

## **ANT 301 BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY SPRING 2019**

**MW 9-10 a.m. in JES A121A (plus weekly lab section in SAC 5.172)**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Liza Shapiro  
Office hours: **Tues** (12:30-1:30 p.m.), **Wed** (10:00-11:00 a.m).  
or by appointment

Phone number: 512-471-7533

E-mail: [liza.shapiro@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:liza.shapiro@austin.utexas.edu)

Please feel free to make an appointment with me, email me or call me with questions or concerns.

### **COURSE MEETING TIMES:**

**Lectures:** Mon./Wed. 9-10 a.m. **JES A121A**

**Labs:** See your course schedule for your lab section meeting time. All labs are held in SAC 5.172. Labs begin the second week of class (week of Jan. 28)

**COURSE WEBSITE:** You can access the course website on Canvas (<http://canvas.utexas.edu/>)

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an introduction to the principles and methods of biological anthropology. Biological anthropology is the study of human beings in a biological context, and seeks to explain our relationship to other primates and to the rest of the natural world. In other words, who are we? How are we unique? How, why, and when did we come to be the way we are?

The study of biological anthropology requires many different types of knowledge. Throughout the course, we will examine anatomical, behavioral, and genetic similarities and differences among living primates, learn the basic mechanisms of the evolutionary process, and trace the pathway of human evolution as reconstructed from the fossil record. The main goal of the course is to obtain a clear understanding of our place in nature. Take a good look at yourself now; by the end of the course, you might see yourself a bit differently.

This course includes a required weekly lab section, with lab exercises and assignments that fulfill a portion of your course grade. The labs complement the lectures and will greatly enhance your learning experience. Labs focus on the collection and analysis of quantitative data and will give you the opportunity for “hands-on” analysis of human and nonhuman primate skeletal material and replicas of fossils.

**PREREQUISITES:** There are no prerequisites for this course.

**GRADING:** Letter grades will be assigned using the +/- grading system. (Note: UT does not offer A+). Grades are rounded up only if 0.5 or above.

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

### **Grades are based on the following:**

Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Pre-lab homework assignments (10)	10%
Lab exercises (10)	20%
First lab practical exam	10%
Second lab practical exam	10%

**EXAMS:** The format of Exams 1 and 2 will include multiple choice, matching, fill-ins, and short answers. The lab practical exams are timed exams in which you will be asked to identify or interpret materials you have worked with in lab (e.g. bones, fossils, etc.)

**MAKE-UP EXAMS OR LABS WILL NOT BE GIVEN UNLESS YOU HAVE WRITTEN PROOF OF MEDICAL OR OTHER DIRE EMERGENCY (see course policies below).**

### **LECTURE READINGS**

The readings you will need for lectures include one textbook and nine articles. The articles are all available on Canvas (<http://canvas.utexas.edu/>). You should do all assigned readings *before* their corresponding lecture.

**TEXTBOOK** (available at the University Co-Op OR as an ebook (much cheaper!))  
<http://books.wwnorton.com/books/webad-detail-editions.aspx?id=4294995031>

Boyd, R and Silk J. (2018) *How Humans Evolved*. 8<sup>th</sup> Edition. W.W. Norton and Co.

### **OTHER REQUIRED READING: ARTICLES POSTED ON CANVAS**

1. Gebo, D. L. (2013) Primate Locomotion. *Nature Education Knowledge* 4(8):1  
<http://www.nature.com/scitable/knowledge/library/primate-locomotion-105284696>
2. Smuts B (1987) What are friends for? *Natural History* 96(2):36-44.
3. Whiten, Andrew; Boesch, Christophe (2001) The cultures of chimpanzees. *Scientific American*. 284(1):60-67
4. Grant P (1991) Natural selection and Darwin's finches. *Scientific American* October, pages 82-87.
5. Jablonski, N. and Chaplin, G. (2002). Skin Deep. *Scientific American* October, pages 75-81.

6. Marks, J (2002) Molecular anthropology. In: *What it Means to be 98% Chimpanzee*. University of California Press, pp. 7-31.
7. Shreeve, J. (1996) Sunset on the savanna. *Discover*. July, pages 116-125.
8. Wong, K. (2013) Wong:Case for (very) early cooking heats up. *Scientific American* <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/case-for-very-early-cooking-heats-up/>
9. Gibbons, A.. (2011): A new view on the birth of *Homo sapiens*. *Science*. Vol. 331: 392-394.

## **LAB READINGS, LAB EXERCISES, AND PRE-LAB HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS**

The readings you will need for labs, the lab exercises, and the pre-lab homework assignments will be available on Canvas from the home page (<http://canvas.utexas.edu/>). You should do all assigned lab readings and pre-lab homework assignments *before* their corresponding lab session, and you should **always bring your lab reading and lab exercise with you to lab. Pre-lab homework assignments will be completed online.** For detailed instructions, see section **LAB POLICIES** below.

