

ANTHROPOLOGY 1022A – 001 & 002

Introduction to Biological Anthropology and Archaeology

Department of Anthropology

BRIEF COURSE OUTLINE

Fall 2022

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Instructors:

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Credit value: 0.5 credit

Mode of Delivery: This is an in-person course with a lab component. Students will sign up for a weekly lab timeslot but will only attend labs every other week. Lab schedules will be announced in the first week of class.

Requisites:

Antirequisites: Anthropology 1020 (formerly Anthropology 1020E), Anthropology 1026F/G.

Prerequisites: None.

Please note: if you are interested in pursuing a module in Anthropology, you should pair this course with *Introduction to Sociocultural and Linguistic Anthropology*, either Anthropology 1021A/B (non-essay) or Anthropology 1025F/G (essay).

Course Description:

Why take this course? You won't just learn the fundamentals of how biological anthropology and archaeology help us understand our deep history and the world around us. You will also have an opportunity to engage in debates that are still ongoing in the field, and to interpret evidence through the lenses of biological anthropology and archaeology. The underlying theme connecting these fields is the study of human evolution, both biological and cultural -- the examination of our biological nature, our biological roots, and our cultural past. Both also document and celebrate human diversity, past and present. We will cover a range of topics: the place of biological anthropology and archaeology within the broader discipline of anthropology and their contributions to modern society; the genetic basis of evolution; the ecology and behaviour of non-human primates; interpreting the fossil record of human evolution; the origin of our species, *Homo sapiens*; and human variation and adaptability. We will also explore how the archaeological record forms; different types of archaeological evidence; archaeological methods and interpretation; mechanisms of cultural change; and how our understanding of human past shapes and is shaped by the world today.

A full course schedule including a week-by-week breakdown of topics and assigned readings will be available on the course's OWL site before the first day of class.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Define fundamental terms, concepts, and methods associated with the study of biological anthropology and archaeology.
- Explain the kinds of questions anthropologists ask about past people and their environments and describe how anthropologists answer those questions using multiple lines of evidence.
- Critically evaluate scholarly research and other sources relevant to anthropological topics.
- Develop and express informed opinions on anthropological debates by identifying and evaluating evidence from a range of techniques and scholarly sources.
- Formulate anthropological questions specific to a particular context and select appropriate methods and techniques from biological anthropology and archaeology to address them, while recognizing the limitations of these approaches.
- Identify connections between the human past, today's society, and your own life.

Course Materials:

The majority of course readings will be in the Archaeology and Biological Anthropology Custom Course Book, 1022 University of Toronto Press Custom Publishing. The textbook includes selected readings from: *Through the Lens of Anthropology: An Introduction to Human Evolution and Culture*, Second Edition, by Robert J. Muckle and Laura Tubelle de González; and *Introducing Archaeology*, Third Edition, by Robert J. Muckle and Stacey L. Camp.

You can order a hard copy of the course text through [The Book Store](#) at Western. When you do a textbook search from the bookstore's main page, be sure to follow this pathway: Books>Textbook Search>University of Western Ontario>Undergrad Fall/1st Term 2021>ANT1022A Intro Biol Anthro & Archa (001 UW). Note that order processing times is 1-3 business days. The Bookstore recommends in-store pickup over in-store shopping.

You can purchase the e-book (which gives you instant access) directly from University of Toronto Press.

Other short readings for specific weeks will be posted on the OWL course site.

Evaluation:

Weekly Quizzes	10%
2 Assignments	30%
5 Labs	25%
Final Examination	35%

Weekly Quizzes – 10%

The 11 quizzes (the lowest mark will be dropped, making 10 quizzes worth 1% each) incorporated into this course are intended to help you stay on top of the course material. Each quiz consists of multiple-choice questions and is based on the mini-lectures, readings, and resources (e.g. YouTube

videos) covered since the previous quiz. Quizzes are open book but must be completed within a time limit.

Quizzes occur in Weeks 1-11.

Note: If you miss a quiz, you will not be able to complete that quiz. However, the quiz that receives the lowest mark will be dropped from the overall grade calculation for the course.

2 assignments- 30% (15% each)

The four short assignments are opportunities to think critically about the broader social context and application of the knowledge we're considering each week, and to further engage with course content and online media. Details for each activity will be posted on the course OWL site.

5 Labs - 25% (5% each)

The labs provide hands-on experience working with a range of materials encountered by biological anthropologists and archaeologists. For example, you will use skull casts to examine evolutionary changes over time in our primate ancestors, and examine household waste to explore what material remains can tell us about the status, age, ethnicity and so forth of people who lived there.

Final Examination - 35%

The final exam will take place during the designated exam period (December 10th to 23rd). The specific due date will be announced on the course site in OWL when the final exam schedule is released. The final exam is cumulative for the course and will involve a reflection on the methods used by biological anthropologists and archaeologists to learn about people in the past and present, and the ethical implications of research.

Academic Statements and Policies

Statement on Written Submissions:

All written submissions may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com).

Statement on Plagiarism:

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course.

Statement on Seeking Special Accommodations:

No accommodations will be granted retroactively more than 10 days after an assignment's due date or a missed quiz or test. Please see your academic counsellor immediately if you will be seeking accommodations based on medical or compassionate grounds.

Institutional Statements and 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 in Western's academic policies by clicking on this link: [Western's academic policies](#).

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