

# **Bones, Stones, and Human Evolution**

ASM 104 Section 23612

Spring, 2010: Monday and Wednesdays from 7:10 - 9:25 p.m.

Location: HU101

Instructor: Christy Rea, MA

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Put ASM104 in the subject (so I don't think it's junk mail and delete it!)

Please allow 24 hours for a response.

Welcome to Bones, Stones, and Human Evolution! The study of human evolution and variation; including fossil hominids and their tools, primate anatomy and behavior, human genetics, and the environment and human biology. This class is an overview of all the facets of Physical Anthropology. We will cover such topics as evolutionary theory, genetics and inheritance, human variation, forensic anthropology, primates and their behavior, *Australopithecines*, and *Homo*.

## Lecture and Lab:

This course will consist of two lectures and two labs each week. I am glad to lecture all hour, but I would prefer to incorporate discussion in to each class. It is up to you as the student to make discussion feasible. Attendance will be taken each class. Although attendance will not affect your grade, I still **strongly** recommend that students attend each class. The textbook should be considered supplementary to lecture. The readings are important, but more information will be presented in class. Most exam questions are directly from lecture. If you miss a class, make sure to get the notes from a classmate. You will also miss the lab section each time you miss a class. Some labs may be able to be made up, but not all of them. Information learned in labs may also show up on some of the tests.

## Readings:

The texts are an important component for each lecture. Please have your text with you for each class period. They will be referenced in a majority of lectures and labs. Readings will be assigned throughout the semester.

Texts:

**Essentials of Physical Anthropology.** Jurmain, Robert et al

## Labs:

Each lab will include an assignment, which will comprise a portion of your final lab grade. Information learned from the labs may be included on the exams. Each lab may be worth different point amounts. It all depends on how involved the lab. The combined points for all lab assignments will be worth 25% of your final grade.

## Exams:

Three exams will be given. The third exam will be given during the final period and it is not cumulative. The exams will be worth 75% of your grade. Each exam will be worth 100 points. Make-up exams will only be allowed for special circumstances (i.e. loss of a body part, death in the family, hospitalization, etc.). You must get approval from me to take a make-up exam. I recommend letting me know as soon as possible. Make-up exams will be different from the exams given during the regular testing time period.

Grading scale:

90-100 %	A
80-89 %	B
70-79 %	C
60-69%	D
0- 59 %	F

Everything Else:

\*One extra credit paper worth twenty points will be offered and it is due on the last day of class.

I will give more details in class.

\*Students absent during the first week of class will be dropped by me. If you wish to drop the class after the first week, YOU will be in charge of withdrawing.

\*If you need any special accommodations for class, please contact the Disability and Resource Office at 623-845-3080.

\*Cheating and plagiarism will **NOT** be tolerated. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarising on an exam or assign

*Cell phones, pagers, etc. must be turned off or on vibrate during class!*

*Please make every effort to avoid being tardy to class. It is both inconsiderate and disruptive.*

## Schedule for Class Lecture

<u>Date/Day</u>	<u>Lecture Topic</u>
01/20 W	Introduction
01/25 M	Evolutionary Theory
01/27 W	Genes and Gene Expression
02/01 M	Mendelian Inheritance
	Mutation and genetic abnormalities
	Mechanisms of evolution
2/3 W	Evolution of behavior
2/8 M	Macroevolution
2/10 W	Neontology and paleontology
	Principles of taxonomy
02/15 M	<b>No Class - Presidents' Day</b>
2/17 W	Principles of evolutionary analysis
2/22 M	<i>Field Work: Population Studies</i>
2/24 W	What you can learn from bones
	Interpreting the fossil record
	Review for Midterm 1
3/1 M	<b>Midterm 1</b>
3/3 W	Strepsirhines and Haplorhines
3/8 M	Evolution of monkeys and apes
3/10 W	Introduction to primate behavior
	<b>No Class: Spring Break 03/15-03/21</b>
3/22 M	Solitary and pair-bonded primates
3/24 W	One male and age-graded groups
3/29 M	Multi-male/multi-female groups
	Fission/fusion social system
	Review for Midterm 2
3/31 W	<i>Field Work: Primate Observation</i>
4/5 M	<b>Midterm 2</b>
4/7 W	Origin of hominids

4/12 M	The Australopithecines
4/14 W	Early Homo
	Beginnings of human culture
4/19 M	Middle Homo
	Transitionals and Neanderthals
4/21 W	Modern <i>Homo sapiens</i>
	Origin of modern populations
4/26 M	Human adaptability
	Nature of 'racial' variation
4/28 W	Biological adaptation to disease
5/3 M	Human morphological variation
	The future of human evolution
5/5 W	Review for Midterm 3
Finals Week	Midterm 3

**Schedule is always subject to change based upon the needs of this class. I will try to keep you informed as soon as I know of any changes.**

**Students are responsible for all the information contained in this syllabus and all of the college policies in the college and student handbook.**