

Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Spring

Course Prefix: ANTH

Course Title: Biological Anthropology

Year: 2025

Course and Section #: 1020-001

Credits: 3

Course Description

Introduces the fundamentals of Biological Anthropology for students with special interests in Anthropology or the Life Sciences. Studies fossils and living primates, primate biology and behavior. Surveys humanoid fossils. Investigates human evolution and variations of basic biology as it pertains to human development. Stresses the importance of the distribution and diversity of humankind.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirement
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirement
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirement
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Dr. Paul Bybee

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to understand and answer qualitative and quantitative questions in the following topics:

- The student will be able to utilize the scientific method (empirical observation) and appreciate the limits and constraints of scientific research, and how principles of scientific reasoning are applied to data and incorporates the concepts of evolutionary theory as applied to Humans.
 - The student will be able to discuss the basics of cell biology, genetics and anatomical development.
 - The student will be able to explain the basics of evolution.
 - The student will understand and incorporate the concepts of multidisciplinary aspects of Biological Anthropology as it pertains to Human Prehistory.
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Course Materials and Texts

1. Our Origins, discovering Biological Anthropology, 6th edition, by Clark Larsen
2. Slides sets developed for use with the text and lab materials.
3. Everyone is African, 1st edition, by Dan Fairbanks.

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

- Lectures based each Chapter (15% of overall grade)
- Film write ups, write ups for the Lab experience(15% of overall grade)
- Extensive book chapter reviews of the book, Everyone is African. (15% of overall grade)
- Six exams that cover multiple chapters (44% of overall grade)
- Final Comprehensive Exam (11% of overall grade)

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

- Larsen textbook: Ch 1 – 12
- Fairbanks book: Ch 1 - 7

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

- Chapter 1: What is Biological Anthropology?
- Chapter 2: Evolution: Constructing a Fundamental Scientific Theory.
- Chapter 3: Genetics and Genomics: Reproducing Life and Producing Variation.
- Chapter 4: Genes and Their Evolution: Population Genetics.
- Exam 1: Exam covering Chapters 1 - 4
- Chapter 5: Biology in the Present: Living People
- Chapter 6: Biology in the Present: The other Living Primates.
- Chapter 7: Primate Sociality, Social Behavior, and Culture.
- Chapter 8: Fossils and Their Place in Time and Nature.
- Exam 2 and Take home exam 2a: Covering Chapters 5-8.
- Chapter 9: Primate Origins and Evolution: The First 50 Million Years.
- Chapter 10: Early Hominin Origins and Evolution: The Roots of Humanity.
- Chapter 11: The Origins and Evolution of Early Homo.
- Chapter 12: The Origins, Evolution, and Dispersal of Modern People.
- Exam 3 and Take home exam 3a: Covering Chapters 9 - 12.
- Final Comprehensive Exam

The Final grade percentage is rounded to the nearest tenth and assigned the corresponding letter grade:

- A = 93.0 -100
- A - = 90.0 - 92.9
- B+ = 87.0 - 89.9
- B = 83.0 - 86.9
- B - = 80.0 - 82.9
- C+ = 77.0 - 79.9
- C = 73.0 - 76.9
- C - = 70.0 - 72.9
- D+ = 67.0 - 69.9
- D = 63.0 - 66.9

D - = 60.0 - 62.9

F = 0-59.9

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

This course requires you to complete assignments that assess your understanding, application, and problem-solving ability applied to Biological Anthropology. You are expected to do your own work. Problem solving and scientific thinking are tools that are necessary for students to learn in this course. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools, such as chatbots, text generators, paraphrasers, summarizers, or solvers, is strictly prohibited for any part of your assignments. Using these tools will be considered academic dishonesty and will be handled according to the university's academic honesty policy. If you have questions about acceptable use of AI tools, please consult the instructor before submitting your work.

Using Remote Testing Software

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.