

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTH 250: BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Online

Fall 2020

CRN: 10125

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Sarah-Louise Decrausaz (pronounced *DE-CRO-ZA*)

Email: decrausa@uvic.ca

Virtual Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:00-11:00 or by appointment; see Zoom link on BrightSpace

LAB INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Stephanie Calce (pronounced *CAL-CHEY*)

Email: anthlab@uvic.ca

Virtual Open Lab-Sessions: Wednesdays 12:30-1pm; see Zoom link on BrightSpace and course schedule for dates

Virtual Office Hours: by appointment only on Zoom, please email to schedule.

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

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TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

We and the Department of Anthropology acknowledge with respect the Lkwungen-speaking peoples on whose traditional territory the University of Victoria stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to the subfields of biological anthropology, emphasizing the past and present evolution and diversity of human and nonhuman primates. Course topics include evolutionary theory, population genetics, primatology, paleoanthropology, and contemporary human diversity and adaptation. Lab exercises will cover human osteology, fossil identification, comparative skeletal anatomy, human genetic principles, and physiological differences in human populations. The major objective of this course is to introduce students to the range of theoretical and methodological techniques within biological anthropology that help us to understand human biological variation and evolution.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will learn how to think critically about the application of an evolutionary perspective to understanding and explaining human and primate biology, behaviour, and variation. Lab sessions will develop essential skills in critical thinking, analyzing and interpreting morphological and quantitative data.

Students who have learned successfully in this course will be able to:

- Explain how biological anthropologists take an evolutionary perspective on examining the questions of who we are as humans and primates and how we relate to other biological organisms
- Apply an evolutionary perspective as a means of understanding and explaining human and primate biology, behaviour, and variation
- Critically assess morphological and numerical data to address questions about primate and hominin variation and relationships

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

A Human Voyage: Exploring Biological Anthropology, 2nd Edition. Keenleyside A, Lazenby R. 2015. PDF copy or physical copy.

The textbook can be purchased from the University of Victoria Bookstore, through the link on Brightspace, under the “Getting Started” module.

BRIGHTSPACE

As this is an online course, you can think of BrightSpace as our classroom. Here you will find course materials, links for instructions for lab assignments, links for submitting assignments, links for completing exams and links for communicating with your instructors and teaching assistants. It is also here that you will find announcements for the course and updates as the course continues. You will need your NetLink ID and password to access this site. Please be directed to the Computer Help Desk (helpdesk@uvic.ca) for detailed instructions, training sessions, and technical assistance.

You will need to complete the BrightSpace orientation tutorials in order to progress to the beginning of the course, go to “Week 1, Course Introduction” for details.

The ANTH250 BrightSpace page is organized by week (eg. Week 1 includes all material to be covered and assignments to complete for Sept 9 to Sept 11). Weeks are listed on the left-hand side of the home page under a table of contents. There are also additional modules titled ‘Getting Started’, ‘Meet Your Instructors’, ‘I Need Help’, and ‘Lab Materials’. These modules include information on how to contact the course instructors and TAs, additional resources for the course (including videos, articles and websites), as well as details and instructions related to the lab assignments.

A community Q&A forum has been set up under the 'I Need Help' module. The purpose of this board is for you to have a place to ask course-related questions (*example: Where can I find the reading for this topic? Why isn't the lecture video playing? I still don't understand the concept of "x", can someone help to explain it more clearly? Does anyone want to start a study group?*) When appropriate, please feel free to answer questions posed by other students, or to add your own thoughts. Your instructors will monitor the threads (every couple of days or so) and add responses as necessary. This board will serve as an FAQ (of sorts), so it is a good idea to check here before sending an email, your question may already be answered! Please note, questions related to the lab assignments are welcome here, and will be addressed by Dr. Calce during the Q&A portion of **open lab-sessions**, more info below and on Brightspace.

Within each week module you will find:

- Reading list: this outlines the textbook chapters to be read this week
- Reading quiz: see below for more information on quizzes
- Recorded lectures: these are videos showing PowerPoint slides with my lecture as an audio file
- Lecture slides: these are copies of the lecture slides in a PDF file that can be used for note-taking

EVALUATION

10 quizzes	10%	
Lab assignments	30%	3 assignments (see course schedule for due dates) x 10% each
Midterm exam	25%	Lecture content Sept 9 to Oct 12 and Chapters 1-9)
Final exam (Dec exam period)	35%	Lecture content Oct 19 to Nov 30 and Chapters 10-16)

**Students must achieve satisfactory standing in both the lecture and lab components of the course. Any student who does not achieve a grade of at least 50% in the lab component of the course will not be allowed to write the final exam. Lab marks will be posted on BrightSpace prior to the final examination. Lab material will be covered on the exams.*

