

**ANTHROPOLOGY 505.1**  
**Conference Course in Primatology: PRIMATE EVOLUTION**  
**FALL 2013**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 – 10:45 am**

**Room #: ES 614**

**Instructor:** Dr. Susanne Cote  
**Office:** ES 834 (after Sept 30, 2013)  
**Tel:** TBA  
**Email:** scote@ucalgary.ca  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 2 – 4 pm, or by appointment

**TA:** Monika Meyers  
**Office:** ES 722  
**Email:** TBA  
**Office Hours:** TBA

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

A review of the primates, from the origin of the clade to the present day. The course will cover the environmental and chronological context for primate evolution, extinct and extant species diversity, and current debates and problems in the field of primate evolution. Laboratories will focus on demonstrating the diversity of primate dietary, locomotor, and social adaptations, and how these are inferred in the fossil record.

**Prerequisites:** ANTH 201 and ARKY 203, or permission of instructor

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

- Fleagle, J. (2013). *Primate Adaptation and Evolution*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Elsevier.
- Additional readings from the scientific literature as indicated in the Schedule – links provided on Blackboard

**Recommended Readings:**

- Whitehead, P. et al. (2004). *A Photographic Atlas for Physical Anthropology*. Morton Publishing Company. [Recommended]

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this course, students will know:

- The systematics of living primates, including the basic anatomical differences that distinguish species from both a functional and phylogenetic perspective
- The broad scope of primate evolution – including the temporal and geographic setting, important species, and evolutionary adaptations
- The relationship of fossil primates to living primates
- How to reconstruct function, behavior and phylogenetic relationships among species from the fossil record
- How to research and write a scientific research paper in the field of biological anthropology.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

Six In-class Lab Assignments – 15%

Midterm Exam – 20%

Final Exam – 30%

Research Paper – 35%

- 5% Proposal

- 10% Peer Review

- 20% Final Paper

### ***Lab Assignments – 15%***

Six (6) **mandatory in-class** laboratory assignments throughout the semester (see Class Schedule). Each assignment will be worth 2.5% of your final grade. The purpose of the labs is to give students the opportunity to examine fossils and fossil casts first hand and learn how paleontologists study fossil remains. All work needed to successfully complete the lab assignment will be done in class.

### ***Mid-term Examination – 20% - October 29<sup>th</sup> in class***

This exam will cover lectures, laboratories, and readings assigned since the beginning of term through October 24<sup>th</sup> (inclusive). The format will include a mixture of different types of short answer questions, medium answer questions, and an essay.

### ***Scientific Research Paper – 35%***

This is a four-part assignment in which you will write a scientific research paper on a topic of your choice. A detailed handout will be provided the second week of class. One-page proposals are due **October 10<sup>th</sup> in class (5% of grade)**. A complete draft of your paper is due **November 14<sup>th</sup> in class**. I will assign your paper to another student in the class (anonymously) and give you another student's paper to review. Peer reviews are due **November 26<sup>th</sup> in class (10% of grade)**. The final version of your paper is due **December 5<sup>th</sup> in class (20% of grade)**.

### ***Final Examination – 30% - Registrar scheduled (December 9 - 19<sup>th</sup> 2013)***

The final examination will cover ALL lectures, laboratories, and assigned readings for the term. The format will be the same as the midterm examination and will include a mixture of different types of short answer questions, medium answer questions, and an essay.

### **Grade Breakdown:**

A+	100-94.9%	B	79.8-74.9%	C-	62.8-58.9%
A	94.8-89.9%	B-	74.8-70.9%	D+	58.8-54.9%
A-	89.8-84.9%	C+	70.8-66.9%	D	54.8-49.9%
B+	84.8-79.9%	C	66.8-62.9%	F	49.8% and less

## **COURSE POLICIES**

### ***Classroom behavior and attendance:***

- The most important thing is to be respectful and supportive of other students. Please turn your cell phone and any other electronic devices. You may use a laptop to take notes, but please sit in the back or along the sides so as to not disturb other students. Please only use your laptops to take notes, and remember that instructors can often tell when you are watching videos, looking at Facebook etc.
- It is in your own best interest to attend all classes. You are responsible for taking your own notes, or for obtaining notes from a classmate if you have to miss a class for unavoidable reasons.
- Lecture slides will be posted AFTER class, not before. You should come to class prepared to take notes. Please note that reading the lectures slides alone will NOT be sufficient to get a good grade in this class. All material from lectures is testable, and lecture slides will not have everything you need to know.

### ***Labs:***

- Students are encouraged to work in groups for the lab exercises and to seek help and advice from Dr. Cote and the TA as often as possible.
- All work necessary to complete the lab exercises will be done IN CLASS. There will be no 'homework' from labs and you will submit your lab exercises at the end of class on the day of that lab.
- Labs are **MANDATORY** and may only be missed in the case of serious illness or personal emergency. You must contact the TA as soon as possible (preferably before class) if you need to miss lab.
- The only opportunity to make-up missed laboratory exercises will be at the end of term after the last day of classes.

