

CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS

ANTH 1100 – INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Semester/Year: Fall 2015 (ANTH 1100-01: 41808)

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 3

Class Time: 9-9:50 am

Days: M/W/F

Room: LH 186

Instructor's Name: Evin Rodkey, Ph.D.

Instructor's Contact Information:

Office Phone:

Email:

Office: LH 175-E

(307) 268-2696

evinrodkey@caspercollege.edu

Email is the best way to reach me. You may also call my office line at any time; please leave a voicemail if needed.

Office Hours:

10-11 am Mon-Fri; also 12-1 pm Mon

I will be available at other times, especially in the afternoon; if you would like to meet at a different time than those listed, please contact me.

Course Catalog Description:

(3L)(3CR) [E] Presents basic concepts relating to the origin, evolution, biological nature, and adaptation of the human species.

Statement of Prerequisites:

None required

Goal:

By completing this class, students should more broadly understand human evolution and the place of humanity in the natural order. Students should also develop a deeper appreciation for human diversity.

Outcomes:

This class will focus on the following three of the Casper College course outcomes:

- 1. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication**
- 2. Use the scientific method**
- 3. Solve problems using critical thinking and creativity**
- Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives
- Appreciate aesthetic and creative activities
- Use appropriate technology and information to conduct research

7. Describe the value of personal, civic, and social responsibilities
8. Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data

Course Objectives:

--Be able to clearly and effectively express, in both conversation and writing, the scientific basis for understanding humanity and the evolutionary place of humans in the natural order (connects to Outcome #1 above).

--Identify and understand the scientific method as associated with physical anthropology and sciences broadly (connects to Outcome #2 and 3 above).

--Understand and apply the theory of evolution, with a focus on understanding human diversity and life broadly (connects to Outcome #2 and 3 above).

--Be able to apply major concepts and material to cases outside the classroom (connects to Outcome #2 and 3 above).

Methodology:

Lecture and discussion; attendance and active participation is required. Your feedback is valuable as the instructor uses course evaluations in determining course methodology.

Evaluation Criteria:

NOTE: All work is due both by hard copy in class AND by uploading to turnitin on Moodle. All work may be subject to resubmission.

--Section Review Packets:

At the end of each of the three Sections of the course you will be responsible for submitting a packet of materials addressing content from the respective section, which will include writing assignments. A portion of this will include materials from previous class sessions. Overall, keep in mind you will incorporate material from class and the assigned reading; therefore, if you miss class or readings throughout the section, you will do worse on these and get less out of them. Detailed instructions will be given in class and posted on Moodle.

--Exam:

In the last week, we will have an exam in class that may also consist of take home material assigned prior. You will be given precise criteria to focus on in preparation for the exam.

Section Review Packet #1	50
Section Review Packet #2	50
Section Review Packet #3	50
EXAM	50

TOTAL: 200 (A: 200-180 / B: 179-160 / C: 159-140 / D: 139-120 / F: 119-0)

Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.

Required Text, Readings, and Materials:

One book is required, which is available at the campus bookstore. Also keep in mind online sources for purchasing and renting, as well as library systems for borrowing. Also note that the book is placed on reserve in the campus library for temporary use. **One way or another, you must have full access to the book.**

Physical Anthropology, 11th edition. Philip Stein and Bruce Rowe. McGraw-Hill, 2013.

ISBN-13: 978-0078035036

ISBN-10: 0078035031

Additional required readings may be posted or handed out.

Class Policies:

IMPORTANT: See the "Supplement to the Syllabus" for further information to help you succeed in this class and beyond.

Do not use your phone or other electronic devices during class. It's rude and distracting to you, me, and the rest of the class. However, if you have a special situation, please let me know prior to class and exceptions can be made.

Late work is generally not accepted; however, contact the instructor in advance with any problems and in extraordinary circumstances (determined by the instructor), brief extensions may be granted.

As noted above, regarding attendance and participation, though there is no grade category for this, the coursework requires attendance and active participation; therefore, you will lose significant points for missing class. Also remember that, per college policy during the specified period, I will submit a faculty-initiated withdrawal (FIW) for students who fail to attend scheduled course sessions for two consecutive weeks.

Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade:

Thursday, November 12, 2015

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Chair/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty: (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

Official Means of Communication: Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly. This is also where you will find course evaluation links during course evaluation periods.

ADA Accommodations Policy: If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To

request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college's Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

COURSE CALENDAR

NOTE: Dates and other information may change. If so, you will be notified in class (if possible) and by email.

IMPORTANT: Reading for each week must be completed **by Monday** of that week. Take notes on the reading as you go—this will help you! **Also note that chapters are not always in order.**

In each chapter of *Physical Anthropology*, you will find boxes (for example, "Box 1-3," which is the third box in chapter 1) that detail important material relevant to the given chapter. Be sure to incorporate these into your reading.

