

San José State University
College of Social Sciences / Department of Anthropology
ANTH 12: Introduction to Human Evolution, Section 05 (41165), Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Alicia Hedges
Office Location:	Online via Zoom: https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/3093291806
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Email:	alicia.hedges@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Tuesday 12:00pm – 5:00pm
Class Days/Time:	Online / Asynchronous
Classroom:	Canvas (https://sjsu.instructure.com)
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	GE B2: Life Science

Course Description

This course examines the human organism from an evolutionary perspective. Topics to be covered include: four field anthropology and biological anthropology; genetics and species formation; fossil records and geology; primates and human variation; and the biology and behavior of modern humans.

Course Format

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This course adopts a completely online instruction format. You must have internet connectivity, and access to a computer, to participate in the classroom activities and/or submit assignments. All assignments must be uploaded to Canvas in .doc or .docx format to be graded due to the limitations of the grading software in Canvas. Please save or export documents created in other formats (such as Google.docs) to Word before submitting the assignment. Please be aware that the Canvas App does not include the full functionality of Canvas as seen on a computer screen and you will not be able to fully participate in the class if using the app only. See University Policy F13-2 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf> for more details.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

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

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

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

1. explain the evolutionary process, how it works, and how scientists have come to understand the process (specifically to understand ourselves).
2. describe the evolutionary history of our species and the biological bases that are at the foundation of this process.
3. 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.
4. explain from a comparative perspective how humans are related to other primates (and what this implies structurally, physiologically, and behaviorally).

Required Texts/Readings

Textbooks

Larsen, Clark Spencer

2019 *Essentials of Biological Anthropology*, Fourth Edition. W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.
ISBN: 978-0-393-66743-1

Other Readings

Supplementary course readings or handouts will be available in PDF format on the course Canvas page.

Library Liaison

Silke Higgins, MA, MSLS

Librarian for Anthropology Department

King Library

Phone: (408) 808-2118

Email: Silke.Higgins@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

Students will be evaluated on the basis of:

(1) **InQuizitive Assignments** are based on the assigned textbook reading for a given week. InQuizitive is a program that comes with the purchase of your textbook. There is a total of 13 InQuizitive assignments and they are worth a total of 130 points. These assignments are due on Fridays by 5:00pm and are accessed via link through Canvas to the InQuizitive website. If you rented or purchased a used book, you can purchase access through the publisher's website (10 points each). **[130 points]**

(2) **Weekly chapter quizzes** will be completed on Canvas at the end of each week to test student knowledge of the material covered for that given week. These will be in the form of a multiple-choice quiz (5 points each). **[65 points]**

(3) There will be **three creative assignments** where students will either write three 2-page (500 words) essays, create three 4-5-minute videos, 4-5-minute narrated illustrations or another medium approved by the instructor. Students may employ different mediums for each assignment if they wish. These assignments will be in response to a prompt posted by the instructor. Creative assignments must be turned in to Canvas by the scheduled due date (20 points each). **[60 points]**

(3) There will be **three exams** throughout the semester, not including the final examination. Exams will be administered through the Canvas website with LockDown Browser being required. Exam questions are designed to assess course and GE learning objectives (50 points each). **[150 points]**

(4) The **final exam** will be cumulative of all material covered throughout the semester and administered on the scheduled final exam date. This exam will be administered through the Canvas website with LockDown Browser being required. **[100 points]**

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 three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Grading Information

InQuizitive	130 pts.	GELOs 1-3, CLOs 1-4
Chapter Quizzes	65 pts.	GELOs 1-3, CLOs 1-4
Creative Assignments	60 pts.	GELOs 1-3, CLOs 1-4
Exams (3)	150 pts.	GELOs 1-3 & CLOs 1-4
Final Exam	<u>100 pts.</u>	GELOs 1-3 & CLOs 1-4
Total	505 pts.	

Extra Credit opportunities will be announced and available throughout the semester with a total of 20 points possible.

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

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>	<i>960 to 1000</i>	<i>96 to 100%</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>930 to 959</i>	<i>93 to 95%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>900 to 929</i>	<i>90 to 92%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>860 to 899</i>	<i>86 to 89 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>830 to 859</i>	<i>83 to 85%</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>800 to 829</i>	<i>80 to 82%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>760 to 799</i>	<i>76 to 79%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>730 to 759</i>	<i>73 to 75%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>700 to 729</i>	<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>660 to 699</i>	<i>66 to 69%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>630 to 659</i>	<i>63 to 65%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>600 to 629</i>	<i>60 to 62%</i>

This course must be passed with a C- or better as a CSU graduation requirement.