### ***Exam and Grading Policies:***

- Missed exams automatically receive a score of zero. In the event of an emergency or illness, the Anthropology main office (403-220-6516) or the instructor **MUST** be notified **BEFORE** the exam, and documentation (e.g. signed Physician's Statement) must be provided. Make up exams may be in any format (including oral examination); performance on make-up exams is often poorer.
- Exams grades will be posted on Blackboard as quickly as possible. Midterms will be returned to students, but final exams will not. If you wish to see your final exam, please make an appointment.
- All assignments are due **AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS** on the day indicated in this course outline. Late assignments are penalized 5% per day (calendar day, not business day), except for term paper drafts and term paper peer reviews, which are penalized at 20% per day to ensure fairness to all students.
- If you have questions about the grading of your exam or assignment, please see Dr. Cote or the TA as soon as possible. After consultation with the teaching staff, you

may dispute a grade that you have received by submitting a written statement within two weeks of receiving the grade.

**Communication Guidelines:**

- The best place to ask questions is IN CLASS or during office hours. This is a small class, so take advantage of that and speak with your instructor and TA in person!
- Questions during lectures are welcome, so please just raise your hand. If something doesn't make sense to you, it probably didn't make sense to other students either!
- I always prefer to talk IN PERSON with students whenever possible. I will answer questions over email, however due to the volume of emails I receive I cannot commit to answering email questions immediately. It may take up to 2 business days (48 hours), so do not send questions last minute.
- I reserve the right to share questions and answers transmitted over email on Blackboard or in class if the answers are pertinent to everyone in the class. This saves time, and ensures that all students have access to the same information as they prepare for assignments and exams.
- Before emailing a question, please make sure that it hasn't already been addressed in the course outline, assignment handouts, or on Blackboard!

**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. You are required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation.

**PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING**

Plagiarism: "to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own" (Webster's). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing July also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the Anthropology Departments policy on intellectual honesty available at: <https://www.anth.ucalgary.ca/home/links/intellectual-honesty-guidelines>

**EMERGENCY EVACUATION:**

In the event that the classroom should need to be evacuated due to an emergency situation please note that the primary assembly point shall be at the ICT Food Court and the Social Sciences Food Court shall be used as a secondary assembly point.

**SAFEWALK:**

Campus security will escort individuals day or night ([www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk](http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk)). Call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.

**CLASS SCHEDULE:**

Lecture topics and readings are subject to change

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Readings</b>
September 10	Course Introduction; The Fossil Record and Timing of Primate Evolution	Chapters 1 and 10
September 12	What is a Primate? Primate Relationships	Chapters 2 and 9
September 17	Primate Origins – Historical Perspectives	Chapter 11; Sargis 2002
September 19	<b>Lab #1:</b> Primate Taxonomy, Phylogeny, and Comparative Anatomy Paleocene Primates	
September 24	Paleocene Primates	
September 26	Adapoids	Chapter 12
October 1	Omomyoids	
October 3	<b>Lab #2:</b> Early Fossil Primates	
October 8	Fossil Prosimians	Yoder 1997
October 10	Subfossil Lemurs <b>Term Paper Proposals Due</b>	Chapter 4
October 15	Early Anthropoids - Eocene	Chapter 13
October 17	<b>Lab #3:</b> Early Fossil Primates II	
October 22	Early Anthropoids – Oligocene	
October 24	Anthropoid Adaptations and Phylogeny	
October 29	<b>Midterm Examination</b>	
October 31	<b>Lab #4:</b> Anthropoids	
November 5	Fossil Platyrrhines and Getting to the New World	Chapter 14; Houle 1999
November 7	Oligocene and Miocene Catarrhines	Chapter 15
November 12	<b>NO CLASS – READING BREAK</b>	
November 14	<b>Lab #5:</b> Platyrrhines and Early Catarrhines <b>Term Paper Drafts Due</b>	
November 19	Miocene Catarrhines I	
November 21	Miocene Catarrhines II	Begun 2003
November 26	Late Miocene Apes <b>Peer Reviews Due</b>	
November 28	<b>Lab #6:</b> Miocene Catarrhines	
December 3	Cercopithecoids	Chapter 16
December 5	Synthesis and Wrap-Up <b>Research Paper Due</b>	Chapter 18
TBA	<b>Lab Review:</b> Self-directed review of lab materials; <b>Make-Up Labs</b>	
December 9-19	<b>Final Exam (to be scheduled by the Registrar)</b>	

\*Chapters 5,6, and 7 should be largely review, but may be helpful to students.