

ANT 2033 (005) Introduction to Physical Anthropology

Tuesday & Thursday 9:30-10:45, SB 2.02.02
Assistant Professor Jamon Halvaksz

Office: HSS 4.03.24

Office hours: Tues. & Thurs 11:00 – 12:30

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Office hours: Wednesday 11:00 – 12:00, Friday 10:00 – 11:00

Description: Broadly, the discipline of anthropology is concerned with the many ways that humans have adapted to their physical and social environments, including the systems of meaning and social organization that they use, as well as the historical development of those adaptations. In this course we will focus on two subfields of Anthropology: Physical Anthropology and Archaeology. Physical or Biological Anthropology uses scientific methods to understand the evolution of the species we now know as *Homo sapiens* (that's us). Archaeology provides a novel means for exploring human pasts. Together, these subdisciplines of Anthropology help us to understand something about what it means to be human. In this course we will examine both the physical evidence utilized by and methodologies of these subfields, including primatology, the fossil record, technological innovations, genetics, systematics (scientific classification), animal/ behavioral ecology, anatomy and physiology, to explain how humans became physically and socially distinct. The course will conclude by examining the distinct characteristics of humanity, commonly referred to as "culture," and raise questions about race; a problematic biological category when applied to *Homo sapiens*.

Learning Outcomes: Students will develop an understanding of the evidence for human evolution and the scientific methods used by Physical Anthropology, Paleontology and Archaeology. Through comparison with primate anatomy and behavior, as well as modern *Homo sapiens*, students will understand how behavioral models are developed for human prehistory. Finally, students will gain a fuller understanding what makes humans distinct, and what attributes they share with both living primates, and our ancestors.

Required Text:

1. Angeloni, Elvio. 2009. *Annual Editions: Physical Anthropology 09/10. 18th edition*. McGraw-Hill.
2. Park, Michael Allan. 2010. *Biological Anthropology, Sixth Edition*. McGraw-Hill.

Grading: Grading will be based on tests, in-class participation and films.

The midterms and final will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. The final exam is cumulative (using some questions from the midterms), and you will be tested on both lecture and assigned readings. Each exam will be curved based upon the highest overall grade on that exam.

Participation will be evaluated based on completion of in-class activities and film study guides. These can only be made up without penalty if you provide proper documentation for your absence (doctor's note, approved college functions, etc). Extra credit, if any, will be linked to class participation.

Point Distribution	
Class activities	80 pts
Film guides	50 pts
Midterm 1	100 pts
Midterm 2	100 pts
Final Exam	120 pts
	450 pts

Final grades will be determined using a standard scale (A = 90-100, B = 80-89, etc.). There will be no extra credit. Late work will be accepted at the instructor's discretion according to university guidelines. Except in extraordinary circumstances, any late work that is accepted will be reduced by at least 20%. But please discuss absences as soon as possible so that appropriate accommodations and make-up work can be arranged.



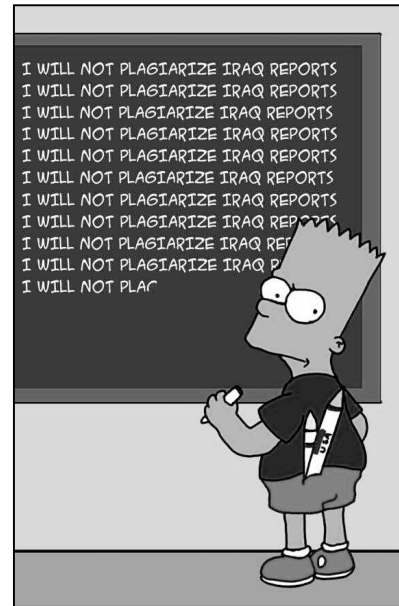
www.wired.com

Cell Phones, Text Messaging, use of the

Internet: Please be sure to **turn off all cell phones and refrain from surfing the web, emailing, playing MMORPGs, etc.** during class. You and your fellow students are here to learn and such distractions are disrespectful. If your computer is turned on, I expect that you will only using it for class specific purposes. If students complain about your use, or if you are caught repeatedly using one for these purposes during class you will be penalized 10 points each instance.