To earn an A: All assignments must be completed, on time, and demonstrate mastery of conceptual as well as critical content. Assignments will exhibit thoughtful and critical analysis, effort at conceptual synthesis, and originality. Papers will be carefully proofed for grammatical and typographical errors and exhibit exemplary writing appropriate to the discipline. Seminar responsibilities achieved. Assignments must be of consistently high quality in terms of content and execution. Examinations will score in the range of 90% and above. Final project complete, original, or innovative.

To earn a B: All assignments must be completed, on time, and demonstrate general comprehension of conceptual as well as critical content. Assignments will exhibit thoughtful analysis and effort should be made at conceptual synthesis. Seminar responsibilities achieved. Papers will be carefully proofed for grammatical and typographical errors and exhibit very few writing problems. Assignments must be of good quality in terms of content and conform to standards appropriate to the discipline. Exams may score in the 80% and above range. Final project completed and original or innovative.

To earn a C: At least 80% of assignments must be completed, on time, and demonstrate general understanding of critical content. Knowledge of basic conceptual material should be demonstrated. Seminar responsibilities achieved. Assignments will exhibit thoughtful effort with few errors in content. Papers will likely contain grammatical and typographical errors and exhibit general writing problems. Citation standards incorrect. Exams may score in the 75% and above range. Final project completed at average level of competence.

To earn a D: Failure to turn in assignments in a timely manner or to complete more than 70% of assignments. Only basic knowledge of conceptual material demonstrated. Critical analysis not exhibited, suggesting minimal effort by student. Assignments lack careful or thoughtful effort and several errors in content. Failure to achieve seminar responsibilities or barely acceptable effort. Minimal engagement in class projects. Papers will likely contain grammatical and typographical errors and exhibit general writing problems. Citation standards ignored. Exams may score below 75% range. Final project completed.

F < 60%: Failure to turn in assignments in a timely manner or to complete and submit more than 50% of assignments. Basic knowledge of conceptual material and critical analysis not demonstrated. Assignments exhibiting a lack of careful or thoughtful effort and major errors evident in content. Papers will likely contain grammatical and typographical errors along with general writing problems, especially in word usage. Citation standards incorrect. Exams may score below the 60% range. Final project possibly incomplete or late. Or, failure to take the final exam.

Classroom Protocol

Your education is your responsibility! You are required to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Due to the structure of this course, access to a computer and internet connection is required to participate.
- Students must turn in their assignments on time, **late work is not permitted without a valid, documented excuse.**
- You are expected to do the assigned readings, review the lecture and other materials, and be prepared to discuss the material with your classmates.
- Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San José State University and the University's Academic Integrity Policy (Academic Senate Policy S07-2), require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all alleged violations of the Academic Integrity Policy to Student Conduct and Ethical Development. **Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated.** Cheating 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 **the failure of that assignment and administrative sanctions by the University.** For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified and will require a TurnItIn score of 24% or less. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that San José State's Academic Integrity Policy requires approval of instructors.
- Disruptive and/or inappropriate behavior will not be permitted and may result in disciplinary action.
- Some sensitive topics will be discussed in class. You are expected to be respectful of others during class discussions.
- Emails should conform to a professional format. Extensive questions need to be addressed during office hours. Think about your questions carefully, and make sure to look over the syllabus/assignment thoroughly. I will not respond to questions that can be addressed from reading the syllabus or assignment. Additionally, you will need to include the class and section in your email.
- With that said, I enjoy having fun with my classes and stimulating discussion in an open and comfortable environment. This works best when students are prepared, courteous, and respectful! 😊

University Policies


Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo>), which is hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Education. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

