

San José State University
COSS/ANTH
ANTH012, Introduction to Human Evolution, Section 1, Fall 2016

Course and Contact Information

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| Instructor: | Dr. Elizabeth Weiss |
| Office Location: | CL404R |
| Telephone: | (408) 924-5546 |
| Email: | Elizabeth.Weiss@sjsu.edu (to set up an appointment only) |
| Office Hours: | TR 1045 - 1145 (or by appointment) |
| Class Days/Time: | TR 1200 - 1315 |
| Classroom: | Yoshihiro Uchida Hall 124 |
| 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.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO) (Delete if not applicable)

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 using turnitin.com and hand in a printed version 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)

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

ISBN: 978-1-63189-452-7

Edited by: Elizabeth Weiss

Published by: Cognella Publishers

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

Cost: \$ 82.95

Course Requirements, Assignments, and Grades

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.

Homework Assignments. There will be 5 homework assignments; there is one cladogram assignment, three map assignments, and one prefixes and suffixes assignment. Assignments must be turned in at the **beginning of class.** **Once lecture has begun, I will not accept any more assignments without a valid documented excuse.**

Exam requirements. There will be 5 pop reading quizzes. 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 assignments without a valid documented excuse.**

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: 13051318

Class Name: ANTH012_Fall2016

Password: hominid

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):

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|----------------------------------|---------|---|------|
| Writing Assignment 1 | 1 X 5% | = | 5% |
| Writing Assignment 2 | 1 X 10% | = | 10% |
| Map Assignments | 3 X 02% | = | 6% |
| Cladogram Assignment | 1 X 02% | = | 2% |
| Prefixes and Suffixes Assignment | 1 X 02% | = | 2% |
| Pop Reading Quizzes | 5 X 03% | = | 15% |
| Midterm Exam | 1 X 25% | = | 25% |
| Final Exam | 1 X 35% | = | 35% |
| 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- | |

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 an 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.**

Classroom Protocol

I consider my students adults. Attendance is optional, but in class activities are essential to preparation for quizzes and the final. When one attends lecture, one should arrive on time, behave appropriately, stay until the end of class, and pay attention. If one feels that they conduct themselves in this manner (for whatever reason), then one should not attend class. Any behavior deemed disruptive to the instructor or other students may result in being asked to leave the classroom or being referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University.

No electronics (which includes cell phones and laptops) will be allowed out in class. Before class begins, you must turn off all electronics and put them out of sight. Rare exceptions may be made if the student has signed up with the Accessible Education Center (EAC), comes to see me regarding the issue, and has specific recommendation from the EAC for laptop use rather than a note-taker or other accommodation. Discussions regarding student accommodations must be done in my office during office hours or at a scheduled appointment time.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo>"

ANTH12 / Introduction to Human Evolution, Fall 2016, Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change with fair notice; any changes will be announced in class.

| Week | Date | Topics, Assignments, Readings, Due Dates |
|------|------|--|
| 1 | 8/25 | Topics: Introduction to Course; Fields of Anthropology |
| 2 | 8/30 | Topic: History of Evolutionary Theory Reading: Chapter 1: pp. 1-12 |
| 2 | 9/1 | Topic: Natural Selection Assignment: Prefixes and suffixes Reading: Chapter 1: pp. 1-13 |
| 3 | 9/6 | Topic: Evidence of Evolution Reading: Reading 1: pp. 14-28 and Reading 2: pp. 40-48 |
| 3 | 9/8 | Topic: Evolutionary family trees Assignment: Cladogram Reading: No reading, time to catch-up on readings. Due: Prefixes and Suffixes Assignment |
| 4 | 9/13 | Topic: Mendelian Genetics Reading: Chapter 2: pp. 29-37 Due: Cladogram Assignment |
| 4 | 9/15 | Topic: Modern Synthesis Reading: Chapter 2: pp. 29-37 |
| 5 | 9/20 | Topic: Cells, DNA, and Protein Synthesis Reading: Chapter 3: pp. 49-55 |
| 5 | 9/22 | Topic: Molecular Anthropology Assignment: Writing Assignment 1 Reading: Chapter 3: pp. 55-58; Reading 3: pp. 60-69 |
| 6 | 9/27 | Topic: General Primate Characteristics Assignment: Primate Map |

| Week | Date | Topics, Assignments, Readings, Due Dates |
|------|-------|--|
| | | Reading: Chapter 4: pp. 73-76 |
| 6 | 9/29 | Topic: Prosimians and Tarsiers Reading: Chapter 4: pp. 76-79; Reading 4: 92-107 |
| 7 | 10/4 | Topic: New World Monkeys Reading: Chapter 4: pp. 79-82 |
| 7 | 10/6 | Topic: Old World Monkeys Reading: Chapter 4: pp. 82-85 |
| 8 | 10/11 | Topic: Apes Reading: Chapter 4: pp. 85-90 Due: Primate Map Assignment |
| 8 | 10/13 | Topic: Primates as Models for Human Evolution Reading: Reading 5: pp. 108-116 and Reading 6: pp. 118-123 Due: Writing Assignment 1 |
| 9 | 10/18 | Midterm Review |
| 9 | 10/20 | Midterm |
| 10 | 10/25 | Topic: Fossils Assignment: Writing Assignment 2 Reading: Chapter 5: pp. 127-130 |
| 10 | 10/27 | Topic: Contenders for the earliest hominid Assignment: Early Hominid Map Reading: Chapter 5: pp. 130-135 |
| 11 | 11/1 | Topic: Australopithecines: Graciles and Robusts Reading: Chapter 5: pp. 135-140 |
| 11 | 11/3 | Topic: <i>K. platyops</i> and Early <i>Homo</i> and Oldowan tools Reading: Chapter 5: pp. 140-144; Reading 7: pp. 146-150 |
| 12 | 11/8 | Topic: Finishing early hominids: Australopithecus, Paranthropus, Kenyanthropus, and Homo Reading: No reading, time to catch up on readings. Due: Early Hominid Map Assignment |
| 12 | 11/10 | Topic: <i>Homo erectus</i> and sibling species Assignment: <i>Homo sp.</i> Map Reading: Chapter 6: pp.151-158 |
| 13 | 11/15 | Topic: <i>Homo heidelbergensis</i> Reading: Chapter 7: pp. 161-164 |
| 13 | 11/17 | Topic: Neanderthals Reading: Chapter 7: pp. 164-168 |

| Week | Date | Topics, Assignments, Readings, Due Dates |
|-------------|---------------|---|
| | | Due: Writing Assignment 2 |
| 14 | 11/22 | Topic: Origins of Modern Humans Reading: Chapter 7: pp. 168-170; Reading 8: pp. 172-184 and Reading 9: 186-194 Due: <i>Homo sp.</i> Map Assignment |
| 14 | 11/24 | THANKSGIVING - NO CLASS |
| 15 | 11/29 | Topic: Human Variation Reading: Chapter 8: pp. 197-199; Reading 10: pp. 210-226 and Reading 11: pp. 228-233 |
| 15 | 12/1 | Topic: Human Adaptation and Acclimatization Reading: Chapter 8: pp. 200-204; Reading 12: 234-242 |
| 16 | 12/6 | Topic: Human Life Cycle Reading: Chapter 8: pp. 204-208 |
| 16 | 12/8 | Final Review |
| Final Exam | 12/19, Monday | 945-1200; Yuchida Hall 124; Bring scantron 882-e and number 2 pencil. |