

Introduction to Biological Anthropology  
ANTHRO 1 #53705 Spring 2024  
Asynchronous Online

Instructor: Kathryn R. Taylor, MA  
Email: [Kathryn.taylor@cloviscollege.edu](mailto:Kathryn.taylor@cloviscollege.edu)

Welcome to ANTH-1-53705! If you ever have questions or concerns throughout the semester please email at [kathryn.taylor@fresnocitycollege.edu](mailto:kathryn.taylor@fresnocitycollege.edu). My plan for the semester is to help you each succeed in ANTH-1 however this plan works best when we talk to each other. If I do not respond within 48 hours to your email (either college email or Canvas Inbox), please re-send your email. Often I will respond to emails within 24 hours. Please make sure to include which course you are in (ANTH-1-53705) if using your college email as I am teaching multiple anthropology courses and this information will help me insure I can better respond to your emails (Canvas automatically includes this information).

This is an asynchronous online course, which means that there are no required meetings, online or in-person. Therefore, if you have questions, confusions, or concerns you need to email me. The course will be set up so that you have access to everything through the modules. Modules will open during the weekend beforehand. I would recommend spending some time over the weekend or early on Monday to review the Week # Overview page at the start of each module to see a summary of the chapter and a list of the assignments that you will be working on.

**Course Description:**

Concepts, methods of inquiry, and scientific explanations for biological evolution and application to the human species. Topics include: genetics, evolutionary theory, human variation and biocultural adaptations, comparative primate anatomy and behavior, and the fossil evidence for human evolution. Scientific method serves as foundation of the course.

**Course Objectives:** on completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Describe the scientific process as a methodology for understanding the natural world.
2. Discuss evolutionary theory and how it relates to human and non-human primate origin and diversity.
3. Describe the four forces, or biological mechanisms, of evolutionary change including: mutation, gene flow, genetic drift, and natural selection.
4. Explain how the forces of evolution produce genetic and phenotypic change over time.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of classification, morphology and behavior of living primates.
6. Summarize methods used in interpreting the fossil record, including dating techniques.
7. Use key fossils to demonstrate human evolution specifically as this relates to anatomical changes associated with bipedalism, changes in the size and structure of the brain, and the development of culture.
8. Discuss the theories of human origins using current fossil and genetic evidence.
9. Articulate an anthropological perspective on biological ancestry and "race."
10. Discuss human biological variation from the perspective of natural selection and adaptation.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Describe the basic concepts, methods of inquiry, and scientific explanations for biological evolution.
2. Apply the above to human and non-human primates to explain observed changes and adaptation associated with biological evolution.

Students with Disabilities:

"Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a letter from the DSP&S and discuss specific needs with the professor, preferably during the first two weeks of class. DSP&S determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities."

Course Prerequisites:

Due to college level science reading and writing requirements, if you are not eligible to take English 125 and 126 or ESL 67 and 68 recommended, you should not enroll in this course.

Required Textbook:

[https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Courses/Fresno\\_City\\_College/ANTH-1\\_Introduction\\_to\\_Biological\\_Anthropology\\_Text\\_\(K.R.\\_Taylor\)](https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Courses/Fresno_City_College/ANTH-1_Introduction_to_Biological_Anthropology_Text_(K.R._Taylor))

Other required materials:

Internet access and a computer/laptop/tablet

**Computer skills:** You need to have some computer skills and access to a computer or the ability to use the computer lab on campus to use Canvas and to print various assignments. If you do not have access or do not know how to use a computer, please see me the first week of school for help.

Important Days: 1/8-5/17/2024

Drop deadlines:	Holidays: No Class
Last day to drop full refund: 1/19/24	1/15/24 MLK Jr. Day
Last day to drop without W In-Person: 1/26/24	2/16&9/24 Presidents Day Holidays
Last day to drop without W Self-Service: 1/28/24	3/25-31/24 Spring Break
Last day to drop with a W: 3/8/24	

Attendance/Drop Policy:

As an online asynchronous course ANTH-1 will not have any graded virtual meetings, however there will be assignments to be submit each week. Failure to submit at least one of these assignments will result in you being marked as absent for the week. If you fail the course with an F your last submitted assignment will be used as your last date of attendance.

If you are not active on Canvas within the first 48 hours of the semester starting you will be dropped, if you want to rejoin the course you will have to join the waitlist. If you fail to submit the majority of assignments throughout the first three weeks you might be dropped. If you stop participating before the final drop date you might be dropped, however if you choose to stop participating it your responsibility

to drop yourself. The dates listed below with their deadlines only apply to ANTH-1 and other full-term courses

### Grading:

Exams	60%	A	90-100%	D	60-69%
Quizzes	15%	B	80-89%	F	59-0%
Assignments	15%	C	70-79%		
Discussions	10%				

### EXAMS 1-3 & A COMPREHENSIVE MAKE-UP

There are three exams throughout the semester, each exam is worth twenty percent of your grade. If you do poorly or miss an exam you have the ability to take a comprehensive make-up exam after your final exam, to replace your lowest exam grade. Taking the comprehensive make-up exam can only help your grade. Exams cannot be made up.