Also note each chapter begins with an opening quotation, a Chapter Outline, and "After Reading This Chapter, You Should Be Able to Answer These Questions." You should use these to help guide your reading. Further, the end of each major section of a given chapter features a box titled "Summary," which you should use to review the material from each section.

Further note that each chapter features photographs, charts, figures, etc. Be sure to incorporate captions and further explanations accompanying these features.

Finally, note that the end of each chapter features "Study Questions" and "Critical Thinking Questions" that you should review. In some cases, select questions will be assigned for the Section Review Packets.

SECTION I: EVOLUTION AND THE SCIENCE OF HUMANKIND

To begin the course we will explore in detail the underlying processes and mechanisms of evolution with attention to the processes of scientific inquiry. We will focus on human development, inheritance, and contemporary diversity.

WEEK 1 – What is Physical Anthropology?

M 8/24

W 8/26

F 8/28 – **READ:**

--Contents

--c. 1 "Investigating the Nature of Humankind" pp. 1-7 **ONLY**)

WEEK 2 – Evolutionary Theory

READ: c. 1 "Investigating the Nature of Humankind" (pp. 7-20 **ONLY**)

M 8/31

W 9/2

*F 9/4 – **Short Writing Assignment due at the start of class (grade part of Packet #1, see Week 5)**

WEEK 3 – Natural Selection

READ:

--c. 5 "Natural Selection and the Origin of Species"

--c. 4 "Population Genetics" (pp. 75-85 **ONLY**)

M 9/7 – **NO CLASS (Labor Day)**

W 9/9

F 9/11

WEEK 4 – Genetic Inheritance

READ: c. 2 "The Study of Heredity"

M 9/14

W 9/16

F 9/18

WEEK 5 – Human Variation and the Concept of "Race"

READ: c. 17 "The Analysis of Human Variation"

M 9/21

W 9/23

*F 9/25 – **Section Review Packet #1 due at the start of class**

SECTION II – NON-HUMAN PRIMATES: TAXONOMY, BEHAVIOR, AND EVOLUTION

In Section II, we will apply the fundamentals of evolutionary theory to understand the Order Primates and the place of humans in this taxonomy. We will focus on the behavior and characteristics of non-human primates in order to contextualize human behavior and characteristics.

WEEK 6 – The Taxonomy of Living Primates

READ: c. 7 "The Living Primates"

M 9/28

W 9/30

F 10/2

WEEK 7 – Primate Behavior and Social Organization

READ: c. 9 "Nonhuman Primate Behavior"

M 10/5

W 10/7

F 10/9

WEEK 8 – Anatomical and Genetic Primate Makeup

READ: c. 8 "Comparative Studies: Anatomy and Genetics"

M 10/12

W 10/14

F 10/16

WEEK 9 – Human and Nonhuman Primates in Comparative Perspective

READ: c. 10 "Human Behavior in Perspective"

M 10/19 – **NO CLASS (Fall Break)**

W 10/21

*F 10/23 – **Section Review Packet #2 due at the start of class**

SECTION III: HOMINID EVOLUTION AND THE RISE OF HUMANITY

In the final section of the course we will focus on human evolution in the context of the Order Primates and the history of life on Earth. We will focus on the fossil record of human ancestors and modern humans, with attention to the circumstances of living with our evolutionary heritage in the contemporary era.

WEEK 10 – Evolutionary Timeline and the Fossil Record

READ: c. 11 “The Record of the Past”

M 10/26

W 10/28

F 10/30

WEEK 11 – Early Primate Evolution

READ: c. 12 “The Early Primate Fossil Record and the Origins of the Hominins” (*264-287)

M 11/2

W 11/4

F 11/6 – **NO CLASS (Advising Day)**

WEEK 12 – Early Human Evolution

READ: c. 13 “The Early Hominins”

M 11/9

W 11/11

F 11/13

WEEK 13 AND THANKSGIVING WEEK – Human Evolution and the Rise of *Homo sapiens*

M 11/16 – READ: c. 14 “Early Species of the Genus *Homo*”

W 11/18 – **NO CLASS [Instructor at American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting]**

F 11/20 – **NO CLASS (AAA Annual Meeting)**

Thanksgiving Week:

M 11/23 – READ: c. 15 “The Evolution of *Homo sapiens*”

W 11/25 – **NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Break)**

F 11/27 – **NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Break)**

WEEK 14 – Humans in the Contemporary Environment

READ: c. 16 “The Biology of Modern *Homo sapiens*”

M 11/30

W 12/2

*F 12/4 – **Section Review Packet #3 due at the start of class**

WEEK 15 – Humans Moving Forward

READ: c. 18 “The Modern World”

M 12/7

*W 12/9 – **EXAM**

*F 12/11 – **EXAM (contd)**