Department of Anthropology
ANTH 1026G-650:
Introduction to Biological Anthropology and Archaeology
DISTANCE STUDIES
Course Outline
Winter 2018

Instructor: Dr. Karyn Olsen
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Email: kolsen5@uwo.ca
Office Hours: By appointment (in person or via Skype)

Teaching Assistant: Katya Valladares
Office: Social Science Centre, Room
Email: kvallad@uwo.ca
Office Hours: By appointment (in person or via Skype)

Credit Value: 0.5
Anti-requisite: Anthropology 1020E
Anthropology 1020E is anti-requisite for this course, meaning that you cannot receive credit for taking both since they cover similar material.
Prerequisite: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course introduces you to the biological and cultural development of humankind through a combined focus on biological anthropology and archaeology. The topics we will cover include methods of fieldwork, research, and analysis; human origins, evolution, adaptation, and variation; the earliest evidence for human culture; the development of modern humans as hunter-gather-foragers and later shifts to food domestication and production; and the rise of politically complex societies around the world.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
By the end of this course, you will be able to:
• Define fundamental terminology, concepts, and methods associated with the study of biological anthropology/archaeology.

• Identify the kinds of questions anthropologists ask about past people and their environments and describe how anthropologists answer those questions using multiple lines of evidence.

• Ask questions relating to common debates in biological anthropology/archaeology, and identify answers in the literature using academic research skills.

• Complete the essential first steps of scholarly research, including locating and critically evaluating scholarly and other information sources relevant to anthropological topics.

• Articulate connections between biological anthropology/archaeology and today’s society, and your own lives.
REQUIRED READING: TEXT

The course text is available at Western’s Bookstore (https://bookstore.uwo.ca). When you do a textbook search from the bookstore’s main page, be sure to follow this pathway: Textbook Search>Distance Online Studies>Undergrad Winter/2nd Term 2018>ANT1026G Anthropology 1026g (650 CO).


REQUIRED READING: SUPPLEMENTARY ARTICLES

In some weeks, additional readings beyond the textbook are assigned. These readings are listed below and will be linked within the course OWL site.


ASSESSMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intro Assignment</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<td>Discussion Activities</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>“The Great Debate” OWL Page</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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- Intro Assignment: Introducing yourself and visualizing your learning in the course.
- Quizzes: Weekly quizzes are based on the readings and any activities completed that week.
- Discussion Activities: Weekly discussion activities may include peer interactions, contributing questions, research findings, personal reflections, or course feedback.
- “The Great Debate” OWL Page: You will design a webpage in OWL on the bipedalism debate in the subfield of biological anthropology.
- Research Paper: The research paper focuses on an assigned academic debate in the subfield of archaeology. Introduction and Bibliography (5%); Final Draft (25%)
- Final Exam: The exam is scheduled during the official Exam Period. You will write the exam in person on Western University campus or at the nearest Exam Centre.
DESCRIPTIONS OF ASSESSMENTS

Introduction and Course Visualization (3%) - Due Jan 12th
This introductory assignment is a way for you to introduce yourself to me (the instructor) and get to know the other students in the class. You will use text and images to describe the parts of the course that you are most excited to learn about, share what interested you in registering, and explain what you hope to gain from taking the course.

Weekly Quizzes (5%)
The 11 quizzes (worth 0.5% each) incorporated into this course are intended to help you stay on track with the material. Each quiz consists of ~10 multiple choice questions and is based on the readings and any activities completed that week (e.g., lecture videos, YouTube videos, material related to discussion activities, etc.) Quizzes are timed and only available for the week to which they are related (i.e., you cannot take all the quizzes at the end of the semester). Quizzes are open book. Students may work together if they wish. The quiz with the lowest mark will be dropped from the overall grade calculation.

