellectual background leading to the development of evolutionary theory.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

To fulfill the GE writing requirement students will write two 3-page (750 words) essays. Each writing assignment is a take-home assignment and will be submitted in class.

Both the writing assignments and exam questions will be utilized to assess GE learning outcomes.

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

GELO1 use methods of science and knowledge derived from current scientific inquiry in life or physical science to question existing explanations;

GELO2 demonstrate ways in which science influences and is influenced by complex societies, including political and moral issues; and

GELO3 recognize methods of science, in which quantitative, analytical reasoning techniques are used.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

At SJSU, students are encouraged to recognize that education is participatory experience. Thus, each student is expected to contribute to further refining the course objectives (so better to articulate your individual expectations and needs), to give feedback to the instructor regarding the adequacy of your learning and how well the course assessment measures that learning (and how these assessment tools can be improved). Finally, each student is challenged to be engaged in the exploration of the fascinating material covered this semester, to participate in class discussions, and to relate in assignments and exercises how you can apply these concepts to your everyday life.

The most important contribution this course can make to your education is to provide you with greater ability to think critically. As a result, this skill will contribute permanently to your further education, that it, for the remainder of your lifetime.

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

CLO 1 explain the evolutionary process, how it works, and how scientists have come to understand the process (specifically to understand ourselves).

CLO 2 describe the evolutionary history of our species and the biological bases that are at the foundation of this process.

CLO3 comprehend basic biological knowledge relating to molecular biology, cell reproduction, fundamental principles of micro- and macro-evolutionary theory (especially the role of natural selection), and the intellectual background leading to the development of evolutionary theory.

CLO4 explain from a comparative perspective how humans are related to other primates (and what this implies structurally, physiologically, and behaviorally).

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

The Human Organism - Explorations in Biological Anthropology (First Edition), Published by: Cognella Publishers

Purchase for a discounted price at <https://students.universityreaders.com/store/>

Cost: \$79.95

Other Readings Recommended

Whitehead, P. F. et al. (2005). A Photographic Atlas for Physical Anthropology: Brief Edition. Morton Publishing Company. ISBN: 0-89582-668-2 (Especially good for images)

Can also be purchased at Spartan Bookstore or on-line (Amazon.com tends to have good discounted versions).

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Preparation and participation requirements. Read the text prior to coming to class and come with questions.

Exam requirements. There will be 5 pop quizzes based on the readings. You will also have a midterm and a comprehensive final exam. Exam questions are designed to assess course and GE learning objectives.

Writing requirements. Two 750 word papers. Writing assignments must be turned in both as a printed version at the **beginning of class** and to Turnitin.com **before class begins** on the scheduled due date. **Once lecture has begun, I will not accept any more papers!**

Topics will be discussed in detail in class and are designed to address the GE learning objectives. Writing assignments will be graded in accordance to GE guidelines, which states that “writing shall be assessed for grammar, clarity, conciseness and coherence.” **There will be absolutely no re-writes!**

You will be required to enroll in turnitin.com. The required information to do so is:

Class ID: 10168121

Class Name: ANTH012_Fall2015

Password: hominid

NOTE that [University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

Grading Policy

To pass this course, you must receive a grade of D- or higher.

Students should keep track of their grades, which entails picking up writing assignments and exams in a timely manner. I will bring graded assignments to class and students can pick them up after the class period or they can come to my office to pick them up. **If you have any grade issues, you must come to my office during office hours to discuss the issue.**

Grades will be based on the following (each is graded on a scale of 100):

Writing Assignment 1	1 X 10%	=	10%
Writing Assignment 2	1 X 15%	=	15%
Pop Quizzes	5 X 1%	=	5%
Midterm Exam	1 X 30%	=	30%
Final Exam	1 X 40%	=	40%
Total			100%

Grade Calculation

By filling out the below table students should be able to determine their progress in the course.

Assignment	Assignment Grade	Weight	Weighted Grade	Grade ¹
Quiz 1		X 0.01 =		
Quiz 2		X 0.01 =		
Quiz 3		X 0.01 =		
Quiz 4		X 0.01 =		
Quiz 5		X 0.01 =		
Writing Assignment 1		X 0.10 =		
Writing Assignment 2		X 0.15 =		

Midterm		X 0.30 =		
Final		X 0.40 =		
CLASS GRADE ¹				

¹ Add all the weighted grade numbers together to get your grade; when trying to determine your grade throughout the semester, divide your added weighted grades by the maximum value possible.