ONLINE QUIZZES (10%)

Quizzes will be made available on BrightSpace at 9:00 on Mondays and close on Sundays of that same week at 23:59, except for the Course Syllabus quiz which opens on Wednesday September 9 at 9:00. You have a 30 minute time limit to complete each quiz – a clock will start once you access the quiz. Be aware that you cannot begin your quiz, save your answers and come back to it later – once it has started the quiz must be completed in 30 minutes. Be aware that extensions will not be granted. Your quiz mark for the course is based on the average of your overall quiz performance. This means that if you miss a quiz, your mark will be negatively affected. Plan accordingly and do not leave the quiz until the last minute. You can and should consult your textbooks when answering the quiz questions, which is where the material for the quizzes will be

drawn from. Best practice for approaching the quiz is as follows: read the relevant textbook chapter(s); take notes on key ideas and record page numbers; keep your notebook and your textbook next to you; begin the quiz and consult your notes/books as needed.

LAB EXERCISES (30%)

All lab content will be posted under the “Lab Materials” module. Lab activities will be completed on BrightSpace. Begin your orientation by watching the “Welcome Video” from Dr. Calce. You will also find detailed Instructions, readings, videos, and assignment dropboxes under the Lab Materials tab.

Questions related to the lab content may be posted to the Community Q&A forum (under the “I Need Help” module tab) or sent directly to anthlab@uvic.ca. Answers will be addressed by Dr. Calce (anonymously) in the Open Lab-Sessions, every Wednesday, starting September 16 from 12:30-1pm (see the schedule and zoom link posted on Brightspace).

Note, open-lab sessions will be recorded and uploaded to the course webpage *You are encouraged to make a separate zoom appointment with Dr. Calce to discuss other course-related details privately.* You are highly encouraged to complete the lab activities, worth 30%, a significant portion of your final grade; and a reminder that students who do not achieve a grade of at least 50% in the lab component of the course will not be allowed to write the final exam.

Please review the “What You Need to Know” page under the Lab Materials module on Brightspace in advance of Sep 13.

CONTENT EXAMS (60%)

There is one midterm exam (25%) and a final exam (35%) for this course. Both exams will be written on BrightSpace. Each exam will be made available for 48 hours, though will have a time limit on it. For example, the midterm might have a time limit of 2 hours, though you may start it at any time within a specific 48 hour period. The midterm and final exam in this course are open-book examinations – you may use your textbook and lecture notes to complete them. More information on the specifics of the exams will be made available ahead of the exam.

Please note: students must be available during the UVic’s formal exam period at the end of term. I have no control over the timing of the final exam. Students will not be permitted to write the exams on alternate dates to accommodate travel plans. See my policy on missed exams.

COURSE POLICIES:

Additional information on UVic Academic Policies can be found here:

<http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/students/policies/academics/index.php>

COMMUNICATION

There are a limited number of issues that the instructors will deal with over email-- notifications of missed tests/assignments, general course administrative issues, request to set up an appointments, etc. We will endeavor to respond to received emails within 48 hours, but there are circumstances in which it may take us longer to reply, such as weekends. Please do not expect an immediate reply; email as far in advance as possible if it is a time-sensitive issue. Make sure you include the course code (ANTH 250) in your email subject line, to avoid your email ending up in the Spam folder. Many questions can be answered by reading the syllabus - please make that your first port of call. Your second port of call is the 'Community Q&A Forum'-- please check this before you email the instructors. Please note that Dr. Decrausaz will not respond to emails with questions on course content after 17:00 on the days prior to the midterm and final exams. Please contact Dr. Calce at anthlab@uvic.ca for ALL matters pertaining to the lab component of this course.

Missed Exams:

If you miss the midterm exam for a valid medical or other emergency situation, please contact Dr. Decrausaz as soon as possible to schedule a make-up exam. If you have to miss the **final exam**, you must fill in an application for an [academic concession](#) at Undergraduate Records and make arrangements to write the exam after the final examination period.

Late Assignments:

Unexcused late lab assignments will be penalized 10% per day (weekends and holidays included) up to 5 days, and then will not be accepted. *No feedback will be given on assignments considered late.* Failure to turn in an assignment will result in a mark of zero. If you are unable to hand-in an assignment on the appropriate day you must make alternate arrangements with Dr. Calce (anthlab@uvic.ca) well in advance of the deadline. No assignments will be accepted after the last day of classes without clear documentation of extenuating circumstances and prior consent.

Equity:

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive, supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members [Senate resolution, January 13th, 1999]. As part of our commitment to equity, the Department of Anthropology has established an Equity Committee. If you have concerns regarding equity issues in the classroom, you may contact a member of the Equity committee or the Chair of the Department. The Department Secretary can provide you with the names of the current members of this committee.

