



Anthropology 1

Human Evolution

About this course

This introductory survey course will outline the major themes and topics of the field of biological anthropology, including evolutionary theory, primate behavior and evolution, paleoanthropology, and modern human variation. Using these topics we will explore what it means to be human, how we evolved, and the evidence and implications of evolution in our daily lives. The approach to understanding these ideas is primarily scientific and biological, using information collected from bones, fossils, primate studies, and the examination of modern human variation.

**This class meets in person, Tue & Thur
11:00 AM - 12:15 PM in Fowler A103B.**

**Instructor is Dr. Sean Prall. My office is in
Haines 311, and my office hours are Tue &
Thur from 12:30-2PM or by appointment.**

**You may contact me via email at
sprall@ucla.edu.**

Textbook

The following textbook is *required* as part of this course: Boyd R, Silk JB, & Langergraber K. 2024. ***How Humans Evolved*** (10th Edition). WW Norton & Co. ISBN: 978-1324061748. Digital access to InQuizitive is required.

Assignments and grading

Quizzes - 15% of your grade will be based on online quizzes via the InQuizitive system. Links and deadlines for each of these will be posted on canvas.

Exams - Students will complete two exams as part of this course, a midterm and a final. Each is worth 35% of your overall grade. The final exam will be during finals week. Exams are in-person, and will be a mix of multiple choice, short answer, and fill in the blank questions. No make-up exams will be given.

Discussion section - Your discussion section will constitute 15% of your overall grade. Discussion section grade will be based on attendance, participation, and on homework submissions. Students may miss one discussion section, no questions asked, with no grade penalty. See the canvas site for additional details on discussion section grading and policy.

TA Contact Info

Tlaoli Fuentes-Anaya - tlaolifuentes@gmail.com

Mary Ghasemi - marygh90@g.ucla.edu

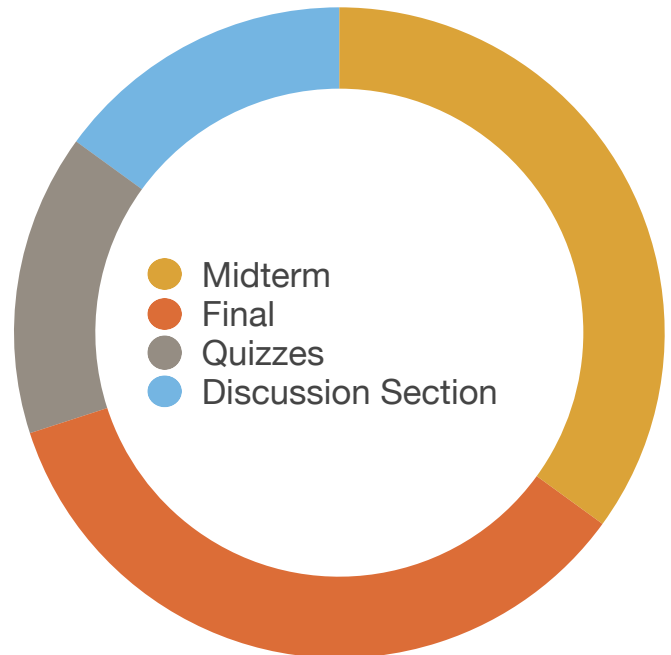
Raisa Parnell - rcparnell@g.ucla.edu

Kasey Schleper - kaseyschleper4@g.ucla.edu

Emma Young - youngea@g.ucla.edu

Eric Sinski - esinsk01@g.ucla.edu

Grade breakdown



Course Schedule

Week	Date	Daily Topic	Reading
1	1-Apr	Introduction to the course	
	3-Apr	Natural selection	Ch 1
2	8-Apr	Genetics	Ch 2
	10-Apr	Modern Synthesis	Ch 3
3	15-Apr	Speciation and Phylogeny	Ch 4
	17-Apr	Primate Diversity and Ecology	Ch 5
4	22-Apr	Primate Reproductive Strategies	Ch 6
	24-Apr	Evolution of Cooperation	Ch 7
5	29-Apr	Cognition and Primate Life Histories	Ch 8
	1-May	Midterm	
6	6-May	Origins of Primates	Ch 9
	8-May	Earliest Hominins	Ch 10

7	13-May	Early Homo and H. Erectus	Ch 11
	15-May	Neanderthals and their Contemporaries	Ch 12
8	20-May	Homo sapiens	Ch 13
	22-May	Human Genetics and Variation	Ch 14
9	27-May	Evolution and Human Behavior	Ch 15
	29-May	EHB continued	--
10	3-Jun	Culture, Cooperation, and Human Uniqueness	Ch 16
	5-Jun	Wrap-up and final thoughts	--
Finals	11-Jun	Final exam (8am-11am)	

Discussion Section Schedule

Week	Daily Topic
1	Introduction to the course
2	Natural Selection and Genetics
3	Modern Synthesis, Speciation
4	Primate Diversity and Ecology
5	Evolution of Cooperation, Cognitive complexity
6	Primate Life Histories
7	Our earliest ancestors
8	Evolution of genus Homo
9	Human genetics and variation
10	Evolution and Human Behavior

Course Policies and Expectations

Lecture and Attendance

Students are expected to be present for lecture, although given class size, attendance will not be taken. However, attendance is highly encouraged. Lectures will not be available online.

Students will be provided PDF versions of lecture slides prior to class, found on the canvas website. Students who must miss a lecture should seek out a classmate to fill in missing notes. On exam days, attendance is mandatory, and make up exams will not be given.

Use of technology and mobile devices

Students may bring computers and mobile devices to class. However, disruption due to audible use of mobile devices is a violation of the student conduct code, and may result in sanctions including suspension or dismissal. Students may only use mobile devices or computers for course activity only. Flagrant violation of this rule may result in further technology restrictions. Audio or video recording in the classroom is not allowed.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism constitutes a violation of the UCLA student code of conduct. All assignments are expected to be original work. UCLA defines plagiarism as: "includes, but is not limited to, the use of another person's work (including words, ideas, designs, or data) without giving appropriate attribution or citation. This includes, but is not limited to, representing, with or without the intent to deceive, part or all of an entire work obtained by purchase or otherwise, as the student's original work; the omission of or failure to acknowledge the true source of the work; or representing an altered but identifiable work of another person or the student's own previous work as if it were the student's original or new work." All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the university administration following standard procedures.

Instructors for this course may make use of plagiarism detection services at their discretion.

Additional UCLA Policies and Expectations, which apply to this and all courses at UCLA, can be found [here](#).



Grading scale

97 - 100%	= A+
93 - <97%	= A
90 - <93%	= A-
87 - <90%	= B+
83 - <87%	= B
80 - <83%	= B-
77 - <80%	= C+
73 - <77%	= C
70 - <73%	= C-
67 - <70%	= D+
63 - <67%	= D
60 - <63%	= D-
<60%	= F

Please note that course schedule and any deadlines listed are subject to change. Instructor may change course content, assignments, grading, and reading at his discretion. Students will be notified of updates to this syllabus as they occur.