Weekly Discussion Activities (20%)
These activities are opportunities for you to engage with course content, see the thoughts and opinions of your peers, contribute your own questions, or ideas, present evidence from independent research on the web, or reflect on coursework. Each discussion activity is worth 2.5% of your final grade. The activity with the lowest mark will be dropped from the overall grade calculation. Additional details for each discussion activity are available on the course OWL site.

“The Great Debate” OWL Page (12%) - Due March 2nd
For this assignment, you will design your own webpage in OWL! Your page will address an important question in biological anthropology: why did humans develop bipedal locomotion? As a class, we will read a key article that reflects one researcher’s explanation for the development of bipedalism. Your task will be to identify another explanation in the peer-reviewed literature, synthesize the information, and present it in OWL using text, images, and links to relevant YouTube videos, websites, etc. You may also include your own PowerPoint lesson on the topic. You will be asked to cite your sources and provide a bibliography with your finished webpage.

Research Paper (30%)
For this assignment, you will have the opportunity to choose from one of three topics related to ongoing academic debates in archaeology. Each topic is associated with an assigned peer-reviewed article representing one side of the debate. Your task is to write a 1400 to 1600-word paper that critically evaluates the strength of that article. Your essay must also reference three additional peer-reviewed journal articles on the topic (i.e., one article that supports the position of the assigned key article and two articles that oppose the position, or share a different opinion). This assignment is broken into two parts. You will receive feedback on your introductory paragraph and bibliography (5%; due March 23rd) to improve the quality of your final draft (25%; due April 9th).

Final Exam (30%)
The final exam will take place during the April exam period as scheduled by the Registrar. Exams will be written in person on Western University campus (id required) or at the nearest Exam Centre. The final exam is cumulative for the course and may include multiple choice questions, short answer, or essay questions. A live final exam review session will be held online at the end of the semester using the Blackboard Collaborate tool in OWL.
### WEEKLY OUTLINE, READING SCHEDULE, AND KEY DUE DATES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READINGS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Biological Anthropology Methods and Practice &amp; Acquiring and Interpreting Data in Archaeology&lt;br&gt;Introduction to research areas and methods in Biological Anthropology and Archaeology&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Intro &amp; Course Visualization Due January 12th</strong></td>
<td>Olszewski, Chapter 1 Stanford et al. (2017)</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td><strong>Humanity’s Roots</strong>&lt;br&gt;Evolutionary processes, significance of bipedalism, early Hominins, and first stone tools.</td>
<td>Olszewski, Chapter 2 Lovejoy (1984)</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td><strong>Becoming Human</strong>&lt;br&gt;Movement of Hominins out of Africa, relationship of humans to Neanderthals, and origins of language</td>
<td>Olszewski, Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td><strong>A World of Modern Humans</strong>&lt;br&gt;Technological innovations, use of symbolism, and the role of art among early human populations</td>
<td>Olszewski, Chapter 4</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td><strong>Human Variation &amp; The False Concept of Race</strong>&lt;br&gt;Exploring the scientific and anthropological arguments against biological races; examining the reality and impact of socially constructed racial categories</td>
<td>Goodman (2016)</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td><strong>Studying Nonhuman Primates</strong>&lt;br&gt;How studies of nonhuman primate behaviour help us to better understand human evolution</td>
<td>Turnbaugh et al. (2002)</td>
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<td>Feb 19-25</td>
<td>Reading Week</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>“The Great Debate” OWL Page Due March 2nd</td>
<td>No Reading. No Quiz. No Discussion Activity.</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td><strong>Transition to Agriculture and Eastern North America (3000 BC to 1400 AD)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Exploring the shift food production economies; Late Archaic, Woodland and Mississippian cultures</td>
<td>Olszewski, Chapter 5* (*only pages 153-161) Olszewski, Chapter 7</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td><strong>Early Politically Complex Societies</strong>&lt;br&gt;Pharaonic State and Old Kingdom Egypt</td>
<td>Olszewski, Chapter 9</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td><strong>Early Politically Complex Societies</strong>&lt;br&gt;Shang China&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Intro &amp; Bib for Research Paper Due March 23rd</strong></td>
<td>Olszewski, Chapter 10 No Discussion Activity.</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td><strong>Early Politically Complex Societies</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mesoamerica and Classic Maya</td>
<td>Olszewski, Chapter 12</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td><strong>Later Politically Complex Societies</strong>&lt;br&gt;Andean South America and Inka Empire</td>
<td>Olszewski, Chapter 13</td>
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<td>Apr 9-11</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam Review Session</strong>&lt;br&gt;Research Paper Due April 9th</td>
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<td>Exam Period (April)</td>
<td>Final exam date is determined by the Registrar and takes place on Western Campus or at an Exam Centre</td>
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INSTRUCTOR POLICIES