Accessibility:

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require

accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Center for Accessible Learning (CAL) as soon as possible. The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations: <https://www.uvic.ca/services/cal/> The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is intellectual honesty and responsibility for academic work that you submit individual or group work. It involves commitment to the values of honesty, trust, and responsibility. It is expected that students will respect these ethical values in all activities related to learning, teaching, research, and service. Therefore, plagiarism and other acts against academic integrity are serious academic offences.

The responsibility of the institution

Instructors and academic units have the responsibility to ensure that standards of academic honesty are met. By doing so, the institution recognizes students for their hard work and assures them that other students do not have an unfair advantage through cheating on essays, exams, and projects.

The responsibility of the student

Plagiarism sometimes occurs due to a misunderstanding regarding the rules of academic integrity, but it is the responsibility of the student to know them. If you are unsure about the standards for citations or for referencing your sources, ask your instructor. Depending on the severity of the case, penalties include a warning, a failing grade, a record on the student's transcript, or a suspension. It is your responsibility to understand the University's policy on academic integrity:

<https://www.uvic.ca/students/academics/academic-integrity/index.php>

UVic's Policy on Academic Integrity (September 2020)

https://www.uvic.ca/calendar/undergrad/index.php#/policy/Sk_0xsM_V specifies that use of an editor for student work is prohibited unless the instructor grants explicit written authorization, either in a course outline or some other form. The Department of Anthropology recognizes that peer editing is an important component of student learning, academic scholarship, and effective communication. We encourage undergraduate and graduate students in our courses to ask other students to read and comment on the clarity of their written work. There are benefits to getting feedback from your peers, and to rethinking and clarifying your ideas as you re-write and revise your work. Peer editing includes having the unpaid assistance of another student to read your document and provide comments on its content, grammar, and style. Peer editing does not include having a professional paid editor read and revise your work. Students who require accommodation should consult with their course instructor

COURSE EXPERIENCE SURVEY (CES)

We value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential course experience survey (CES) regarding your learning experience. The survey is vital to providing feedback to us regarding the course and our teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. When it is time for you to complete the survey, you will receive an email inviting you to do so. If you do not receive an email invitation, you can go directly to <http://ces.uvic.ca>. You will need to use your UVic NetLink ID to access the survey, which can be done on your laptop, tablet or mobile device.

UNDERGRADUATE GRADING SCALE

Undergraduate Grading Scale			
Letter Grades	Grade Point Value	Percentage	Description
A+ A A-	9 8 7	90 – 100 85 – 89 80 – 84	An A+, A, or A- is earned by work which is technically superior, shows mastery of the subject matter, and in the case of an A+ offers original insight and/or goes beyond course expectations. Normally achieved by a minority of students.
B+ B B-	6 5 4	77 – 79 73 – 76 70 – 72	A B+, B, or B- is earned by work that indicates a good comprehension of the course material, a good command of the skills needed to work with the course material, and the student's full engagement with the course requirements and activities. A B+ represents a more complex understanding and/or application of the course material. Normally achieved by the largest number of students.
C+ C	3 2	65 – 69 60 – 64	A C+ or C is earned by work that indicates an adequate comprehension of the course material and the skills needed to work with the course material and that indicates the student has met the basic requirements for completing assigned work and/or participating in class activities.
D	1	50 – 59	A D is earned by work that indicates minimal command of the course materials and/or minimal participation in class activities that is worthy of course credit toward the degree.
F	0	0-49	F is earned by work, which after the completion of course requirements, is inadequate and unworthy of course credit towards the degree.
N	0	0-49	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.

Half points are rounded up when the final grade is determined.

*F = Unsatisfactory performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental

*N = Did not complete course requirements: that is, did not write either the midterm or final examination, or did not meet the minimum grade requirement of 50% in the lab component by the end of term or session; no supplemental. Failure to complete one or more of these elements will result in a grade of "N" regardless of the cumulative percentage on other elements of the course. An N is a failing grade, and it factors into a student's GPA as 0. The maximum percentage that can accompany an N on a student's transcript is 49.

DIGITAL LEARNING TECHNOLOGY STATEMENT

We will use a variety of educational technology in this course including internet-based technologies or web-based applications, cloud services and social media. The use of technology is part of your engagement at the University. Some of these learning tools may collect, use and/or disclose your personal information and store or access that

information outside of Canada. UVic cannot require students to disclose personal information to technologies or organizations which may store information on servers located outside of Canada because disclosure of personal information to vendors, systems or services storing or accessing that personal information outside of Canada is restricted by Section 30.1 of BC's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA). Personal information is information about an identifiable individual; for example, your name or your email address.