## **LAB POLICIES**

Lab in ANT 301 is a hands-on, collaborative, and fun experience that usually helps bolster the course grades of students who take it seriously. Labs make up 50% of your overall grade (including homework, lab exercises, and the two lab practical exams), so it is vital that you are in attendance at each of the ten labs and the two lab practical exams (see schedule).

**Students are required to attend the lab section in which they are enrolled.** Absences will be excused only in cases of illness, observance of religious holidays, or military service (see course policies below). If you will miss your lab due to one of these reasons, provide WRITTEN documentation (e.g. doctor's note) to your TA. Then you should arrange with another TA (through email) to attend another lab section in the same week. Be sure to cc your TA on that email.

**To prepare for each lab, you are responsible for:**

- (1) **Reading the lab reading assignment** before the lab. Bring it with you to lab.
- (2) **Completing the homework assignment** before the start of the lab in which you are enrolled. The homework assignment is on the course website and will be completed and submitted online. If it is not submitted before your scheduled lab time, you will receive no credit.
- (3) **Downloading the lab exercise.** You must print the exercise from Canvas and bring it with you to lab. Lab exercises will be completed during the scheduled lab time and are due at the END of each lab meeting. **YOUR TA WILL NOT BRING PRINTOUTS**

**OF MATERIALS TO LAB. If you turn in your lab exercise answers on anything other than the posted assignment sheet, you will lose 5 percentage points on the assignment.**

You may work in small groups to complete lab exercises during the lab meeting. However, there is a major difference between collaboration and plagiarism, and plagiarism will not be tolerated (see the University policy on Scholastic Dishonesty in “Course Policies” below). Students who arrive excessively late for lab or who otherwise disrupt lab will receive no credit for the week's lab assignment.

			<b>LECTURE, LAB, READINGS AND EXAM SCHEDULE</b>	Reading assignment for lecture (BS=Boyd and Silk textbook; ARTICLE available on Canvas	
Week 1	Jan	23	Introduction to course		No lab this week
Week 2	Jan	28	What is a primate?	BS: Prologue (xviii-xxi), plus 109-115	Lab 1: Scientific Method and Skeletal Anatomy
		30	Living primates: Strepsirrhines	BS:118-119	
Week 3	Feb	4	Living primates: Haplorhines	BS:119-125	Lab 2: Primate Taxonomy
		6	Living primates: Haplorhines continued		
Week 4	Feb	11	Primate feeding adaptations	BS:116-117, 125-134	Lab 3: Primate feeding adaptations
		13	Primate locomotor adaptations	ARTICLE: Gebo: Primate Locomotion	
Week 5	Feb	18	Primate social behavior	BS: 136-141, and Ch.6 ARTICLE: Smuts: What are friends for?	Lab 4: Primate locomotor adaptations
		20	Humans: anatomy and behavior	BS: 236-237, and Ch. 16  ARTICLE: Whiten and Boesch: The cultures of chimpanzees.	
Week 6	Feb	25	History of evolutionary theory	BS: Chapter 1 ARTICLE: Grant: Natural Selection and Darwin's Finches	Lab 5: Primate Social Behavior
		27	Microevolution: genes and inheritance	BS: Chapter 2	
Week 7	Mar	4	Microevolution: genes and inheritance	BS: Chapter 2	Lab 6: Genetics
		6	Microevolution: population genetics	BS: Chapter 3	
Week 8	Mar	11	Human variation and adaptation	BS: Chapter 14  ARTICLE: Jablonski and Chaplin: Skin Deep	<b>1<sup>st</sup> lab practical exam</b>
		13	<b>EXAM 1</b>		

Week 9	Mar	18	SPRING BREAK		No lab
		20	SPRING BREAK		
Week 10	Mar	25	Macroevolution	BS: Chapter 4	No lab
		27	Movie		
Week 11	Apr	1	Molecular phylogeny	BS:101-103  ARTICLE: Marks: Molecular Anthropology	Lab 7: Cladistics
		3	The fossil record: early primate evolution	BS: 207-223	
Week 12	Apr	8	Hominoid evolution	BS: 223-230	Lab 8: Fossil primates
		10	The first hominins ( <i>Australopithecus</i> and others)	BS: Ch. 10 ARTICLE: Shreeve: Sunset on the savanna	
Week 13	Apr	15	The first hominins, continued	BS: Ch. 10	Lab 9: Australopithecines
		17	The first hominins, continued	BS: Ch. 10	
Week 14	Apr	22	Evolution of the genus <i>Homo</i>	BS: Chapter 11 ARTICLE: Wong:Case for (very) early cooking heats up	Lab 10: Genus <i>Homo</i>
		24	Evolution of the genus <i>Homo</i> , continued	BS: Chapter 12	
Week 15	Apr	29	Origin of anatomically modern <i>Homo sapiens</i>	BS: Chapter 13  ARTICLE: Gibbons: A new view on the birth of <i>Homo sapiens</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> lab practical exam
	May	1	Origin of anatomically modern <i>Homo sapiens</i>	BS: Chapter 13	
Week 16	May	6	Concluding remarks, review for Exam 2		No lab
		8	<b>EXAM 2</b>		

## **ANT 301 COURSE POLICIES**

The following policies are not intended to be harsh, but are included to provide clear guidelines on issues that students often face throughout the semester. Please read all of the information carefully.

