

**Anthropology 401H -- Human Evolution: The Material Evidence
Fall 2009**

Instructor: Dr. Alan Walker (axw8@psu.edu), Phone 865-3122. Office hours: T & TH 2:00 – 3:30, 315 Carpenter or by appointment.

Lecture: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4.15 – 5.30, 03 Ferguson Building

Prerequisite: ANTH 021

Texts: Conroy GC. 2005 (2nd Edition). *Reconstructing Human Origins*. New York: WW Norton & Co.
Recommended: Conroy, GC. 1990. *Primate Evolution*. 2nd Ed. New York: WW Norton & Co. (Out of date somewhat)
Fleagle JG. 1999. *Primate Adaptation and Evolution*. San Diego: Academic Press.
(A good reference book on primates and fossil primates)
Rowe, N. 1996 *A pictorial guide to the living primates*. Pogonias Press. (great illustrations and information).

Assigned reading should be done prior to lecture. pdfs of lecture powerpoints with notes will be posted on Angel for you before the class. These contain material that is not in your text or other reading. Occasionally I will assign additional reading.

Assignment of Grades – note there will be **NO** written tests in this course –grades will be based on attendance, and the quality of presentations, prospectuses and research papers.

Midterm prospectus due (October 8th) – 20%

Final review paper due (December 11th) – 70%

Presentations based on final review paper (between 1st and 10th December) – 10%

See guidelines for review papers below. Cheating on exams will result in a zero grade.

Penn State defines academic integrity as the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner. All students should act with personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights and property, and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their efforts (Faculty Senate Policy 49-20). Dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated in this course. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. Students who are found to be dishonest will receive academic sanctions and will be reported to the University's Judicial Affairs office for possible further disciplinary sanction. Penn State has the use of Turnitin © a Web-based plagiarism detection and prevention system owned by Turnitin.com, Inc., to check review papers.

The Pennsylvania State University encourages qualified people with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities and is committed to the policy that all people shall have equal access to programs, facilities, and admissions without regard to personal characteristics not related to ability, performance, or qualifications as determined by University policy or by state or federal authorities. If you anticipate needing any type of

accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, please tell the instructor as soon as possible.

Special Fall 2009 Flu Protocols -In compliance with Pennsylvania Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control recommendations, students should NOT attend class or any public gatherings while ill with influenza. Students with flu symptoms will be asked to leave campus if possible and to return home during recovery. The illness and self-isolation period will usually be about a week. It is very important that individuals avoid spreading the flu to others. Most students should be able to complete a successful semester despite a flu-induced absence. Faculty will provide students who are absent because of illness with a reasonable opportunity to make up missed work. Ordinarily, it is inappropriate to substitute for the missed assignment the weighting of a semester's work that does not include the missed assignment or exam. Completion of all assignments and exams assures the greatest chance for students to develop heightened understanding and content mastery that is unavailable through the weighting process. The opportunity to complete all assignments and exams supports the university's desire to enable students to make responsible situational decisions, including the decision to avoid spreading a contagious virus to other students, staff, and faculty, without endangering their academic work. Students with the flu do not need to provide a physician's certification of illness. However, ill students should inform their teachers (but not through personal contact in which there is a risk of exposing others to the virus) as soon as possible that they are absent because of the flu. Likewise students should contact their instructors as quickly as possible to arrange to make up missed assignments or exams.

Additional readings as listed in the lecture schedule. These articles will be available in PDF format on ANGEL.

