

ANTHROPOLOGY 113

Biological Anthropology

INSTRUCTOR: Steve Jones

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CLASS: Tues./Thurs. 9:00-10:45 a.m.

014 Humanities

OFFICE: Mon./Wed. 2:00-3:00 p.m.

219 Library
And by appointment

Biological anthropologists study the evolution of human behavior, and the biological bases — past and present — of the things that make us human. Anthropology itself is said to have four "subfields": *cultural* anthropologists study present societies, anthropological *archaeologists* study past societies, anthropological *linguists* relate society and language, and *biological* anthropologists relate societies and behavior to biology. In many ways, the latter have the most diverse palette to work from. It's almost certainly the most controversial and, within the (sub)field, the most contentious.

The contentious contents of this course include:

- the history of evolutionary thought
- the genetic basis of evolution
- primate evolution & behavior
- hominid evolution
- child development
- human physiological variation
- sex & society
- and cultural & ecological adaptations

Students are expected to produce one relatively short term paper on a biological anthropological subject of their own choosing. There are also a number of very short exercises in which you get a chance to evolve things that never evolved, and put humans and nonhumans in situations that, fortunately, never existed. (A term-long evolutionary exercise may be substituted for the paper.) The exercises are not only for entertainment but for forcing you to think about concepts, instead of just memorizing them for tests. For the same reason, class participation is a part of the final grade, and class sessions will occasional involve debates.

REQUIREMENTS

! 4 TESTS (5/20/5/25 points)

! 1 PAPER (15 points) on how genetics does/doesn't relate either (a) to a gender or (b) to a cultural issue; must include:

- 100-word abstract (incl conclusions)
- at *least* 8 pages double-spaced (incl citations with pages, conclusions)
- bibliography (more than 5 references unless I approve otherwise)
- class presentation (actually you just need to be prepared to tell your findings/ideas to the class)

! GROUP EXERCISES (10 points in total — usually prepared before class, conducted during class)

! PARTICIPATION (10 points and you can earn extra points)

! POP QUIZZES (10 points — 10 quizzes at 1 point each — and you can earn extra points)

—> TOTAL : 5+ 20 + 5 + 25 + 15 + 10 + 10 + 10 = 100 points (with bonus points in participation and pop-quizzes)

— GRADES : traditional 100 - 90 - 80 - 70 - 60 breakdown (90,91=A-, 88,89=B+, etc.)

— **Absences** impact your grade, with **-1 point for each unexcused absence**, though the first absence doesn't count.

— **Postponements**: There are **no make-up tests and assignments** except for illness on the due date or other problems first cleared with the administration. Sorry!

— **Note**: I'm happy to adjust requirements for special-needs students, but they must supply documentation to the Dean of Students **at the beginning of the course**.

— **Also note: Plagiarism may result in failing the course**. This includes use of oversized excerpts, any un-cited quotes, and copying homework. When in doubt, (a) don't do it, (b) ask me if what you're doing is allowed.

READINGS

Textbook (at bookstore):

Jurmain, Robert, Lynn Kilgore, Wenda Trevathan

2005 *Introduction to Physical Anthropology*, 10th ed. Wadsworth/Thomson Learning, Belmont, CA.
["Ch" on schedule means these chapters.]

Articles (at Library and on electronic reserve):

Allman, John

2002 [1998] Big Brains and Parenting. In *Annual Editions, Physical Anthropology*, edited by E. Angeloni, pp. 88-94. McGraw-Hill/Dushkin, Guilford, CT.

Begun, David R.

2003 The Earliest Hominins — Is Less More? *Science* 303:1478-1480.

Bogin, Barry

1990 The Evolution of Human Childhood. *BioScience* 40(1):16-25.

D'Andrade, Roy

2002 Cultural Darwinism and Language. *American Anthropologist* 104(1):223-232.

de Lamarck, Jean Baptiste Pierre Antoine de Monet

2002 [1809] The Inheritance of Acquired Characteristics. In *Biological Anthropology, An Introductory Reader*, edited by M.A. Park, pp. 45-47. McGraw-Hill Mayfield, Boston.

