

ANTH 12
Introduction to Human Evolution
Fall 2018, Section 6 (51052)
San José State University
Department of Anthropology/ College of Social Sciences

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Gustavo Flores
Office Location: CLK 402G
Telephone: (408) 924-5558
Email: Gustavo.flores@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Mondays 10:00-11:00
Class Days/Time: Mondays and Wednesday 1:30-2:45
Classroom: BBC 324 101

GE/SJSU Studies Category: B2/Life Science

Canvas and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas Learning Management System course login website at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>.

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. Prerequisites: None

Course Goals

Goals of this class: to get you to think like scientists, to be skeptical, to be inquisitive, and to actually build a foundation of understanding physical anthropology. Besides reading the text book and taking exams, you will be required to conduct a group presentation. Finally, you will be required to conduct a small field research project. Working as a primatologist, you will be planning and conducting research and, in doing so, you will be gaining valuable experience by writing and presenting your results, something that is an important skill to learn.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

Upon successful completion of this GE 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;

LO3: recognize methods of science, in which quantitative, analytical reasoning techniques are used.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) (Required)

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

CLO1 explain the evolutionary process, how it works, and how scientists have come to understand the process (specifically to understand ourselves).

- CLO2 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 Introduction to Human Evolution, 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

Essentials of Physical Anthropology 3rd edition, Clark Spencer Larsen. Norton and New York company
ISBN: 9780393938661

Other Readings

Supplementary course readings or handouts in PDF format. Available on the course Canvas page.

Course Requirements

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to completing assignments, labs, clinical practica, and so on. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Course assignments and Grading Information

This course must be passed with a C or better as an SJSU graduation requirement.

GRADING POLICY AND EVALUATION	Points	
Reflections/ Activities – 10 - write a brief 300 – 500 words reflection which will discuss the article. This will be due at the start of class, please bring a hard copy. -This course includes participation in class discussions and in-class exercises that will be turned in during class. In-class exercises cannot be made up if missed.	100	25%
GROUP PRESENTATIONS: Students will be assigned into groups in the first week. Each group will develop a 5 minutes class presentation on one of the articles assign to the group. You will use PowerPoint to outline the main points. In your presentation you will include three thought provoking question for class discussion	20	5%
Primate Project- You will visit one of the many zoos in the Bay Area and conduct a brief primate observation. (This will be described in a hand out.)	100	30%
Midterm- Chapters 1-7, Films, lectures	75	20%
Final- Chapters 8-13, Films, lectures	75	20%
Total	370	100 %

Final examination description:

Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or a project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.

Reflections: At least 3 paragraphs

- At least one paragraph summarizing the main argument(s) of the reading.
- At least one paragraph critically evaluating the reading. For example, what did you think of the author's argument? What are the reading's strong and weak points?
- At least one paragraph explaining how the reading connects to either, another reading/topic, academic subject, pop culture or your own life experience.

Below are basic guidelines for grading. Letter grades will be assigned based on score percentages, as follows:

A	-B	C	D	F
97-100% =A+	87-89% = B+	77-79% = C+	67-69% = D+	Below 60% = F
93-96%= A	83-86% = B	73-76% = C	63-66% = D	
90-92 = A-	80-82% = B-	70-72% = C-	60-62% = D-	

Classroom Protocol

Your Responsibilities

1. Come to lecture.
2. Do the assigned reading before class.
3. Keep up with the assignments and short homework.
4. Be interested and ask questions

Classroom Expectation:

Be on Time: It is expected that you will arrive on time to class sessions. Please do not use your cell phones during class, do not work on other assignments, and keep conversations relevant to class discussions.

Assignments: This course includes participation in class discussions and in-class exercises that will be turned in during class. In-class exercises cannot be made up if missed. It is expected that students will complete course readings before class, ask questions, and be prepared to contribute.

Only students with a valid, documented excuse will be able to take an exam or submit one assignment late. Grades will be deducted by 2 points for every day an assignment is late.

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 2018, Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change with fair notice, any changes will be announced in class or by Canvas email.

Course Schedule

Week	/Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/22	Welcome Introduction Course Overview
2	8/27	<i>What is anthropology?</i> <i>What is Physical anthropology?</i> READ: Larsen Ch. 1
2	8/29	<i>The Scientific Method</i> What makes humans so different from other animals? ARTICLE DUE: <i>Physical Anthropology: It's scope and Aims; its History and Present Status in America</i> Student Presentations
3	9/3	Labor Day No Class
3	9/5	Evolution and Darwin

Week	/Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		<i>The Evolutionary Synthesis</i> READ: Larsen Ch. 2
4	9/10	<i>The Cell and DNA</i> READ: Larsen Ch. 3
4	9/12	<i>The Other function of DNA</i> ARTICLE DUE: The New Physical Anthropology Student Presentations
5	9/17	<i>Population Genetics</i> READ: Larsen Ch. 4
5	9/19	Natural Selection in Humans ACTIVITY: <i>Ghost in your genes or Kuru</i> ARTICLE DUE: <i>Evolution in Action</i> Student Presentations
6	9/24	Is Race a Valid, Biologically Meaningful concept? READ: Larsen Chapter 5 ACTIVITY: The Story We Tell-The Power of an Illusion
6	9/26	<i>Growth and Development, Adaptation</i> ARTICLE DUE: <i>Lactose and Lactose</i> Student Presentations
7	10/1	What is a Primate? Primate Adaptation READ: Larsen Ch. 6
7	10/3	Kinds of Primates: Strepsirhini
8	10/8	Kinds of primates: Haplorhini Quadrupedalism Vs Bipedalism
8	10/10	Primate Societies ACTIVITY: <i>Among the Wild Chimpanzees</i> READ: Larsen Ch. 7 <i>Begin primate project</i>
9	10/15	Midterm <i>Chapters 1-7, Films, Lectures</i>
9	10/17	What are fossils? Dating methods: Relative and Numerical Age READ: Larsen Ch. 8 ARTICLE DUE: The Fossils Say Yes Student Presentations
10	10/22	Why did the primates emerge? READ: Larsen Ch. 9

Week	/Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
10	10/24	Early Anthropoids and Apes ARTICLE DUE: New fossils challenge line of descent in Human Family Tree Student Presentations
11	10/29	What is a Hominin? READ: Larsen Ch. 10
11	10/31	The Pre-Australopithecines Dawn of humanity
12	11/5	Australopithecines
12	11/7	Early Genus Homo and Homo erectus READ: Larsen Ch. 11
13	11/12	No Class, Veteran's Day
13	11/14	Modern Homo Sapiens READ Larsen Ch. 12
14	11/19	Neandertal ARTICLE DUE: The Dawn of Stone Age Genomics Student Presentations
14	11/21	No Class, Thanksgiving Holiday
15	11/26	Modern Humans' Other Migrations First Peoples: Africa
15	11/28	Arrival in the Western Hemisphere Primate Project is Due
16	12/3	The Agricultural Revolution READ: Larsen Ch. 13
16	12/5	How did Agriculture Affect Human Biology? Our Ongoing Evolution
17	12/10	Review
Final Exam	12/12	12:15-2:30