Make-up Work: If you know in advance that you are 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 an exam (including the final) or submit a writing assignment late. Doctor's notes will only be considered if it was an emergency. **The final will only be given on the scheduled time; I will not schedule any early or late finals!**

IMPORTANT: Emailing should only be utilized to set up an appointment to see me; **I will not answer any other emails.**

Note that "All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades." See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details.

Classroom Protocol

I consider my students adults. Attendance is optional. When one attends lecture, one should behave appropriately and pay attention. If one feels that they cannot pay attention for the entire period (for whatever reason), then one should not attend class.

In order to prevent distracting other classmates, all electronics (e.g., laptops, cellphones, etc.) should be completely stowed away for the entire class period. Exceptions will be made for students with an accommodation letter from the Accessible Education Center.

If you are asked to leave the classroom for any behavioral reason, you cannot make up the assignments missed during that class.

Any behavior that is deemed disruptive to the instructor or other students may result in the disrupting student to be referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University.

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See [University Policy S90-5](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the [SJSU catalog](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html), at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
 - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
 - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

ANTH012-04 / Introduction to Human Evolution, Fall 2015, Course Schedule

List the agenda for the semester including when and where the final exam will be held. Indicate the schedule is subject to change with fair notice and how the notice will be made available.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/20	Introduction to course; Fields of Anthropology
2	8/25	Writing Guidelines; History of Evolutionary Theory: Chapter 1: pp. 1-6
2	8/27	Understanding Natural Selection: Chapter 1: pp. 6-12
3	9/1	Evidence of Evolution: Reading 1: pp. 14-28 and Reading 2: pp. 40-48
3	9/3	Evolutionary family trees: (no reading, time to catch up on reading)
4	9/8	Mendelian Genetics: Chapter 2: pp. 29-37
4	9/10	Modern Synthesis: Chapter 2: pp. 29-37
5	9/15	Cells, DNA, and Protein Synthesis: Chapter 3: pp. 49-55
5	9/17	Molecular Anthropology: Chapter 3: pp. 55-58; Reading 3: pp. 60-69
6	9/22	General Primate Characteristics: Chapter 4: pp. 73-76
6	9/24	Prosimians and Tarsiers: Chapter 4: pp. 76-79; Reading 4: 92-107
7	9/29	New World Monkeys: Chapter 4: pp. 79-82
7	10/1	Old World Monkeys: Chapter 4: pp. 82-85
8	10/6	Apes: Chapter 4: pp. 85-90
8	10/8	Primates as Models for Human Evolution: Reading 5: pp. 108-116 and Reading 6: pp. 118-123; Writing Assignment I Due
9	10/13	Midterm Review
9	10/15	Midterm
10	10/20	Fossils: Chapter 5: pp. 127-130
10	10/22	Contenders for the earliest hominid: Chapter 5: pp. 130-135
11	10/27	Gracile Australopithecines: Chapter 5: pp. 135-140
11	10/29	<i>K. platyops</i> and Robust Australopithecines and Early <i>Homo</i> : Chapter 5: pp. 140-144; Reading 7: pp. 146-150
12	11/3	Early <i>Homo</i> : Chapter 5: pp. 140-144
12	11/5	<i>Homo erectus</i> and sibling species: Chapter 6: pp.151-158
13	11/10	<i>Homo heidelbergensis</i> : Chapter 7: pp. 161-164
13	11/12	Neanderthals: Chapter 7: pp. 164-168
14	11/17	Origins of Modern Humans; Chapter 7: pp. 168-170; Reading 8: pp. 172-184 and Reading 9: 186-194

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
14	11/19	Human Variation: Chapter 8: pp. 197-199; Reading 10: pp. 210-226; Writing Assignment II Due
15	11/24	Human Adaptation: Chapter 8: pp. 200-204; Reading 11: pp. 228-233 and Reading 12: 234-242
15	11/26	NO CLASS
16	12/1	Human Acclimatization: Chapter 8: pp. 200-204
16	12/3	Human Life Cycle: Chapter 8: pp. 204-208
17	12/8	Final Review
Final Exam	12/10 (Thursday)	Sweeney Hall 100 at 1215-1430; bring scantron 882-e and number 2 pencil.