If you earn a “D” or an “F” on the first exam (or a grade lower than you expected or wanted), I will expect an email from you within two weeks to arrange a meeting. Bring your all your study materials with you so that we can attempt to solve any problems before the second exam. If you do not see me about your exam, I will understand this to mean that you are satisfied with your grade.

**Exam #1:** Exam 1 covers readings, lectures, and any class activities associated with Chapters 1-4. This exam will consist of multiple choice questions and a short answer/essay question section. For the essay section you should be prepared to define, discuss, and provide an example for each of the mechanisms of evolution including mutation, natural selection, gene flow, and genetic drift.

**Exam #2:** Exam 2 will cover reading, lecture, and any class activities related to Chapters 5-6, and 13-16. It will draw upon what you have already learned, especially in regards to Natural Selection. This exam will consist of multiple choice, true/false, primate classification, and essay questions. For the essay(s) you will be expected to write on the topic of natural selection as it relates to the evolution of human skin color. You will be expected to cover, in detail, the prerequisites for natural selection to occur and the outcomes using the example of human skin color. You will need to include the nature of human skin color, the evolution of the variation in skin color in humans including the selection pressures for and against various skin colors in differing environments.

**Exam 3 (Final Exam):** will cover reading, lecture, and associated class activities related to Chapters 7-12. The exam will consist of a variety of question types such as multiple choice, true/false, matching, and short answer written response questions.

**Comprehensive Make-Up:** If you miss Exam 1 or 2, or need to make up a poor score on one of these exams, you may take the comprehensive make-up exam on the final exam day after you complete Exam 3. The comprehensive make-up cannot hurt your grade but it can help you! Further information about this comprehensive make-up will be provided in class.

### QUIZZES

General chapter quizzes will be on Canvas to be taken during the week that we are covering that chapter. You can only take these quizzes once and once you start the quiz you have 30 minutes to finish and submit the quiz. Canvas chapter quizzes are due before class the day a new chapter is started. I reserve the right to give quizzes at random. All quizzes can consist of multiple choice, matching, fill in the blank, and/or short answer questions.

### ASSIGNMENTS

At the end of each textbook chapter you are required to answer review questions. Individual due dates can be found in your course schedule. These questions should be completely and correctly answered with details and reasoning stated for your answers.

Throughout the semester you will complete several assignments focused on various topics. Details and directions will vary between projects and you will receive instructions for each project throughout the semester.

### DISCUSSIONS

Each week, except exam weeks, you will have small group discussion topic. Responses to the prompt are due before midnight on Wednesday (6points) and at least two responses to group members' posts are due before midnight on Sunday (2points each). Because of the group nature of discussions late work will rarely be accepted.

### LATE WORK POLICY

Late work will can be submitted for reviews and quizzes up until the date of their exam. Do to the group nature of discussions late work will rarely be accepted. If a longer extension is needed for late work this will be handled on a case by case bases.

**Cheating and Plagiarism = Academic Dishonesty**  
**From Fresno City College Catalog:**

Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated by Fresno City College. Cheating, plagiarism, or collusion in dishonest activities erodes the college's educational and social role in the community.

**Cheating** is the act or attempted act of taking an examination or performing an assigned, evaluated task in a fraudulent or deceptive manner, such as having improper access to answers, in an attempt to gain an unearned academic advantage. Cheating may include, but is not limited to:

- copying from another's work,
- supplying one's work to another,
- giving or receiving copies of examinations without an instructor's permission,
- using or displaying notes or devices inappropriately to the conditions of the examination,
- allowing someone other than the officially enrolled student to represent the student,
- failing to disclose research results fully.

**Plagiarism** is a specific form of cheating and is the use of another's words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to:

- failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others,
- failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration,
- submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved,
- failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights.

**DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES:**

When a faculty member discovers a violation of the cheating or plagiarism policy, the faculty member:

1. Will arrange a conference with the student and at that time advise the student of the allegations.
2. Will notify the dean of the division in writing that an act of dishonesty has occurred. This report will become part of the student's permanent record.
3. May give the student an "F" for the assignment and/or for the course, depending upon the seriousness of the infraction.

If the student's permanent record indicates more than one occurrence of cheating or plagiarism, the student may be placed on probation, suspended or expelled by the Dean of Students.

A student may appeal to the Academic Standards Committee any sanctions employed based on an allegation of dishonesty. Such an appeal must be made within fifteen (15) days after notification provided to the student.

## ANTH-1 Tentative Schedule

Week #	ANTH-1
1	Syllabus Ch 1: Introduction to BioAnth
2	Ch 2: Evolution
3	Ch 3: Molecular Biology and Genetics
4	Ch 4: Forces of Evolution
5	Review/Exam #1
6	Ch 5: Meet the Living Primates
7	Ch 6: Primate Ecology and Behavior
8	Ch 13: Race and Human Variation Ch 14: Human Variation
9	Ch 16: Human Biology and Health
10	Ch 15: Bioarch and Forensic Anth
11	Review/Exam #2
12	Ch 7: Understanding the Fossil Context
13	Ch 8: Primate Evolution
14	Ch 9: Early Hominins
15	Ch 10: Early Members of the Genus <i>Homo</i>
16	Ch 11: Archaic <i>Homo</i>
17	Ch 12: Modern <i>Homo sapiens</i>
18	Exam #3: Final Exam #4: Comprehensive Make-Up Exam