

San José State University
College of Social Sciences/Anthropology
ANTH152: Becoming Human, Spring 2021

Course and Contact Information

Instructor(s):	Elizabeth Weiss
Office Location:	N/A
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Email:	Elizabeth.Weiss@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays 10 AM to 11 AM or by scheduled appointment
Class Days/Time:	N/A
Classroom:	https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1419570
Prerequisites:	ANTH012 or Instructor's Approval

Course Description

This course will focus on the fossil evidence for human evolution, with an emphasis on some of the most recent controversies. Molecular data, dating the fossils, and comparative anatomy will also be discussed.

Course Format

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This course is delivered as an asynchronous, fully online course. All instruction takes place online, with no physical in-person or on-campus meetings or activities. Students will need a computer and reliable internet access with the bandwidth to stream YouTube videos and take online exams. Students will also need working speakers; this may require a headset or headphones. Students should not rely on public hotspots, such as coffee shops, for delivery of this course, especially for taking online exams and quizzes. Access to reliable internet is the responsibility of the student.

Students will need to use Canvas. For help with using Canvas see http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources

Canvas uses Turnitin.com for originality reports. All student assignments are run through this system to ensure originality of work. To ensure processing, students are required to submit assignments as Word documents (.docx). Students using Google docs or Pages will need to save documents in the .docx format.

Online exams require the use of Respondus Lockdown Browser with webcam, which will require camera monitoring. It is the student's responsibility to ensure compatibility between Respondus Lockdown Browser and webcam and their computer. To download this software visit:

<https://download.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?id=967937270>

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should have increased:

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

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Langdon, John H. *The Science of Human Evolution: Getting It Right*. Springer, 2016. Web.

https://sjsu-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/egdih2/TN_cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9783319415857

(This book is available for free on the SJSU Library website – the link above should help you locate it; you may have to log on with your SJSU ID, password, and Duo number).

Other Readings

You will also be reading from these websites:

<http://www.becominghuman.org/>

<https://humanorigins.si.edu/>

<http://efossils.org/>

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

Computer, Internet Access, Webcam, Speakers/Headphones

Course Requirements and Assignments (Required - Delete the word “Required” in final draft)

“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.”

Quizzes: There will be a quiz for each module. All of which will require Lockdown Browser with or without webcam. Quizzes will be a combination of multiple choice, true/false, matching, maps, and identification. All quizzes are due on Fridays before midnight!

Other assignments: For each module, there will be an assignment, which may consist of an activity, a reflective writing assignment, or contribution to a discussion. These assignments are not graded, but will help you do well on the quizzes. All assignments are due on Thursdays before midnight!

Final Examination or Evaluation

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

There will be a cumulative final exam, which will require Lockdown Browser with Webcam.

Grading Information

Quizzes: 14 X 5points each = 70 points.

Final Exam: 30 points.

Extra credit options may arise.

A plus = 100 to 97 points

A = 96 to 94 points

A minus = 93 to 90 points

B plus = 89 to 87 points

B = 86 to 84 points

B minus = 83 to 80 points

C plus = 79 to 77 points

C = 76 to 74 points

C minus = 73 to 70 points

D plus = 69 to 67 points

D = 66 to 64 points

D minus = 63 to 60 points

F = 59 points or lower

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](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

ANTH152 / Becoming Human, Spring 2021, Course Schedule

Course Schedule

Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines <i>In addition to the readings below, there will be readings from websites listed in the Canvas modules.</i>
0	1/27-1/29	Introduction to the Course
1	2/1-2/5	Looking for the first hominid: Sahelanthropus, Orrorin, Ardipithecus Reading: Langdon (2016): Case Study 13
2	2/8-2/12	Australopithecines: East Africa Reading: Langdon (2016): Case Studies 9, 24
3	2/15-2/19	Australopithecines: South Africa Reading: Langdon (2016): Case Study 8
4	2/22-2/26	Paranthropines Reading: Langdon (2016): Case Study 10
5	3/1-3/5	Early Homo: Homo habilis and Homo rudolfensis Reading: Langdon (2016): Case Study 11, 12
6	3/8-3/12	Homo georgicus: Leaving Africa Reading: Langdon (2016): Case Study 14
7	3/15-3/19	Homo erectus in Asia Reading: Langdon (2016): Case Study 3
8	3/22-3/26	Homo erectus in Africa Reading: Langdon (2016): Case Study 15
	3/29-4/2	Spring Break
9	4/5-4/9	Homo antecessor
10	4/12-4/16	Homo floresiensis Reading: Langdon (2016): Case Study 17
11	4/19-4/23	Homo naledi Reading: Langdon (2016): Case Study 16
12	4/26-4/30	Archaics: Homo heidelbergensis
13	5/3-5/7	Archaics: Neanderthals Reading: Langdon (2016): Case Study 18, 20
14	5/10-5/14	Origins of Anatomically Modern Humans: Bones, Behavior, and DNA Reading: Langdon (2016): Case Studies 19, 21, 22
15	5/17-5/20	REVIEW for FINAL
Final Exam	5/20	Online, Due Thursday May 20 th before Midnight