

HBIO 120 – Introduction to Human and Evolutionary Biology (1 unit)

Spring 2024

Lectures: Monday, 4:00 – 4:50 PM

Location: DMS 116

Instructors: Helaine Lopes, PhD (she/her/hers)

Office: PED 109

Office Hours: by appointment only

Contact Info: lopes@usc.edu

I will respond to emails within 48 hours either individually via email or as a group in class (if the topic is relevant for all students attending the class). For answers to complex questions, the student may be encouraged to schedule a visit during office hours.

Course Description

- This class is an introductory course for students enrolled in any of the tracks for the HBIO majors (BA or BS).
- This class is to be taken during freshman year or after a student's transfer into one of the HBIO major programs.
- This course is intended to introduce HBIO majors to the fields of human biology and evolutionary biology. Each discipline will be defined as well as their role within the fields of biological sciences. Additionally, this course is designed to expose the students to a variety of career options in health-related fields as well as career options in STEM, education, environmental and wildlife management. Professionals from within these fields will speak to give you more of a realistic view of what is entailed in a day in the life of their respective health professions.
- The curriculum will include introductory lectures by instructors or guest lecturers and discussions led by the instructors.
- Upon completion of this course, student should be able to describe the different sub-fields of human and evolutionary biology and reflect upon the how completing the major in this discipline can help them achieve professional success.

Learning Objectives

In this course, students will be guided to:

- Explore and describe various subfields of human biology and human evolutionary Biology
- Interact with professionals in the various fields of human and evolutionary biology
- Discuss and explain the roles of various health care professions
- Discuss the process of research in the field of human and evolutionary biology (e.g.: grant writing, funding, publishing, etc..)

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- to identify suitable career options in the discipline of human biology
- to reflect on the personality qualities, technical skills, and academic background needed for various professions related to human biology
- to discuss career options in relation to the tracks of the HBIO majors
- to reflect on the field of human biology that is most aligned with their own interests and talents
- to reflect upon how completing a major in this discipline can help them achieve professional success

Description and Assessment of Assignments

Class material will be evaluated with four reflective reports of 1 -2 pages and two assignments surveying student's interests and discussing group interaction

Reflective essays/reports:

In the first three essays, students will look back upon the knowledge gained via the presentations that described various sub-fields of human biology and how the background lectures changed their definition of a Human and Evolutionary Biology degree. Students may wish to identify the lectures that were the most beneficial to their growth and understanding of this degree. Students will be invited to express how their attitudes or feelings toward obtaining an HBIO degree have changed following taking this class.

In the final essay, students will reflect upon the development of their future pre-professional and/or professional plan. Students may want to discuss how the presentations provided information that changed their perspective on some of their earlier plans.

Technological proficiency and Hardware/Software required

This course requires the use of Blackboard. Blackboard will be the repository of lecture slides and announcements.

USC Technology Rental Program (<https://itservices.usc.edu/spaces/laptoploaner/>): Students who are in need of resources to participate in this class can apply to the university's equipment rental program. The Student Basic Needs team will work with you to distribute equipment (if you are eligible). Please visit <https://studentbasicneeds.usc.edu/resources/technology-assistance/> to apply and for more information.

Required Readings and Supplementary Materials

Textbook:

Nana Cross, Dana McWay, & Peggy Stanfield. **Stanfield's Introduction to Health Professions**. 7th edition (2017). Jones & Bartlett Learning.

Sharing of Course Materials Outside of the Learning Environment is Strictly Prohibited

USC has a strict policy (SCampus Section 11.12[B]) that prohibits sharing of any synchronous and asynchronous course content outside of the learning environment. Any student who violates this policy will be prosecuted to the maximum extent allowable by the USC Student Conduct Code, including failure of the course and suspension from the University.

Distribution or use of notes or recordings based on university classes or lectures without the express permission of the instructor for purposes other than individual or group study is a violation of the USC Student Conduct Code. This includes, but is not limited to, providing materials for distribution by services publishing class notes. This restriction on unauthorized use also applies to all information, which had been distributed to students or in any way had been displayed for use in relationship to the class, whether obtained in class, via email, on the Internet or via any other media. (See Section C.1 Class Notes Policy).

Grading Breakdown

Assignment	% Final Grade
Reflective Essays	45% (15% each)
Final Essay	25
Other (e.g survey, group essays)	30
	100

Grading Timeline

All graded work will be returned no later than two weeks after the submission deadline. The grade for this class will be Credit/No Credit and therefore all assignments will also be graded as pass or no pass.

Late work

Late work is not allowed for this class. Students must complete 80% of the assignments to receive a passing grade (e.g. 3 reflections and 80% of the quizzes). Grades will be P/NP.

Assignment Submission

Assignments should be submitted via Blackboard.

Technology in the classroom

- You may use personal electronic devices (laptops, ipads) for academic purposes directly related to the class. Students using a device for purposes not directly related to the class will be required to put the device away. There are times that I will request that all devices are put away to ensure focus on class activities.
- Please turn off or disable all cell phones or other electronic communication devices during class time.

Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown

Week	Lecture Topic	Instructor	Assignments
01/8	Overview of HBIO Degrees; historical perspective HBIO Healthcare Professions	Lopes	Surveys due
01/22	Academic Advising; HBIO tracks and Minors; JEP: HBIO Club	Acad Advisor JEP rep HBIO Club President	
01/29	Research	Dr. Turcotte	Assign Essay #1
2/5	Career Center Study Abroad	Career Center Rep Study Abroad Rep	Essay #1 Due
2/12	Library Resources Kortschak	HBIO Library Resource rep Kortschak rep	
2/26	Past Student Experience HBIO Lab Experience	Nimisha M.-student Lab Instructor Lisa Le	Assign Essay #2
3/4	USC Clubs Groups	Lopes	Essay #2 due
3/18	Healthcare Professional	EMT	Group review due
3/25	Human Biology Professors	Dr. Polidori Dr. Schier	Assign Essay #3
4/1	Human Biology Professors	Dr. Kwast Dr. Kanoski	Essay #3 due
4/8	Human Biology and Biomechanics	Dr. McNitt-Gray	
4/15	Medical School Admissions	Dr. Arias	
4/22	Healthcare Professional	Natalie Houser, PA	
5/6 FINAL	Final Essay Due	N/A	FINAL ESSAY DUE: CUMULATIVE

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct:

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

Support Systems:

Student Health Counseling Services - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call
engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call
suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 – 24/7 on call
engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to genderbased harm.

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED) | Title IX - (213) 740-5086
equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu

Information about how to get help or help a survivor of harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following protected characteristics: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations.

Bias Assessment Response and Support - (213) 740-2421
studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions for appropriate investigation and response.

The Office of Disability Services and Programs - (213) 740-0776

dsp.usc.edu

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

USC Support and Advocacy - (213) 821-4710

studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101

diversity.usc.edu

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu

Non-emergency assistance or information