ANTH 12 / Introduction to Human Evolution, Fall 2020, 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
Intro	08/19 – 08/21	Introduction to class, syllabus, and course expectations via Zoom <u>Assignment due Friday (08/24) by 5:00pm:</u> (1) SJSU Plagiarism Tutorial (2) Class introduction
1	08/24 – 08/28	Module 1: <i>What is Biological (Physical) Anthropology?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four-Field Anthropology • Six Steps to Humanness <u>Read:</u> Chapter 1 <u>Assignments due Friday (08/28) by 5:00pm:</u> (1) InQuizitive Chapter 1 (2) Chapter 1 Quiz
2	08/31 – 09/04	Module 2: <i>Evolution</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the Theory of Evolution Came to Be • Charles Darwin <u>Read:</u> Chapter 2 <u>Assignments due Friday (09/04) by 5:00pm:</u> (1) InQuizitive Chapter 2 (2) Chapter 2 Quiz
3	09/07 – 09/11	Module 3: <i>Genes & Genetics</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Genetic Code (DNA) • Genetic Basis for Human Variation <u>Read:</u> Chapters 3-4 <u>Assignment due 09/11 by 5:00pm:</u> (1) InQuizitive Chapter 3 (2) Chapter 3 Quiz (3) InQuizitive Chapter 4 (4) Chapter 4 Quiz
4	09/14 – 09/18	(9/14) Optional (will be recorded): Exam 1 Review on Modules 1-3 via Zoom (09/18) EXAM 1 TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE 5:00PM
5	09/21 – 09/25	(09/21) Creative Assignment 1 Due by 5:00PM Module 4: <i>Biology in the Present: Primates</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primatology • Types of Primates <u>Read:</u> Chapter 6 <u>Assignments due Friday (09/25) by 5:00pm:</u> (1) InQuizitive Chapter 6 (2) Chapter 6 Quiz

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
6	09/28 – 10/02	<p>Module 5: <i>Sociality of Primates</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Behavior • Communication & Culture <p>Read: Chapter 7</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Assignments due Friday (10/02) by 5:00pm:</u> (1) InQuizitive Chapter 7 (2) Chapter 7 Quiz</p>
7	10/05 – 10/09	<p>Module 6: <i>Fossils</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do Fossils Communicate? • How do we Study Them? <p>Read: Chapter 8</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Assignments due Friday (10/09) by 5:00pm:</u> (1) InQuizitive Chapter 8 (2) Chapter 8 Quiz</p>
8	10/12 – 10/16	<p>Module 7: <i>Primate Origins</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The First 50 Million Years • Evolutionary Links from the Past to the Present <p>Read: Chapter 9</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Assignments due Friday (10/16) by 5:00pm:</u> (1) InQuizitive Chapter 9 (2) Chapter 9 Quiz</p>
9	10/19 – 10/23	<p>(10/19) Optional (will be recorded): Exam 2 Review on Modules 4-7 via Zoom</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(10/23) EXAM 2 TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE 5:00PM</p>
10	10/26 – 10/30	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>(10/26) Creative Assignment 2 Due by 5:00PM</p> <p>Module 8: <i>Human Adaptation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impetus of Evolution • Debunking the Race Concept <p>Read: Chapter 5</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Assignments due Friday (10/30) by 5:00pm:</u> (1) InQuizitive Chapter 5 (2) Chapter 5 Quiz</p>
11	11/02 – 11/06	<p>Module 9: <i>Early Hominin Origins</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The First Hominins • <i>Sahelanthropus, Orrorin, Ardipithecus, Australopithecus</i> <p>Read: Chapter 10</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Assignment due Friday (11/06) by 5:00pm:</u> (1) InQuizitive Chapter 10 (2) Chapter 10 Quiz</p>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
12	11/09 – 11/13	<p>Module 10: <i>The Genus “Homo”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Origins and Evolution • <i>Homo Habilis, Home Erectus</i> <p>Read: Chapter 11</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Assignment due Friday (11/13) by 5:00pm:</u> (3) InQuizitive Chapter 11 (1) Chapter 11 Quiz</p>
13	11/16 – 11/20	<p>(11/16) Optional (will be recorded): Exam 3 Review on Modules 8-10 via Zoom</p> <p>(11/20) EXAM 3 TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE 5:00PM</p>
14	11/23 – 11/25 (11/26 – 11/27 No class. Thanksgiving holiday)	<p>(11/23) Creative Assignment 3 Due by 5:00PM</p> <p>Module 11: <i>Modern Homo Sapiens</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining “Modern” • Variation in Fossils <p>Read: Chapter 12</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Assignments due Wednesday (11/25) by 11:59pm:</u> (1) InQuizitive Chapter 12 (2) Chapter 12 Quiz</p>
15	11/30 – 12/04	<p>Module 12: <i>The Last 10,000 Years</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture, Population, Biology • The Effect of Agriculture on Human Biology <p>Read: Chapter 13</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Assignments due Friday (12/04) by 5:00pm:</u> (1) InQuizitive Chapter 13 (2) Chapter 13 Quiz</p>
16	12/07 (Last Day of Instruction)	(12/07) Optional (will be recorded): Final Exam Review on Modules 1-12 with emphasis on Modules 11 & 12 via Zoom
Final Exam	12/11	Final Exam due on Canvas by 7:30pm