

Intro to Physical Anthropology

ANTH-1105

Spring 2021 Section E01 3 Credits 01/09/2021 to 05/11/2021 Modified 01/07/2021

How to start and successfully navigate through this online course:

- Start with the "Start Here Module" and make yourself familiar with the course schedule and formal requirements for assignments which you can find in the syllabus. Carefully read the syllabus!
- Throughout the course, check **Announcements** as often as possible. This is the way I will communicate with you, so if there is anything important or any changes to the schedule, etc., it will be announced there. Announcements are located under **Course Home**.
- The **Content** Tab will bring you to lectures, readings, other course material, and assignments.
 - This course is structured into **weekly or bi-weekly modules**. New modules open Mondays at 6 AM, including all module assignments. The deadline for all associated assignments is **Sundays at midnight of the module week(s)**.
 - Work yourself through content step by step. Online courses can feel a bit overwhelming. Go through content one thing at a time. You will get it all covered!
 - If you have any technical issues, call the **CourseDen Help Desk (678-839-6348)** or use the **Help Desk Live Chat**.
 - **ALSO:** Ask me questions, if you have any! I'm here for you!
- Be sure to prioritize taking your own notes throughout the course! This is an important skill you need to develop! In an online class, it can be tempting to let your note-taking slide a bit since you have the materials whenever you want. Don't forget: Taking Notes and reducing them to a "Cheat Sheet" is the absolute best way to study! And you may use those sheets during the exams!

Description

An examination of humans from biological and evolutionary perspectives. Topics of survey and analysis include systems of human and non-human inheritance and evolution, primatology, origins, variation and adaptation, forensic anthropology, and interactions between biology and culture.

Requisites

Prerequisites:

Corequisites:

Contact Information

Instructor	Dr. Isabel Maggiano	Telephone	Direct Line: 678-839-6450 Department Line: 678-839-6466
Class Meeting Time/Location	Online only	Office Hours	Online: T/Th 9AM-2PM
Office Location	Anthropology Room 5	westga email	imaggian@westga.edu

Meeting Times

This course is fully online.

Materials

Textbook is an OER, which you can find here: <http://explorations.americananthro.org/>, including some ancillary materials.

Associated Textbook Chapters and all other reading materials are uploaded as PDF documents or links into CourseDen Modules.

Outcomes

Detailed Course Description (CRN#[80202](#))

In this course you will have the opportunity to study humanity itself through biological and evolutionary theory with a holistic anthropological perspective. This perspective meshes physical scientific knowledge with applications across our broad experiences in business, education, social sciences, and humanities. Topics of survey and analysis include systems of inheritance and evolution, primatology, human origins, modern human variation and adaptation, and interactions between human biology and culture.

Learning Outcomes (also refer to the Undergraduate Catalog)

By the completion of this course, each student should be able to:

- **Core Area D:** Apply scientific reasoning and methods or mathematical principles to explain natural phenomena or situations that arise in the real world.
- **Core Area D:** Use appropriate scientific tools and instruments to acquire data, process information, and communicate results.
- Describe fundamental observations, theories, and methods central to modern physical anthropology.
- Identify critical events within physical anthropology, such as the modern synthesis in biology, the molecular revolution, and major milestones non-human and human evolution.
- Investigate social, philosophical, or ethical implications of research in physical anthropology, such as human variation and cultural construction of “race”, gene therapy, primate habitat conservation, and human origins.

***Please Note:** This class addresses human origins, climate change, and human ecological impact as supported by the scientific method and multiple lines of evidence. Though there is no intrinsic struggle between science and religious/ideological belief, it is possible that some beliefs will be challenged by evidence we had not previously considered. This process can be part of strengthening your worldview and creating new and deeper understanding – spiritual, social, and scientific. It can also be uncomfortable, particularly at first, for some students. Our job is to be respectful of this discomfort and to protect one another during our exploration of human evolution, but it is not to entertain discussion outside the realm of scientific evidence in class. Feel free, and even encouraged, to use your instructor’s office hours as a place to share personal beliefs and your process of discovery! Enrollment for this class on Physical Anthropology indicates you are aware of and are comfortable with these guidelines and that you insure your ability to satisfy the course’s requirements.*

Curriculum Fulfillment

This course partially satisfies the requirements for **Core Area D: Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Technology** as a non-lab science course for catalog year 2016-17 and later. Please see your advisor for more information.

