ANTH 610: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY  
Spring 2012    4 Credit Hours

Class Time & Location: Wednesdays 6:00 - 8:50 pm, 330 Condon Hall

Instructor: Dr. Josh Snodgrass  
Phone: 346-4823  
E-mail: jjosh@uoregon.edu  
Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 1-2 & by appointment

Course Description: A graduate seminar course focused on current topics in biological anthropology.

Course Content: This course serves as a core graduate requirement for biological anthropology students but may also be appropriate for other students in anthropology or other disciplines. The course introduces students to key issues in human evolutionary biology through an in-depth examination of current research and controversies in biological anthropology. The course emphasizes topics that cut across multiple areas of biological anthropology, and which require integration of datasets from paleoanthropology, human biology, primatology, anthropological genetics, and behavioral ecology.

Required Readings: A collection of readings consisting of articles and book chapters

Evaluation Criteria:  
Grading in the course will be based on: class attendance & participation in discussions; completion of an annotated bibliography on each of the assigned articles; and leading discussion during one class meeting.  
Class Attendance & Participation  40%  
Annotated Bibliography (Due: 5/9 & 6/14)  40%  
Leading Discussion  20%

All students in the class are expected to fully participate in each discussion and to have read the required readings by class time. Due to the seminar format of the class and its emphasis on participation, class attendance is essential. Students should be active participants in discussion during every class.

Students will compile an annotated bibliography that summarizes each of the assigned readings. Each entry should be between ½ -1 page (single-spaced) in length and should: 1) briefly summarize the main point(s) of the article, and 2) place the article into the framework of the class, linking it with other ideas and critically evaluating it. Writing should be concise and focused around a few main points. The annotated bibliography from the first five weeks will be due May 9 and from the second half of the class on June 14.

Each student will be responsible for leading class discussion once during the term. This is not meant to be a presentation (NO powerpoint!) but instead the student should facilitate discussion and to link that week’s material to other course material or related topics in anthropology. Prepared discussion questions are encouraged.

Assignments must be completed at the scheduled time—under no circumstances will assignment extensions be given without a legitimate excuse. If you will not be able to complete an assignment at the designated time, you should notify me in advance if at all possible.

Appropriate accommodations will be provided for students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me. Please bring a notification letter from Disability Services outlining your accommodations.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Required Readings</th>
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| 4/4   | Life History Theory I: The Human Life History Pattern       | 1) Kaplan et al. 2000  
2) Bogin 2006  
3) Hawkes 2010                                                                 |
| 4/11  | No Class—AAPA & HBA meetings                                | No readings                                                                       |
| 4/18  | Life History Theory II: An Interspecific Perspective       | 1) Leigh & Blomquist 2007  
2) McGrew 2010  
3) Montgomery et al. 2010  
4) Jones 2011                                                                 |
| 4/25  | Developmental Plasticity                                   | 1) Altmann & Alberts 2005  
2) Walker et al. 2006  
3) Migliano et al. 2007  
4) Kuzawa & Thayer 2011                                                                 |
| 5/2   | Detecting Selection in Human and Primate Genomes—Guest: Dr. Kirstin Sterner | 1) Pritchard et al. 2010  
2) Simonson et al. 2010  
3) Bradley & Lawler 2011  
4) Hernandez et al. 2011                                                                 |
| 5/9   | Energetics and Ecology                                     | 1) Gibson & Mace 2006  
2) Ellison 2008  
3) Pontzer et al. 2010  
4) Snodgrass 2012                                                                 |
| 5/16  | Cooperative Breeding/Behavior                              | 1) Kuhn and Stiner 2006  
2) Herrmann et al. 2007  
3) Burkhart et al. 2009  
4) Kramer and Ellison 2010  
5) Weiss et al. 2011                                                                 |
2) Cordain et al. 2000  
3) Leonard et al. 2003  
4) Richards & Trinkaus 2009  
5) Wrangham & Carmody 2010                                                                 |
| 5/30  | Climate and Human Evolution                                | 1) Potts 1998  
2) Snodgrass et al. 2007  
3) Perry & Dominy 2008  
4) Leonard & Katzmarzyk, 2010                                                                 |
| 6/6   | Current Controversies in Biological Anthropology           | 1) Bramble & Lieberman 2004  
2) Lovejoy 2009  
3) Berger et al. 2010  
4) Brown 2012  
5) Hare et al. 2012                                                                 |

*2nd Set of Annotated Bibliographies Due (by 6/14)*
REQUIRED READINGS

**Week 1 (Life History Theory I: The Human Life History Pattern)**


**Week 2 – No Class**
No readings

**Week 3 (Life History Theory II: An Interspecific Perspective)**


**Week 4 (Developmental Plasticity)**


**Week 5 (Detecting Selection in Human and Primate Genomes)**


**Week 6 (Energetics and Ecology)**


**Week 7 (Cooperative Breeding/Behavior)**


**Week 8 (Evolution of the Human Diet)**


**Week 9 (Climate and Human Evolution)**


**Week 10 (Current Controversies in Biological Anthropology)**