The following educational technologies, which stores or accesses your personal information outside Canada, is required for this course: Zoom. We will make you aware if this list changes. We use these technologies to enhance your educational experience at UVic. The personal information is required by the service. The privacy policy and the terms of use list the personal information stored outside of Canada and are available at <https://zoom.us/privacy>. We encourage you to read these documents. If you are not comfortable with your personal information being stored outside of Canada, please speak to us within the first week of class about using an alternative (such as using an alias or nickname). Otherwise, by continuing in this course, you agree to the use of the educational technology in the course and the storage of personal information outside of Canada.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:

If you find yourself in need of assistance with personal, academic, or any other issues, I encourage you to seek out the services available through UVic to help, and please feel free to contact me as well if you are having trouble in any regard.

The Learning Commons: <https://www.uvic.ca/library/locations/home/learning/>

Learning Skills Program: <http://www.coun.uvic.ca/learning/index.html>

Peer Help: <https://uvss.ca/peer-support-centre/>

University Health Services <https://www.uvic.ca/services/health/>

Center for Accessible Learning: <https://www.uvic.ca/services/cal/>

Center for Academic Communication: www.uvic.ca/learningandteaching/home/home/centre/

Office of Indigenous Affairs: www.uvic.ca/iace

Office of the Ombudsperson: <https://uvicombudsperson.ca/>

Emergency #s

Vancouver Island Crisis Line: 1-888-494-3888

[Youthspace.ca](http://youthspace.ca) online text and chat, 6pm-midnight

Health Link BC: **811**

Mental health support resources

UVic Counselling services <https://www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/>

1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433): if you are considering suicide or are concerned about someone who may be.

310Mental Health Support at 310-6789 (no area code needed): emotional support, information and resources specific to mental health.

Alcohol & Drug Information and Referral Service at 1-800-663-1441 (toll-free in B.C.) or 604-660-9382 (in the Lower Mainland) to find resources and support.

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CLASS SCHEDULE:

 This is a tentative schedule and is subject to change.

Week	Date of start of week	Lecture Title	Readings	Quizzes Available on Mondays	Lab Assignments	Open Lab Sessions Wednesdays 12:30-1pm on ZOOM
1	Sept 7	Intro to the Course		Syllabus quiz	-	-
2	Sept 14	What Is Biological Anthropology? 'Evolution' of Evolutionary Theory Biology of Variation	Ch 1 Ch 2 Ch 3	Quiz 1 (Ch 1-3)	-	Sept 16
3	Sept 21* ¹	Mechanisms of Evolution Primates	Ch 4 Ch 5	Quiz 2 (Ch 4-5)	-	Sept 23
4	Sept 28	Primate Ecology Primates as Models of Early Human Evolution	Ch 6 Ch 7	Quiz 3 (Ch 6-7)	Lab 1 Due Oct 2	Sept 30
5	Oct 5	Primate Evolution Bipedalism and Becoming Hominin	Ch 7 Ch 8	Quiz 4 (Ch 8)	-	Oct 7
6	Oct 12* ²	MIDTERM EXAM	Chapters 1-8 and lecture content		-	-
7	Oct 19	Earliest Biped Early <i>Homo</i>	Ch 9 Ch 10	Quiz 5 (Ch 9-10)	-	Oct 21
8	Oct 26* ³	Mid-Late Pleistocene Eurasia: Neanderthals Mid-Late Pleistocene Asia: New discoveries	Ch 11	Quiz 6 (Ch 11)	Lab 2 Due Oct 30	Oct 28
9	Nov 2	Mid-Late Pleistocene Africa: <i>Homo naledi</i> Modern humans: Origins, dispersals, and adaptation (Part I)	Ch 12	Quiz 7 (Ch 12)	-	Nov 4
10	Nov 9	READING BREAK – no quizzes or lectures			-	-
11	Nov 16	Modern humans: Origins, dispersals, and adaptation (Part II) Modern human variation (Part I)	Ch 13	Quiz 8 (Ch 13)	-	Nov 18
12	Nov 23	Modern human variation (Part II) Health and Disease in the Contemporary World	Ch 14	Quiz 9 (Ch 14)	Lab 3 Due Nov 27	Nov 25
13	Nov 30	Climate and Human Evolution The future of human evolution	Ch 15-16	Quiz 10 (Ch 15-16)	-	-
	Dec exam period	Final Exam	*Chapters 10-16 and lecture content*			

 *¹ Sept 22 –Last day for 100% reduction of fees

 *² Oct 13 – Last day for 50% reduction of fees

 *³ Oct 31st – Last day to withdraw from course without penalty of failure