

ANTH 102 – Introduction to Physical Anthropology

Instructor: To be added by Instructor of record

Virtual Office Hours: To be added by Instructor of record

Email: To be added by Instructor of record

ANTH 102 Course Description:

Biological Anthropology is concerned with the physical aspects of humanity in the past as well as the present. It is concerned with the origin, evolution, and geographical distribution of humans, the growth of populations and how they change over time, genetics and heredity, human adaptation and human diversity. This course will emphasize the origin and evolution of humans and their place in nature.

Main Objective of the Course: To educate students on evolutionary theory, basic population genetics, human variation, fossil hominids, the origin of modern humans, and ongoing biocultural changes.

Learning Objectives of the Course:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Integrate the basic principles of Mendelian genetics with principles of natural selection.
- Recognize the basic timeline of general primate evolution, including taphonomy, anatomy, & ecology.
- Identify key fossil hominins and how their anatomy reflects adaptation.
- Integrate fossil evidence in human evolution with genetic evidence of migration, via mtDNA and ancient DNA.
- Identify various sources of human variation and the ongoing biocultural evolution of our species

Course Expectations:

To succeed in this remote class, you will need to:

- ✓ Check in on WebCampus **weekly** to review lecture materials, links to films, complete quizzes, and engage in class-wide virtual discussion boards.
- ✓ Put assignment and exam deadlines in your calendar/planner and **check your RebelMail regularly**.

Required Textbook:

Customized Textbook in UNLV Bookstore: *How Humans Evolved* (ninth edition) by Robert Boyd and Joan Silk.

Remote Learning Support:

All course information will be posted online. Learning in a virtual environment can feel quite different from an in-person classroom and you may need to adjust your strategies. Please review these [tips for online and remote learning](#). If you need more one-on-one support and guidance, consider making an appointment with an [academic success coach](#), or reach out to me directly via email.

Basic Needs:

Temporary or regular insecurity concerning housing, food, finances, and/or overall health and well-being can impact academic performance. If you, or other UNLV students you know, experience these stressors at any time, UNLV has a number of resources meant to provide support, including but not limited to the UNLV Food Pantry, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), the UNLV Immigration Clinic, and the Rebel Support Team. Please review the resources on our WebCampus page and reach out to me or your academic advisor for more detailed information and additional resources.

Health and Well-Being:

We are learning and working in the midst of a global pandemic. [Follow CDC](#) and [UNLV guidelines](#) to ensure you are keeping your community and yourself as safe as possible. If you begin to feel unwell or take on unexpected caretaking duties due to family or friends who have become unwell, please notify me as soon as possible.

Public Health Directives:

Face coverings are mandatory for all faculty and students in the classroom. Students must follow all active UNLV public health directives while enrolled in this class. [UNLV public health directives](#) are found at <https://www.unlv.edu/coronavirus/health-requirements>. Students who do not comply with these directives may be asked to

leave the classroom. Refusal to follow the guidelines may result in further disciplinary action according to the [UNLV Code of Student Conduct](https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/page_files/27/StudentConduct-Code.pdf), https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/page_files/27/StudentConduct-Code.pdf, including being administratively withdrawn from the course.

[Academic Policies](https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=29&navoid=7326): <https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=29&navoid=7326>

[Student Services & Activities](https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=29&navoid=7331): <https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=29&navoid=7331>

[University Policies](https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=29&navoid=7332): <https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=29&navoid=7332>

[University Community & Libraries](https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=29&navoid=7322): <https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=29&navoid=7322>

Please see the [Student Syllabus Policies Handout](#) for additional useful information for students.

Diversity Statement:

As an institution of higher learning, UNLV represents a rich diversity of human beings among its faculty, staff, and students, and is committed to aspiring to maintain a Campus environment that values that diversity. Accordingly, the University supports understanding and appreciation of all members of its community, regardless of race, sex, age, color, national origin, ethnicity, creed, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, or political affiliation. Please see [University Statements and Compliance](https://www.unlv.edu/about/statements-compliance), <https://www.unlv.edu/about/statements-compliance>.