Strategies for Success:

- Purchase the textbook on time, and always read all assigned readings (both in the textbook and additional readings). **READ, READ, READ!**
- Read and study the lecture notes.
- Make your own notes! Not only does this help you remember and organize the materials, it also provides you with quick reference material for studying for the exams.
- Start your assignments early and submit them on time. Waiting until the last minute results in stress over the assignment as well as lower quality work. Use your time wisely, and get the most out of your effort and this course.

A Quick Word about Network Etiquette - Communication in an online class takes special consideration. Please read the short list of tips below.

- Be sensitive and reflective to what others are saying.

- Don't use all caps. It is the equivalent of screaming.
- Think before you hit the post (enter/reply) button. You can't take it back!
- Don't use offensive language.
- Use clear subject lines.
- Don't use abbreviations or acronyms unless the entire class knows them.
- Be forgiving. Anyone can make a mistake.
- Keep the dialog collegial and professional.

Grading Scale:

You can check your general progress by comparing your score against the following scale: A=90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69; F<59. For a general guide to how you are doing in the class refer to returned grades by adding up your points and dividing by the total achievable. Your performance will only be addressed with you. Any questions about grades must be resolved within the first week following the assessment in question.

Advice on Effort and Persistence:

If you are having difficulty or need advice on note-taking, studying, or writing please contact the instructor! The institutional credit hour policy states one credit is equal to 50 min/wk of seat/instructional time and twice that in student work outside the class. To manage your time effectively plan on studying and reading for a minimum of 4-6 additional hr/wk depending on skill level. Finally, always work through what you know and fight toward an answer by asking yourself questions about each option or what would make sense, you often know much more than you think so never just guess or leave answers blank!

✓ Evaluation

Criteria

Breakdown

☰ Assignments

Assignment name	Description	Due Date	Points
Introduce Yourself-Discussion Thread	As part of our introduction module, please introduce yourself in the "Introduce Yourself"-discussion thread. 150-word minimum, response to classmates not required (5 points).	August 23rd @ midnight	6
Short Quizzes	Throughout the semester there will be 4 short quizzes. The first 3 quizzes (Quiz 1-3) will ask 10 choice/true or false questions about the specific chapter you are working on. Be prepared! You will have only 20 minutes and get only one attempt (3 quizzes, 20 points each). In the end of the semester, I will administer an assessment quiz, which will ask 12 questions about the entire semester's learning content. (1 assessment quiz, 24 points)	Quiz 1-3: Sunday night at midnight of the assigned week. Check schedule below for exact dates. Assessment Quiz: Same deadline as Exam 3	84
Reading Responses	Throughout the course, there will be 3 Reading Responses (to be dropped into assigned dropboxes on CourseDen). Reading Responses need to be at least 200 words long and address specific topics from course materials (3 Reading Responses, 10 points each).	Sunday night at midnight of the assigned week. Check schedule below for exact dates.	30

Assignment name	Description	Due Date	Points
Discussions	<p>Throughout the course, there will be 3 Discussion Assignments. You will be required to post AT LEAST TWO POSTS PER THREAD (feel free to respond to as many of your peer's posts as you would like – the more interactive these discussions are, the more interesting they will be for everyone!).</p> <p>1st post:</p> <p>Your INITIAL POST must be at least 200 words in length (15 points)</p> <p>It should: 1. reflect your own opinion, 2. analyze a professional opinion (peer-reviewed article), and 3. engage other students (ask a question, if you'd like, and add it to the end of your post).</p> <p>You are required to do research before you post your assignment. For full credit, make sure you fulfill all requirements listed below:</p> <p>1) Find at least one reliable peer-reviewed reference (Textbook or other course material may NOT be used). Peer-reviewed research articles can be found online (e.g. google scholar) or through the UWG library system. Do NOT use Wikipedia or popular media articles. The quality of your reference will be part of your grade. (I recommend doing some research on how to identify peer-reviewed articles, a link is provided in the Introduction Module).</p> <p>2) Use content from the reference to reinforce or create your argument and cite it appropriately (Example: As pointed out in a study, ... (Smith et al. 2007)). You should not have to use direct quotes for your posts. If you choose to quote directly, the number of words quoted will be subtracted from the 200 words total you need to write for full credit.</p> <p>3) List reference(s) underneath your post in the referencing style recommended by the American Association of Anthropology's Style Guide (http://www.americananthro.org/StayInformed/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=2044). In most cases, you will follow the instructions for Journal Articles. Please do not simply copy and paste online links!</p> <p>2nd post:</p> <p>Once you've posted your initial post, you will be able to read other student's posts and respond to them.</p> <p>RESPOND TO YOUR PEERS: Respond to at least one of your peer's posts by critically analyzing their argument(s), by adding a similar or different case, by agreeing and stating why you agree, etc. (5 points). Your response must show that you read and reflected your peers post, so address something specific she/he wrote. Responses must be at least 3 full sentences long "Great Job" or similar phrases do not count as complete sentences. Be polite! NOTE: Responses with less than 3 sentences will not be graded! (5 points)</p> <p>(3 Discussion Assignments, 20 points each)</p>	<p>Discussions will only be open during the week in which they are assigned. They will close Sundays at 11:59 pm and no make-up discussions will be given. Make sure you post both, your INITIAL POST and your REPONSE TO A PEER before the deadline. Once you've posted your initial post, you'll be able to read other student's posts. Check schedule below for exact dates.</p>	60

