

SAMPLE COPY

Berkshire Community College

ANT-102: PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Spring Semester 2013

Section 01: Mon/Wed/Fri 10:00 am – 10:50 am, Melville 116

AIDAN CLEMENT, Adjunct Faculty
Office Phone/Voicemail: (413) 236-4608
Primary Email: aclement@berkshirecc.edu

Office: Melville 219
Office Hours: by appointment
Other Email: aidan793@yahoo.com

TEXT: *Biological Anthropology*, Seventh Edition, Michael Alan Park, McGraw-Hill

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

From the catalog: “An introduction to human evolutionary studies and the biological history of the human species. Includes surveys of the human fossil record, great ape studies, prehistoric archaeology, and modern human biodiversity. Additional topics touched upon include forensic anthropology, human genetics, dating methods, and human skeletal anatomy.”

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Anthropology is, simply, the study of humanity in all of its aspects. There are four main subfields in anthropology: sociocultural, archaeology, physical, and linguistics. These subfields overlap in scope and rely upon each other in order to be fully realized. Sociocultural anthropology focuses on the study of modern humanity through the concept of “culture”. Linguistics encompasses the study of the nature, development, interaction, and use of human language. Archaeology is the study of the human cultural past (mainly the last 10,000 years) through the examination of material remains and artifacts. Physical anthropology concerns humanity’s evolution, anatomy, physical variation, biology, and relation to the primate world. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the broad field of physical anthropology, primarily through an examination of human evolutionary studies (paleoanthropology), great ape studies (comparative primatology), bioarchaeology, and modern human biodiversity.

TEACHING PROCEDURE:

The instructor will provide lectures based around, and expanding upon, the current textbook readings. The instructor will present additional information in lecture that will not be found in the textbook. Periodically, the instructor will provide key terms that students should know from both textbook readings and lecture. Students should utilize the textbook website to explore additional helpful material. The instructor will intermittently show films related to the current topics of the course that will be utilized for class discussion. Finally and importantly, student questions are welcomed and encouraged at any time.

TEACHING/LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Practicing how to think critically
- Utilizing discussion to elucidate ideas
- Grasping the art of relevant notetaking
- Recognizing historical, cultural, and personal perspectives in texts and films
- Analyzing the prehistorical contexts that have situated humanity in its current biological and cultural circumstances
- Understanding humanity's place in the natural world and the forces which have determined that place

ASSIGNMENTS/GRADING:

Students are expected to complete the required readings for each class session. There will be four exams (including the final). The last three exams (Two through Four) will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions, plus an *optional* extra-credit section. Exam One will have the same format as the others but only 40 questions. The final will NOT be comprehensive – it will only cover the last quarter of the course. Questions will be drawn from readings, lecture, and films. In the extra-credit section, students will choose one of three or four topics and write a short paragraph demonstrating their thoughts on, or understanding of, the topic; credit will range from four to seven points, depending on the quality of the response. If a student misses an exam, his/her grade on that exam will drop 5 points for each day that it is not completed. The final course grade will be determined as follows:

Exam One	20%
Exam Two	27%
Exam Three	25%
Exam Four (Final)	28%

ATTENDANCE:

It is imperative that students not miss more than three unexcused class meetings. It is official BCC policy that a student may be dropped from this course for exceeding that limit, at the instructor's discretion. If you are unable to attend class, you **MUST** notify me **BEFORE** the class meets. If special circumstances occur and you must miss an abnormal number of classes or an exam, you **MUST** notify me in advance so that we can discuss appropriate handling of the situation. Students are still responsible for all material, homework, and discussion presented in class if they are absent. Copies of all films will be on reserve at the college library. Get to know your fellow classmates so that if you miss class, you can borrow their notes.

EMBEDDED CORE COMPETENCIES:

Scientific Reasoning

Human Understanding and Interaction

SCHEDULE:

Week One:	W	Course Introduction	Jan 23
	F	Chapter 1	Jan 25
Week Two:	M	Chapter 2	Jan 28
	W	Chapter 3 (<i>partial</i>)	Jan 30
	F	Chapter 4	Feb 1
Week Three:	M	Chapter 5	Feb 4
	W		Feb 6
	F	Chapter 6	Feb 8
Week Four:	M	EXAM ONE	Feb 11
	W	Chapter 7	Feb 13
	F		Feb 15
Week Five:	M	Presidents' Day – NO CLASS	Feb 18
	W		Feb 20
	F		Feb 22
Week Six:	M	Chapter 8	Feb 25
	W		Feb 27
	F		Mar 1
Week Seven:	M		Mar 4
	W	Chapter 9 – pp. 171-178	Mar 6
	F	Chapter 9 – pp. 179-195	Mar 8
Week Eight:	M		Mar 11
	W	EXAM TWO	Mar 13
	F	Chapter 10 – pp. 199-205	Mar 15
Week Nine:		SPRING BREAK	Mar 18-22
Week Ten:	M	Chapter 10 – pp. 205-210	Mar 25
	W	Chapter 10 – pp. 210-221	Mar 27
	F	Chapter 10 – pp. 221-231	Mar 29

Week Eleven:	M		Apr 1
	W	Chapter 11 – pp. 235-242	Apr 3
	F	Chapter 11 – pp. 242-248	Apr 5
Week Twelve:	M	Chapter 11 – pp. 248-259	Apr 8
	W		Apr 10
	F		Apr 12
Week Thirteen:	M	Patriots' Day – NO CLASS	Apr 15
	W		Apr 17
	F	EXAM THREE	Apr 19
Week Fourteen:	M	Chapter 11 – pp. 259-266	Apr 22
	W	Chapter 11 – pp. 266-276	Apr 24
	F	Chapter 11 – pp. 276-287	Apr 26
Week Fifteen:	M	Chapter 11 – pp. 287-294	Apr 29
	W		May 1
	F	Chapter 12 – pp. 297-308	May 3
Week Sixteen:	M	Chapter 13	May 6
	W	Chapter 14 (<i>maybe</i>)	May 8
Week Seventeen:		EXAM FOUR	To Be Announced