

Common Course Outline for: ANTH 1212: Primatology Observations and Applications**A. Course Description**

1. Number of credits: 1 semester credit
2. Lecture hours per week: 1
3. Lab hours per week: 0
4. Prerequisites: None
5. Co-requisites: None
6. MnTC Goals: None

Primatology Observations and Applications (1 credit) An optional course recommended for students taking Human Evolution - An Introduction to Bio-Anthropology (ANTH 1210) or for those who have previously taken ANTH 1210 or an equivalent course at another institution. This course offers an enriched, hands-on learning experience beyond ANTH 1210 in the study of non-human primates. By comparing and contrasting many varieties of primates in laboratory osteology applications, observing living primates in captive environments (zoos) and also in free range film studies (film), students will be able to assess our most closely related species and gain an appreciation for the differences and similarities seen in primates as they pertain to the study of human origins both anatomically and behaviorally.

B. Date last revised: March, 2017

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

All of these topics are covered, but different instructors emphasize certain topics over others.

- The Binomial Classification System
- The fossil record in mammals and primates
- The Primate Order: adaptation to tropical and sub-tropical niches
- Primate behavior and ecology
- Comparative osteology and dentition in primates
- Communication in primates
- Primate diversity: variation within and between geographic groups
- Adaptation and selection in non-human primates
- The Scientific Method
- Primate observational methods

D Course Learning Outcomes Students completing this course will be able to:

1. Describe various non-human primates, their behavior and ecology, and thereby identify distinctive human traits and adaptations.
2. Explain the issues in biological classification and gain some expertise in identifying and classifying particular skeletal materials pertaining to

- contemporary primates as well as the fossil record of primate and human evolution.
3. Trace primate evolution in the fossil record from the earliest forms to the present and evaluate particular classification schemes and controversies pertaining to non-human primates.
 4. Discover interactions between climatological and environmental factors and primate sociocultural adaptations.
 5. Analyze information on primate variability by working with particular laboratory exercises.
 6. Discuss the various applications used in non-human primate studies as they apply to the studies of primates in relation to modern disease factors in humans.
 7. Demonstrate the connection between non-human primate communication studies and the development of language in humans.

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning

Student learning can be assessed as individual instructors best see fit, using a combination of the following and other appropriate instruments:

1. Laboratory discussions
2. Data collections and measurements
3. Observations
4. Quizzes

In evaluating student learning, the following criteria are used:

1. Accuracy and completeness of workbook assignments
2. Validity of formatting and reporting of primate observations
3. Ability to evaluate the successes and failures of primate adaptations
3. Clarity of organization and development of discussions in primate studies

F. Special Information *None*