- A1. **Madagascar's lemurs** (1993) Ian Tattersall, *Scientific American* 268:110-117
- A2. **The phylogeny of Old World monkeys** (1998) Todd R. Disotell, *Evolutionary Anthropology* 5:18-24
- A3. **The primate fossil record** (2002) John G. Fleagle, *Evolutionary Anthropology* 11:20-23
- A4. **The century of the past: One hundred years in the study of primate evolution** (2000) John G. Fleagle, *Evolutionary Anthropology* 9:87-100
- A5. **The Earliest Primates** (1994) Kenneth D. Rose, *Evolutionary Anthropology* 3:159-173
- A6. **Shaking the Earliest Branches of Anthropoid Primate Evolution** (2005) Jean-Jacques Jaeger and Laurent Marivaux *Science* 310:244-245
- A7. **Eocene primates from Myanmar: Historical perspectives on the origin of Anthroidea** (2002) Russell L. Ciochon and Gregg F. Gunnell, *Evolutionary Anthropology* 11:156-168
- A8. **A whole new world of ancestors: Eocene anthropoids from Africa** (1994) Elwyn L. Simons and D. Tab Rasmussen, *Evolutionary Anthropology* 3:128-139
- A9. **Victoriapithecus: The key to Old World monkey and catarrhine origins** (1999) Brenda R. Benefit, *Evolutionary Anthropology* 7:155-174

Anthropology 401 – Lecture and Laboratory Schedule

Date	Lecture	Reading
Aug 25th	Introduction to course	
Aug 27 th	Introduction to living primates 1	C: 3-23; A1
Sep 1 st	Introduction to living primates 2	C: 3-23; A2
Sep 3rd	Classification methods	C: 81-95, 130-137
Sep 8th	Continental drift, dating methods and paleoclimate	C: 25-79
Sep 10 th	Primate origins	A3; A4
Sep 15 th	The earliest fossil primates	A5
Sep 17 th	Subfossil lemurs, lorisooids & tarsiers	A1
Sep 22 nd	Anthropoid origins	A6; A7; A8
Sep 24 th	Early Miocene hominoids	C: 96-117
Sep 29 th	Middle and late Miocene hominoids	C: 117-130
Oct 1 st	Fossil Old & New World monkeys	A9
Oct 6 th	Early hominid paleobiology and phylogeny I	C: 117-130
Oct 8 th	Early hominid paleobiology and phylogeny II <i>Review paper prospectus due</i>	C: 117-130
Oct 13 th	Australopithecine paleobiology and phylogeny I	C: 138-231
Oct 15 th	Australopithecine paleobiology and phylogeny II	C: 138-231
Oct 20 th	Origin of the genus <i>Homo</i> I	C: 294-325
Oct 22 nd	Origin of the genus <i>Homo</i> II	C: 294-325
Oct 27 th	<i>Homo erectus</i> I	C: 344-411
Oct 29 th	<i>Homo erectus</i> II	C: 344-411
Nov 3 rd	Archaic <i>Homo sapiens</i>	C: 412-449
Nov 5 th	Neanderthals	C: 512-547
Nov 10 th	Origins of modern humans	C: 450-463; 495-512
Nov 12 th	The evolution of human life history	C: 275-285
Nov 19 th	The evolution of human culture	C: 294-302, 376-381, 458-463
Nov 24 th	Thanksgiving holiday	
Nov 26 th	Thanksgiving holiday	
Dec 1 st	Class presentations	
Dec 3 rd	Class presentations	
Dec 8 th	Class presentations	
Dec 10 th	Class presentations	
Dec 11 th	Review papers due Final Exam Week (Dec 14 th – 18 th)	

C = Conroy (2005).

Review Paper Topics and Guidelines

Paper topics

Students will write a review paper on a topic in human or primate evolution that will be assigned to them. By **October 8th** review paper prospectuses should be handed in. These are one-page proposals including references that make use of at least three **primary** references directly related to the chosen topic. Begin by making use of the reference list provided by Conroy (2005) or Fleagle (1999) in the assigned and recommended texts. Students will give 10 minute Powerpoint presentations on class days Dec 1st to 10th. The date of presentations is given in the envelope in which the research topic is assigned. Final research papers are due on **December 11th**. Papers should be no longer than 10 pages (double-spaced) excluding references, diagrams and images. Plagiarism is not allowed. Please do not attempt to appropriate or pass off as your own someone else's ideas or writings. There are standard ways of referencing the work of others. **Use the guidelines (see instructions on Angel) for formatting your papers, particularly the references.** You can use Wikipedia but realize that the entries in it are not peer reviewed and can be very unreliable if not downright wrong.