Gould, Stephen Jay

1979 [1973] The Child as Man's Real Father (chapter 7). In *Ever since Darwin, Reflections in Natural History*, pp. 63-69. W.W. Norton & Company, New York.

Jablonski, Nina, and George Chaplin

2002 Skin Deep. *Scientific American* October:74-81.

Jones, Stephen D.

2007 A Gene that Keeps on Giving. Ms. in preparation.

King, Barbara J.

1994 The Social Behavior of Monkeys and Apes (chapter 2). In *The Information Continuum.*, pp. 25-47. School of American Research Press, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Leakey, Meave, and Alan Walker

1997 Early Hominid Fossils from Africa. *Scientific American* June:74-79.

Nesse, Randolph M., and George C. Williams

2002 [1998] Evolution and the Origins of Disease. In *Biological Anthropology, An Introductory Reader*, edited by M.A. Park, pp. 207-213. McGraw-Hill Mayfield, Boston.

Olshansky, Jay, Bruce Carnes, and Robert Butler

2001 If Humans Were Built to Last. *Scientific American* March:50-55.

Ortner, Sherry B.

1974 Is Female to Male as Nature Is to Culture? In *Woman, Culture, and Society*, edited by M. Rosaldo and L. Lamphere, pp. 67-87. Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA.

Steward, Julian

1963 [1955] The Concept and Method of Cultural Ecology. In *Theory of Culture Change* (chapter 2), pp. 30-42. University of Illinois Press, Urbana.

Tattersall, Ian

(A) 1997 Out of Africa Again...And Again? *Scientific American* April:60-67.

(B) 2000 Once We Were Not Alone. *Scientific American* January: 56-62.

Thorne, Alan, and Milford Wolpoff

1992 The Multiregional Evolution of Humans. *Scientific American* April:76-83.

Wilson, Allan, and Rebecca Cain

1992 The Recent African Genesis of Humans. *Scientific American* April:68-73.

Wong, Kate

(A) 2000 Who Were the Neandertals? *Scientific American* April:98-107.

(B) 2003 An Ancestor to Call Our Own. *Scientific American* January:54-63.

(C) 2005 The Littlest Human. *Scientific American* February:56-65.

[*Italic names on schedule refer to these.*]

Biological Anthropology

SCHEDULE

	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
APR	3 Introduction (handouts)	5 History Ch 1, 2, <i>de Lamarck</i>
	10 Molecules Ch 3	12 Evolution + Ex. 1 (traits) Ch 4, 14 (pp409-414)
	17 Test 1 + Mammal/Primate Evol. Ch 5, 10 (pp257-262)	19 Primates Ch 6
	24 Primate Behavior Ch 7, <i>King</i>	26 Primate + Human Evolution Ch 8
MAY	1 Test 2 + Ex. 2 (talking chimps)	3 Paleoanthropology Ch 9, <i>Begun, Wong B</i>
	8 Hominid Origins + Ex. 3 (swamp) Ch 10 (pp262-297), <i>Leakey</i>	10 Genus <i>Homo</i> Ch 11, <i>Tattersall A</i>
	15 Archaic <i>Homo</i> Ch 12, <i>Wong A</i>	17 <i>Homo</i> Dispersal + Ex. 4 (debate) Ch 13, <i>Tattersall B, Thorne, Cain, Wong C</i>
	22 Test 3 + Human Variation Ch 14, <i>Jablonski</i>	24 Health + Disease Ch 15, <i>Nesse, Olshansky</i>
	29 Child Development <i>Bogin, Gould, Allman</i>	31 Sex + Society, + Ex. 5 (females) <i>Ortner, your papers</i>
JUN	5 Culture (Ecology) Ch 16, <i>Steward</i>	7 Culture (Language etc.) <i>D'Andrade, Jones, your papers</i>
	? Test 4	