Learning Environment
This course relies on the OWL course site. The syllabus, assignment outlines, content, and other course material will be posted there. Here, you will engage with me, the TA, and your peers as we progress through the course. Please contribute respectfully.

Email
You may contact me or the TA by email, but it may take up to 24 hours for a response. If we cannot provide an immediate response, or if the matter is something we cannot address quickly, we will direct you to meet with us through skype or in-person at our offices on campus. Please ensure that your emails are worded professionally and include the course number (1026G) in the subject line.

Support Services to Help Students Succeed

Wellness
- If you are in emotional or mental distress, please refer to Mental Health@Western http://www.uwo.ca/uwcom/mentalhealth for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Writing Support Centre http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/writing/
- If you think you may need some support with your academic writing skills, please visit the Writing Support Centre in person or online. The Centre aims to (1) enhance your writing and communication skills and build your confidence, (2) equip you with tools, resources and knowledge to effectively communicate through writing, (3) increase your critical analysis abilities to effectively communicate scholarly ideas, (4) convey university level writing expectations, and (5) provide you with the skills you need to navigate academic transitions.

Learning Skills Services http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/learning/
- The goal of Western’s Learning Skills Services is support your development as excellent students. The counsellors answer your questions and provide advice on how to be successful at Western. They help you develop new skills or strengthen existing academic skills. You can make an individual appointment with a learning skills counsellor, attend learning skills presentations, drop by the Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) Centre, or receive helpful information via e-mail. Information on important learning skills topics is also available online.

Assignments
Assignments must be submitted electronically, through the Assignments tab in OWL. Late assignments will be penalized 5% per day (including weekends and holidays) unless your request for an extension has been approved by me or by Academic Counselling. Submissions must be completed by the designated due date to avoid late penalties. An assignment will NOT be accepted if it is submitted more than one week past the due date.
Make sure to back up all your written work, including notes, drafts, etc. Computer-related problems cannot be used as a justification for extensions or accommodations. Western regulations stipulate that students are required to write a minimum of 1500 words in essay assignments when completing a 0.5 credit essay course like this one. Turn-it-in software is used to check written assignments for plagiarism.

**Missed Deadlines**
Occasionally illness or other personal issues make it impossible to meet assignment deadlines. In all cases where accommodation is being sought for work totaling 10% or more of the final grade, you should contact their Faculty Academic Counseling Office who will determine if accommodation is warranted and will require appropriate written documentation. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate your situation if your documentation is accepted by Academic Counselling. In cases where accommodation is being sought for work totaling less than 10% of the final grade, you must contact me and be ready to provide written documentation in support of your request.

**Missed Exams**
University policy states that if you do not attend an examination at the time set in the timetable, you will not be allowed to write the missed examination. If you miss an exam, you must report it immediately to your professor and Faculty Dean's Office. You may, with the approval of the relevant Department Chair, petition for permission to write a Special Examination.

**ACADEMIC POLICIES**
All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current academic policies regarding **accessibility, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and medical accommodation**. These policies are outlined (with links to the full policies) at: http://anthropology.uwo.ca/undergraduate/course_information/academic_policies.html