

**OUR PLACE IN NATURE:  
INTRODUCTION TO BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

**COURSE SUMMARY:**

This course deals with the historical and comparative bio-anthropology of humans, looking at humans as members of the animal kingdom, focusing on the attributes shared with our primate relatives, and the origins of uniquely human attributes.

Instructor: Jonathan Marks ([jmarks@charlotte.edu](mailto:jmarks@charlotte.edu))  
Lab Teaching Assistants: Sarah Edwards ([sedwar99@charlotte.edu](mailto:sedwar99@charlotte.edu))  
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Lecture Time: TTh 10:00 – 11:15, Denny 200  
Lab Times: M@11:15, M@4, W@11:15, Th@4, T@4, W@2:30, Fretwell 419  
You must attend the one you signed up for, unless you make special arrangements ahead of time with the TAs.

**COURSE ORGANIZATION:**

You are expected to watch and take notes on the lectures and readings. The weekly lab is located in Fretwell 419. Ideally, the lab sessions should permit you to compare the skeletal material of living primates and replicas of the major fossil materials in detail. In addition, they will provide opportunities for discussion of readings and lecture topics, and a chance to see some nifty videos. You are encouraged to wear a mask during lab. You will not receive a separate grade for the lab; but lab attendance/participation will count for ¼ of the final grade in this class.

**READINGS, etc:**

**Required readings will be on the Canvas page.**  
**Additional readings are from the online text,**  
***Explorations: An Open Invitation to Biological Anthropology***  
**<<https://pressbooks.calstate.edu/explorationsbioanth2/>>**  
**You should also print out the weekly pages that say “Print”.**

**GRADING:**

There will be **three exams scheduled during the semester, but taken on Canvas** (Sept 21-22, Oct 26-27, and Dec 3), of which the **two highest scores will count**, and a **mandatory cumulative final** exam during the appointed slot at 8 am on Thurs, Dec 12 (100 pts). Each exam will be open for 75 minutes and will be worth 100 pts. On the days that the exam is open, you may take it any time. Exams are open notes, but students are expected to work on them alone; collaboration during the exam will be considered cheating. **An additional 100 points will be distributed based upon attendance, assignments, and lab participation. Grading is based on a total of 400 possible points.** Grades that appear on Canvas are unofficial.

**AND REMEMBER:**

All students are expected to read and abide by the **UNCC Code of Academic Integrity** (<http://legal.uncc.edu/policies/up-407>) and the **UNCC Code of Student Responsibility** (<http://legal.uncc.edu/policies/up-406>).

## Course Schedule

	Dates	Theme	Reading (author)	Text (chapter)	Week's Lab
Week 1	Week of Aug 19	Science, evolution, and culture	Armstrong Malfijt	2	Narrative
Week 2	Week of Aug 26	Theories of evolution	Schulz Marks	2	Chromosomes
Week 3	Week of Sept 2	Heredity	Silverstein	3	Molecular
Week 4	Week of Sept 9	Microevolutionary principles	McKusick Moss Solomon	4	Population
Week 5	Week of Sept 16	Molecular evolution	Marks	4	Systematics
		<b>Exam 1 this weekend</b>			
Week 6	Week of Sept 23	The emergence of diversity	Ungar	5	Primates
Week 7	Week of Sept 30	Our place among the primates	Kemper Clancy	5	Chimps
Week 8	Week of Oct 7	Adaptations of the primates	Hockings	5	Ape rights
Week 9	Week of Oct 14	Primate behavior and ecology	Krogman	6	
Week 10	Week of Oct 21	The scientific study of the past	Rosenberg McKie Gibbons	7	Skeletons
		<b>Exam 2 this weekend</b>			
Week 11	Week of Oct 28	Our ancestry	Jabr Ocobock	9	Skeletons
Week 12	Week of Nov 4	The origins of modern humans	Pyne Marks	10,11	Fossils 1
Week 13	Week of Nov 11	Patterns of human diversity	Pierpont Marks	13	Fossils 2
Week 14	Week of Nov 18	Eugenics	Rosenbaum Villarosa Serwer	13	Race
Week 15	Week of Nov 25	Scientific racism and morality	Evans Guerrini	17	
Week 16	Week of Dec 2	<b>Exam 3 on Dec 3</b>			
	Dec 12 @ 8 am	<b>Final Exam</b>			