

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

ANTHROPOLOGY 130 – INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

3 hours lecture, 3 units

Catalog Description

People's place in nature; physical and behavioral characteristics of primates; principles of evolution and basic outline of human genetics; description of the record of early humans and discussion of explanation of fossils; present day variability among human populations.

Prerequisite

None

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Become acquainted with the theories and evidences of human evolution
- 2) Acquire an understanding of the interaction of physical and cultural factors in the determination of human behavior
- 3) Understand the tentative nature of hypotheses relating specific fossils
- 4) Recognize the continuous as opposed to discrete nature of variations among present populations of Homo sapiens
- 5) Recognize the importance of the concept of culture to physical anthropology
- 6) Have the basic understanding to make their own evaluation of data related to physical anthropology

Special Materials Required of Student

None

Minimum Instructional Facilities

- 1) Standard classroom with maps, film/slide projectors
- 2) Casts of fossil materials

Course Content

- 1) Physical anthropology and other sciences
- 2) Evolutionary theory and heredity
- 3) The primate order and the emergence of hominids
 - a. Primate evolution
 - b. The living primates
 - c. Nonhuman primate adaptations
 - d. Social behavior of nonhuman primates
- 4) Genus Homo, hunting and gathering
 - a. Hominid evolution and the emergence of human culture
 - b. Homo Erectus and hunting-gathering
 - c. Early Homo sapiens
 - d. Neanderthals
 - e. Modern Hominids
- 5) Biological and cultural diversity of Homo sapiens

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lecture and discussion
- 2) Films, slides, other instructional media

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Exams, final exam
- 2) Research project

Texts and References

- 1) Required: Stein, Physical Anthropology, current edition (or other suitable texts).
- 2) Supplemental: To be determined by instructor