Academic Policies, including Misconduct: The University of Texas at

San Antonio has clear policies concerning disruptive classroom behaviors, plagiarism, and other forms of misconduct (see www.utsa.edu/infoguide/appendices/b.cfm). Plagiarism can be as simple as collaborating with a classmate on an assignment that is intended to show individual effort. A common form in this class is failure to appropriately cite sources in the ethnography paper. More serious forms include cheating or copying another's work as your own. Cutting and pasting from internet sources is particularly problematic as the material on-line is not always accurate, and this is plagiarism. The college's policies regarding this and other misconduct are available in written form, and you are expected to know them and follow them. You can also refer to the UTSA Student Code of Conduct on scholastic dishonesty and disciplinary action (<http://www.utsa.edu/OSJA/index.cfm>). There are clear procedures for instructors and students to follow in the event of misconduct, harassment, or other unwanted behaviors, along with appropriate consequences for infractions. Students who ignore these policies will minimally receive an F on the associated assignment, but could receive an F for the course at my discretion.



www.thesimpsons.com

Access /Accommodations:

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with disabilities and learning needs. If you need accommodation in order to fully participate in the course, information about the Disability Services can be found at their web site (www.utsa.edu/disability/), or call them at 458-4157. Please let me know if there is anything that I can do as well.

Other college services include:

Writing Center: www.utsa.edu/twc/index.html

Counseling: (210) 458-4140, RWC1.810

Academic advising (general): (210) 458-8000

Tomás Rivera Center: www.utsa.edu/trcss
or (210) 458-4694

This syllabus is subject to modification by the instructor. Videos are subject to change due to availability.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1

August 27

Topics: Introduction/ What is Biological Anthropology? / Science and Theories of Human Origins
Read: Park, chapter 1

Week 2

September 1 and 3

Topics: Evolutionary Theory: History
Read: Park, chapter 2
Annual Edition, chapters 1, 2, 5 and 6
Thursday: Video, Voyage to the Galapagos, **10 points**

Week 3

September 8 and 10

Topics: Evolutionary Theory: Genetics and Processes
Read: Park, chapters 3 and 4

Week 4

September 15 and 17

Topics: Evolutionary Theory
Read: Park, chapters 5 and skim 6, appendix 1
Thursday: Discussion, bring text books, **20 points**

Week 5

September 22 and 24

Tuesday: catch-up and review

**** MIDTERM 1 Thursday, 100 points ****

Week 6

September 29 and October 1

Topics: Primate morphology and Behavior
Read: Park, chapter 7
Annual Edition, chapters 9, 10, 11 and 43
Thursday : Video: The New Chimpanzee, **10 points**

Week 7

October 6 and 8

Topics: Primate Morphology and Behavior
Read: Park, chapter 8
Annual Edition, chapters 14, 16, 17 and 18
Thursday: Discussion, bring text books, **20 points**

Week 8

October 13 and 15

Topics: Paleo-archaeology
Read: Park, chapter 9
Thursday: Discussion, Archaeology, **20 points**

Week 9	October 20 and 22
Topics:	Early Hominins
Read:	Park, chapter 10 Annual Editions, chapters 22 and 24
Thursday:	Video: The story of Lucy 10 points
Week 10	October 27 and 29
Tuesday	catch-up and review
	** MIDTERM 2, Thursday, 100 points **
Week 11	November 3 and 7
Topics:	Genus <i>Homo</i>
Read:	Park, chapter 11 Annual Editions, chapters 23, 25 and 26
Week 12	November 10 and 12
Topics:	Late members of the Genus <i>Homo</i>
Read:	Park, chapter 12 Annual Editions, chapters 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
Tuesday	Video: The ape that took over the world 10 points
Week 13	November 17 and 19
Topics:	Modern Human Diversity
Read:	Park, chapter 14 Annual Editions, chapters 32, 33, 34 and 35
Thursday	Discussion, bring Annual Edition text, 20 points
Week 14	November 24 (Thanksgiving Holiday on Thursday November 26)
Topics:	Modern Human Diversity
Tuesday:	Video: Understanding Race, 10 points
Week 15	December 1 and 3
Topics:	Biological Anthropology today
Read:	Park, chapter 15
Thursday	Review
<u>Final Exam 14 December 10:30-1:00</u>	