Assignment name	Description	Due Date	Points
Activity Assignment	Throughout the semester there will be 2 Activity Assignments. Detailed instructions will be posted on CourseDen. (2 Activity Assignments, 30 points each)	You will have 2 weeks to complete Activity Assignments.	60
Exams	There will be 3 exams, including a final, non-cumulative exam. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice and/or true/false questions (2 points each) covering content from all assigned readings, documentary films, radio talks, and lecture materials. NOTE: You may consult your PowerPoints and book as you take the exam, but you have only 60 minutes to take it and will get only one attempt! (You will want to be very familiar with the material before you open the exam; 3 exams, 100 points each).	Exams will be available in the assigned weeks from Wednesday 6AM till Sunday @ midnight	300
TOTAL			540

Expected Response times:

Homework assignments and online discussions will be graded within one week past the due date. *Due to large class size, I cannot always provide individual feedback for assignments. Feel free to contact me through e-mail, if you have questions regarding your grade.*

Extra Credit:

There will be NO individual extra credit assignments offered at any time.

Schedule

ANTH 1105, Introduction to Physical Anthropology				
Week	Begin Date	End Date	Topic/Chapter/Assignment	Due Dates** for assignments printed in bold
	01/09		Start Here Module Syllabus and other links provided Introduce Yourself-Discussion Thread	Sunday, January 17th at midnight
1		01/17	What is Physical/Biological Anthropology? Reading Response 1	Sunday at midnight
2	01/18	01/24	Evolution Discussion 1	Sunday night at midnight
3	01/25	01/31	Molecular Biology and Genetics Quiz 1	Sunday night at midnight

4	02/01	02/07	Forces of Evolution Study for the Exam!	
5	02/08	02/14	Exam 1	Exam available from Wednesday 6AM till Sunday 11:59PM
6/7	02/15	02/28	Modern Human Variation Part I: Race and Human Variation Part II: Human Variation and Adaptations Reading Response 2, Discussion 2	Sunday at midnight
8/9	03/01	03/14	Living Primates Part I: Meet the Living Primates Part II: Primate Ecology and Behavior and Primate Conservation Quiz 2, Activity 1, Study for Exam 2!	Sunday at midnight
10	03/22	03/28	Exam 2	Exam available from Wednesday 6AM till Sunday 11:59PM
11	03/29	04/04	Understanding the Fossil Context Reading Response 3	Sunday night at midnight
12	04/05	04/11	Early Hominins Quiz 3	Sunday night at midnight
13	04/12	04/18	Early Members of the Genus Homo and Archaic Homo Discussion 3	Sunday night at midnight
14	04/19	05/02	Modern Homo Sapiens and Contemporary Topics Part I: Modern Homo Sapiens Part II: Contemporary Topics: Human Biology and Health Activity Assignment 2, Study for Exam 3!	Sunday night at midnight
16	05/03	05/09	Assessment Quiz Textbook Satisfaction Survey Exam 3	All assignments available for the full week

****Note:** All times are EST. Dates may change at the instructor's discretion: all changes will be posted in the News/Announcements section of CourseDen. Major assignments, papers, and exams are in bold.