Late Assignments

Any missed assignments due to the observance of religious holidays, participation in UNLV official extracurricular activities, or medical emergencies may be accepted/waived with proper, timely notifications given to me and with official documentation, as per [the University-wide policies](#) outlined below:

Religious Holiday Policy: Any student missing course work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excepting modular courses), or **within the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses**. This policy shall not apply in the event that administering the test or examination at an alternate time would impose an undue hardship on the instructor or the university that could not reasonably be avoided.

UNLV Official Activity Policy: Students who represent UNLV at any official extracurricular activity shall also have the opportunity to make up class work, but you must provide official written notification to the instructor no less than one week prior to the missed class(es).

Medical Emergency Policy: Students missing class due to personal illness or other medical emergencies shall also have the opportunity to make up class work, but you must provide official documentation from a medical provider no more than one week after the missed class(es).

Grading:

Grades will be posted in WebCampus. It is your responsibility to check grades regularly and communicate any questions or concerns to the instructor.

Your assignments include three equally weighted exams (20% each), 12 quizzes (top 10/12 will account for 10%), one writing assignment (10%), and participation in five discussion boards (20%).

The exams will be open for one week, on dates listed on WebCampus. The quizzes will be throughout the semester, dates posted on WebCampus; a total of 10 quizzes will be posted and students can drop the two lowest scores. The writing assignment will be due towards the end of the semester, with the due date listed on WebCampus. The discussion boards will be posted five times throughout the semester.

Assignment/Exam Dates: Due dates set by instructor in WebCampus

Exam 1: Covers modules 1-5

Exam 2: Covers modules 6-10

Exam 3: Covers modules 11-15

Quizzes:

- Module 3: Quiz #1
- Module 4: Quiz #2
- Module 5: Quiz #3
- Module 6: Quiz #4
- Module 7: Quiz #5
- Module 8: Quiz #6
- Module 9: Quiz #7
- Module 10: Quiz #8
- Module 11: Quiz #9
- Module 12: Quiz #10
- Module 13: Quiz #11
- Module 14: Quiz #12

Writing Assignment: Module 8

Discussions:

- Module 1
- Module 2
- Module 6
- Module 7
- Module 10

Assignment	Points
Exam 1	100 (20%)
Exam 2	100 (20%)
Exam 3	100 (20%)
Quizzes	50 (10%)
Writing Assignment	50 (10%)
Discussion Posts	100 (20%)

Total Points for Course = 500 points

Grading Scale:

93% - 100% = A

90% - 92% = A-

88% - 89% = B+

83% - 87% = B

80% - 82% = B-

78% - 79% = C+

73% - 77% = C

70% - 72% = C-

68% - 69% = D+

63% - 68% = D

60% - 62% = D-

59% and below = F

ANTH 102: All dates & readings on the syllabus are subject to change. Any changes will be announced via WebCampus.

module	TOPIC	READINGS
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptation by Natural Selection 	Chapter 1 Boyd & Silk
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genetics 	Chapter 2 Boyd & Silk
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modern Synthesis 	Chapter 3 Boyd & Silk
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speciation & Phylogeny 	Chapter 4 Boyd & Silk
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primate Diversity & Ecology 	Chapter 5 Boyd & Silk
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primate Mating Systems 	Chapter 6 Boyd & Silk
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Evolution of Cooperation Primate Life Histories 	Chapter 7 & 8 Boyd & Silk
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Tree Shrew to Ape 	Chapter 9 Boyd & Silk
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Human Skeleton The Earliest Hominins 	Chapter 10 Boyd & Silk
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oldowan Tool Makers Early <i>Homo</i> 	Chapter 11 Boyd & Silk
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Hominin to <i>Homo</i> Neanderthals & Their Contemporaries 	Chapter 12 Boyd & Silk
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Homo sapiens</i> and the Evolution of Modern Human Behavior 	Chapter 13 Boyd & Silk
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Genetics and Variation 	Chapter 14 Boyd & Silk
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contemporary Genetics Evolution & Human Behavior 	Chapter 15 Boyd & Silk
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Culture, Cooperation, & Human Uniqueness 	Chapter 16 Boyd & Silk