Anthropology 120G: Human Evolution in Review  
Spring 2006

Monday, 9-12 AM  
350 Haines Hall  
Instructor: Clark Barrett (barrett@anthro.ucla.edu)  
Office: 370 Haines Hall  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Web Page: http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/06S/anthro120g-1/

Overview of the Course:

This course is a general introduction to biological anthropology. It provides an overview of topics in biological anthropology for entering graduate students whose primary background is in areas other than biological anthropology.

The course consists of two parts: (1) Anthro 7, and (2) a graduate seminar. Students are expected to attend the two lectures given each week in Anthrology 7, the department’s introductory course in biological anthropology. Students are also expected to do the assigned readings and take the exams in Anthro 7. In addition to the Anthro 7 exams, there will be two take-home exams for the seminar, and weekly readings. There will be weekly discussions of the readings and material, and you will be asked to prepare brief discussion questions.

Lectures, discussion, and weekly assignments:

Each week you will attend the two lectures in Anthro 7 (WF 12:30P -- 01:45P, Fowler A103B; Instructor: Joe Manson; course website: http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/06S/anthro7-1/). You are not required to attend a discussion section, but may if you wish.

You are also asked to attend a weekly seminar for students in 120G (Mondays, 9-12, in Haines 350). In this seminar we will discuss the material from Anthro 7, as well as the additional readings that will cover topics in greater depth. Each week I will make a brief introductory presentation and then we will have a discussion of the readings and material. I will ask each of you to prepare two or three discussion questions each week, which we will use as focus points for the discussions.

In addition to attending lectures and the Monday seminar, your weekly assignments will include (1) doing the weekly readings for Anthro 7, (2) doing the weekly seminar readings (see below), and (3) preparing two or three discussion questions each week.

Exams:

There will be a total of 4 exams for the course. Two of these will be the midterm and final exams for Anthro 7.
In addition to the Anthro 7 exams, there will be a take home midterm examination for the seminar during the fourth week of class, and a take home final examination. Both exams will cover material in the readings and in the discussion.

**Grading:**

Half of your grade will be based on your score on the two Anthro 7 exams. The other half will be derived from your take-home exams.

**Readings:**

Each week we will read several papers drawn from the literature, usually dealing with topics that are being covered in lecture at about the same time. These papers will be posted on the class web page as Adobe Acrobat (pdf) files, and can be printed out for free at the Social Sciences Computing lab in the Public Policy building, or on your own printer.

Readings will be posted on a password protected web site that can be found here: [http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/06S/anthro120g-1/private/readings-120g.htm](http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/06S/anthro120g-1/private/readings-120g.htm)

**Seminar Topics**

- April 3. Introduction. Why evolution is important, and how biologists and anthropologists study it.
- April 10. Natural selection and genetics.
- April 17. Population genetics, speciation, and phylogeny.
- April 24. Evolutionary theory and the evolution of behavior.
- May 1. How evolution shapes primate social behavior.
- May 29. HOLIDAY
- June 5. The evolution of modern human psychology, behavior, and culture.