* Course Policies and Resources

Makeup Work and Missed Assignments:

All assignments are due on time. Make-up assignments, including exams, are at the instructor's discretion. You have 24 hrs to contact the instructor regarding any missed assignment, which must then be taken within one week to receive credit. If late assignments are accepted, a penalty may be applied. You may not receive a grade of "Incomplete" simply because you did not take part in the course, an incomplete will only be issued at the instructor's discretion, and only in cases where close communication has been maintained with the instructor regarding an emergency that has kept a student from receiving credit for a portion of the class.

Improvement Points:

In this class you will have the opportunity to improve your study habits dramatically. While this is happening, you should be offered the opportunity to correctly make-up for an assignment/quiz that didn't go so well. For these reasons, you will have an opportunity to make Improvement Points if your Exam grades improve. For example, if a student were to earn a 60% on the first test, an 80% on the second test and a 90% on the third test (a 76% avg), they would have collectively earned 8 points of extra credit on their final grade average (bringing their grade to an 84%). Please note the Improvement Points chart that follows:

	A 20 point increase	A 10 point increase
From Exam 1 to Exam 2	+4 pts on class avg.	+2 pts on class avg.
	A 10 point increase	A 5 point increase
From Exam 2 to Exam 3	+4 pts on class avg.	+2 pts on class avg.

Institutional Policies

Academic Support

Accessibility Services: Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact [Accessibility Services \(https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php).

Center for Academic Success: The [Center for Academic Success \(http://www.westga.edu/cas/\)](http://www.westga.edu/cas/) provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6280 or cas@westga.edu.

University Writing Center: The [University Writing Center \(https://www.westga.edu/writing/\)](https://www.westga.edu/writing/) assists students with all areas of the writing process. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6513 or writing@westga.edu.

Online Courses

UWG takes students' privacy concerns seriously: technology-enhanced and partially and fully online courses use sites and entities beyond UWG and students have the right to know the privacy policies of these entities. For more information on privacy and accessibility for the most commonly used sites, as well as technology requirements visit the [UWG Online \(https://uwgonline.westga.edu/\)](https://uwgonline.westga.edu/) site.

Students enrolled in online courses can find answers to many of their questions in the [Online/Off-Campus Student Guide \(http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php\)](http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php).

If a student is experiencing distress and needs help, please see the resources available at the [UWG Cares \(http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/\)](http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/) site. [Online counseling \(https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php) is also available for online students.

Honor Code

At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.

The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student's conduct record at UWG.

Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student's account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code, please see the [Student Handbook \(https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/handbook-code-of-conduct.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/handbook-code-of-conduct.php).

UWG Email Policy

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student's responsibility to check his or her email.

Credit Hour Policy

The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

HB 280 (Campus Carry)

UWG follows University System of Georgia (USG) guidance: http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information# (http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information)

You may also visit our website for help with USG Guidance: <https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php> (<https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php>)

Mental Health Support

If you or another student find that you are experiencing a mental health issue, free confidential services are available on campus in the [Counseling Center](#). Students who have experienced sexual or domestic violence may receive confidential medical and advocacy services with the Patient Advocates in [Health Services](#). To report a concern anonymously, please go to [UWGCares](#).

ELL Resources

If you are a student having difficulty with English language skills, and / or U.S. culture is not your home culture, specialized resources are available to help you succeed. Please visit the [E.L.L. resource page](#) for more information.

COVID-19

Proctored Exams/Online Instruction: Students should be aware and plan ahead for the possibility of having to complete all courses and/or exams online or in a proctored environment. This means talking with your instructors about what minimum technical requirements (software and hardware) will be required should your class move online or a student's personal needs dictate. This also includes making plans for internet access at whatever location participation may occur.

Virtual or in-person proctored exams, if your instructor should require them, may result in an additional cost to the student. Please discuss these details with your instructor or see the information provided here.

Face Coverings: Effective July 15, 2020, University System of Georgia institutions, including the University of West Georgia, will require all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to wear an appropriate face covering while inside campus facilities/buildings where six feet social distancing may not always be possible. Face covering use will be in addition to and is not a substitute for social distancing.

Face coverings are not required in campus outdoor settings where social distancing requirements are met. Anyone not using a face covering when required will be asked to wear one or must leave the area.

Reasonable accommodations may be made for those who are unable to wear a face covering for documented health reasons.

Student FAQs: For more information about UWG COVID-19 guidance for students visit the [Student FAQ webpage](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/health/coronavirus-info/return-to-campus/students-faq-return-to-campus.php) (<https://www.westga.edu/student-services/health/coronavirus-info/return-to-campus/students-faq-return-to-campus.php>).

Additional Items
