

HBIO 200: THE HUMAN ANIMAL
University of Southern California
Fall 2018

LECTURES: Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00 pm - 3:20 pm

LOCATION: SGM 123

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Caitlin O'Connell

Office: AHF (Hancock), Jane Goodall Center, B10-B*

Email: acon233@usc.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:00 am -12:00 pm or by appointment

*Enter Hancock, walk down the corridor to the right. Take the stairwell (second set of stairs just past the elevator) to the basement and turn left where you will see the Jane Goodall Center. My office is the first one on the right.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Biological Anthropology: The Natural History of Humankind, by Stanford, Allen and Antón (Fourth Edition).

Annual Editions in Physical Anthropology, **27th Edition** (do not buy other editions)

Through a Window, by Jane Goodall (1991), many used copies available online.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: During this course, we will focus on gaining an understanding of the place of humans in the natural world. You will be introduced to an evolutionary and biological view of the human species. We will examine topics including the forces of evolution, genetics, human variation, primate diversity and socioecology, hominin evolution, and the features (both morphological and behavioral) that make humans unique. By the end of the course you will have a better understanding of the factors that have shaped humans into what we are today. Theoretical questions confronting the field currently are discussed, to familiarize you with the major issues researchers are concerned with.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Establish an understanding of the scientific method.
- Establish a core knowledge base in human evolution including approaches in evolutionary biology, biological anthropology, primate behavioral ecology, population genetics, and modern human variation and adaptation.
- Gain an understanding of ecological and evolutionary processes including the role of genetic variation, heredity, and natural selection as well as the implications these processes have for the origins and evolution of modern humans and their biology.

GRADING: Grading for the course is based on total points accumulated. The components of your grade are as follows:

25% = Exam 1

25% = Exam 2

25% = Exam 3

25% = Lab (assignments, attendance, participation)

Course grades, syllabus, announcements and handouts will be posted on Blackboard.

LECTURES: Partial powerpoint slides (in pdf format) are posted on Blackboard and will be posted *before* class. If you miss a class, **do not** ask Dr. O’Connell or a TA for notes; you should seek a classmate to obtain further notes.

LABS: Attendance in labs is required. The TA's will discuss the readings, review course material, lead hands-on learning experiences, hold exam reviews, and show videos to supplement the course material.

EXAMINATIONS: All regularly scheduled exams will be a combination of objective and essay questions. Make-up exams will be given only if you have a written, official university excuse, health or activity-related. Unexcused missed exams receive a score of 0. Students who are officially excused from scheduled exams will take a make-up administered no more than one week after the class exam date. This makeup will cover the same material, but in a different format - usually more essay-based - than the in-class exam.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS: A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Deliver this letter to Dr. O’Connell as early in the semester as possible. DSP: Student Union (STU) 301 - 8:30-5:00pm Monday – Friday, (213) 740-0776

COMMUNICATION ETIQUETTE: Please use your university account for all correspondence. Emails from other accounts (e.g. gmail) may not be replied to. Use a clear subject line that includes the course name/section and the topic of the email such as “HBIO200 Question about journal article.” Show that you have made an effort to find the answer first in the text and lecture material (or even an outside source). State what you know in relation to what you are having a difficult time understanding. Include your full name in the signature of your email. **Please note: I may choose not to respond to emails that do not follow the format outlined above** so please be thorough and respectful when addressing me with a concern and in return, I will try my very best to get back to you as soon as possible to accommodate your needs.

ACADEMIC CONDUCT (USC STATEMENT):

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Section 11, *Behavior Violating University Standards* <https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are also unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/>. Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the *Office of Equity and Diversity* <http://equity.usc.edu/> or to the *Department of Public Safety* <http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/onlineforms/contact-us>. This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. *The Center for Women and Men* <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/> provides 24/7 confidential support, and the

sexual assault resource center webpage sarc@usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

SUPPORT SYSTEMS:

There are several schools at USC that provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the *American Language Institute* <http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali>, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. *The Office of Disability Services and Programs* http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, *USC Emergency Information* <http://emergency.usc.edu/> will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

**Subject to modification*

NOTE - follow your individual section syllabus provided by your TA for Lab schedule and *Annual Edition* readings.

Week #	Lecture # and Date	Lecture Topic	Reading from Stanford et al.	Lab Component
1	1. Aug 20	Intro to Course and Biological Anthropology	Introduction	NO LABS
	2. Aug 22	History of Evolutionary Thought	Ch.1	
2	3. Aug 27	Genetics and evolution	Ch. 2, 3	Evolution video and readings
	4. Aug 29	Forces of Evolution and Speciation	Ch. 4	
3	Sept 3	NO CLASS (Labor Day)		Evolution lab and readings
	5. Sept 5	Adaptation	Ch. 5	
4	6. Sept 10	Human variation	Ch. 5	Human variation and Exam Review
	7. Sept 12	What is a primate?	Ch. 6	
5	8. Sept 17	Exam 1		NO LABS?
	9. Sept 19	Lemurs, lorises, galagos	Ch. 6, 7	
6	10. Sept 24	Monkeys	Ch. 6, 7	Primate osteology
	11. Sept 26	Apes	Ch. 6, 7	
7	12. Oct 1	Primate ecology and behavior	Ch. 7	Primate video and readings

	13. Oct 3	Primate ecology and behavior	Ch. 7	
8	14. Oct 8	Primate conservation		<i>Through a Window</i> and video
	15. Oct 10	Primate fossils	Ch. 8, 9	
9	16. Oct 15	Primate locomotion	Ch. 9	Locomotion and ape lab
	17. Oct 17	Exam 2		
10	18. Oct 22	Early human ancestors - candidates	Ch. 10	Hominins I
	19. Oct 24	Australopithecines	Ch. 10	
11	20. Oct 29	Early Homo	Ch. 11	Hominins II
	21. Oct 31	Later Homo	Ch. 11	
12	22. Nov 5	Homo sapiens and Neandertals	Ch. 12	Readings
	23. Nov 7	Models of human origins - the latest advances	Ch. 13	
13	24. Nov 12	Cognition and language	Ch. 14	Techniques in Human Biology
	25. Nov 14	Evolutionary Medicine	Ch. 15	
14	26. Nov 19	Human behavior	Ch. 16	NO LABS (Thanksgiving Break)
	27. Nov 21-25	No class		
15	28. Nov 26	Forensic Anthropology	Ch. 17	Forensic Anthropology
	29. Nov 28	Final lecture: What does this all mean?		
	Friday Dec 7 2:00-4:00 pm	Final exam		