### **Make-ups**

There will be no make-up exams or labs. Exceptions will be made only 1) with *proof* of dire emergency or illness, 2) due to observance of a religious holy day, or 3) due to military service.

### **Late lab exercises**

Late lab exercises will cost you 10 percentage points per day. This could change your grade dramatically. Don't turn them in late!

Late lab homework will not be accepted.

**Illness or emergency:** If you miss an exam or lab due to illness or emergency, contact me and the TA *as soon as possible* either before the exam or within 2 days after the exam or lab. You will not be given a make-up unless you can provide documentation regarding the reason for your absence.

**Religious holy days.** By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

**Absence for military service.** In accordance with section 51.9111 of the Texas Education Code, a student is excused from attending classes or engaging in other required activities, including exams, if he or she is called to active military service of a reasonably brief duration. [The maximum time for which the student may be excused has been defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board as "no more than 25 percent of the total number of class meetings or the contact hour equivalent (not including the final examination period) for the specific course or courses in which the student is currently enrolled at the beginning of the period of active military service."] The student will be allowed a reasonable time after the absence to complete assignments and take exams.

**Students with disabilities:** Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities at [ssd@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:ssd@austin.utexas.edu) , 471-6259 (voice), 410-6644 (video phone) or <http://ddce.utexas.edu/disability/>

### **Guns.**

As of August 1, 2016, due to the passage of S.B. 11 (<https://campuscarry.utexas.edu>), licensed, concealed handguns are now allowed in most campus buildings, including classrooms. If you hold a license to carry a concealed weapon, it is your responsibility to know and follow the Texas and University policies listed here: <https://campuscarry.utexas.edu/students>. Visible weapons or threatening behavior will be reported to the UT Police Department immediately.

The following statement serves as a reminder - I am required to notify you of this *verbally*, and I will do so in class:

Based on my legal right to ban guns from my UT office, ***no guns are allowed in my office (SAC 5.128)***. Leaving a gun unattended (as it would be, if left outside my office) is against the law. Please plan accordingly. ***YOU*** are always welcome in my office, just not your gun. Thank you.

**Exam days and guns:** On exam days (class and lab), you will need to leave your backpacks at the front or back of the room. As it is against the law to leave your gun unattended, please plan accordingly.

**Note:** The open carry of handguns is not permitted on campus. Anyone who sees an openly carried gun on campus should immediately call 911.

### **Attendance**

Attendance is not a formal part of your grade. However, whether you come to class or not, you are responsible for keeping up with what happens in class. This applies to the content of the class, handouts, and announcements about class policies, events, deadlines, etc. Lectures and announcements can be found on Canvas, but it is easy to miss other pertinent information if you are absent from class.

### **Grades**

The grade you are given, either on an individual exam or assignment or as your final grade, is not the starting point of a negotiation. It is your grade unless an error has been made. If you think an error has been made, let me know within one week of receiving the assignment or exam grade.

**Extra credit:** I do not offer “extra credit” opportunities. If you are struggling in the course, please come for help *during* the semester when there is still time for us to help you. Make an appointment with your TA or with me as soon as possible. Do not wait until the course is over and ask me to change your grade because you are trying to graduate, or you have had a tough time with your personal life this semester. By then, it is too late for me to help you.

**Honor Code:** Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University of Texas Honor Code:

*The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.*

### **Scholastic Dishonesty**

Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from The University. Scholastic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written



assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor), or the attempt to commit such an act.

See <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis.php> and <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/conduct/standardsconduct.php>

For a tutorial and information on plagiarism, see <https://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/services/instruction/learningmodules/plagiarism/>

**Special note on use of social media:** If students create a Facebook page (or use other social media) to communicate about the course, Dr. Shapiro and the teaching assistants must be provided access. Communication about content/answers to lab assignments, lab exams, or course exams (whether verbally or via electronic communications) will be considered cheating and students involved will be subject to disciplinary action.

### **Other useful information:**

#### **Resources for Learning & Life at UT Austin**

- The University of Texas has numerous resources for students to provide assistance and support for your learning.
  - Sanger Learning and Career Center: <http://www.utexas.edu/ugs/slc>
  - University Writing Center: <http://uwc.utexas.edu/>
  - Counseling & Mental Health Center: <http://cmhc.utexas.edu/>
  - Student Emergency Services: <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/>

#### **Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL)**

- If you are worried about someone who is acting differently, you may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line to discuss by phone your concerns about another individual's behavior. This service is provided through a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit <http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal>