

ANTH 2700 (BIOL 2700) Section 001

Instructor: Misty Alloy **email:** misty.mikuls-alloy@unt.edu

Lecture Time: 12:45 - 2:05 pm, last minute changes, such as inclemental weather or personal emergencies, will appear in announcements

Lecture Room: BLB 050

Generally, I respond to emails within a few hours. However, if it has been more than 24 hours please send a follow-up email. It seems like at least once a semester an email or two is rerouted to junk email or fails to notify me.

Office Hours: Email me to set up an appointment. We can meet in-person or via Zoom. Let me know your preference in your email.

Prerequisite: College Level Reading

Important Dates:

Semester Begins: Aug. 17th

Census Date: Aug. 28th

Last Day to Drop with a W: Nov. 6th

Course Material Requirements

Textbook: Physical Anthropology by Stein, Rowe, and Pierson and 12th Edition (the 11th edition is also fine). Physical and digital copies are available via [UNT Bookstore](#) and [McGraw-Hill website](#).

Technology: This course has digital components. To fully participate in this class, students will need internet access to access Canvas Learning Management System. If circumstances change, you will be informed of other technical needs to access course content. Information on how to be successful in a digital learning environment can be found at [Learn Anywhere](#). If you are experiencing technical difficulties contact [UNT's help desk](#).

Course Description and Structure

Study of human biological evolution from primate beginnings to the present era. Emphasis is placed upon anatomical and physiological variations and their adaptive significance. The course

contains a lecture (section 001) and lab component (section 301, 302). It will primarily be in-class with resources and assignments available online via Canvas.

Texas Core Objectives

- Critical Thinking Skills: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information;
- Communication Skills: to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication;
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills: to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions;
- Teamwork: to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal;
- Personal Responsibility: to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making; and
- Social Responsibility: to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

State Defined Learning Outcomes

- Describe key concepts and theories of physical anthropology.
- Explain the principles and processes of human evolution.
- Describe how the scientific method is used in physical anthropology.

Instructor Defined Learning Outcomes

1. Know the characteristics and basic history of the natural sciences.
2. Understand the basics of evolution and how it relates to natural selection, adaptation, speciation, and inheritance.
3. Explain what biological anthropology is and the sub-disciplines.
4. Understand the basics of skeletal biology and human variation.
5. Be able to utilize the correct formatting for binomial names.
6. List the physical and behavioral characteristics of the order primate, noting the taxonomic differences between specific suborders, parvorders, and superfamilies.
7. Discuss the evidence and limitations behind fossil analysis.
8. Understand the various waves of primate adaptive radiation.
9. Assess hominin evolution, including the evolution of early bipeds and later Genus Homo.

UNT Policy

UNT is committed to informing students of specific educational requirements and expectations for the courses in which they are enrolled through the development and delivery of a syllabus.

Consistent with UNT Policy 06.035, Academic Freedom and Academic Responsibility, UNT instructional faculty ensure that the content of their course syllabus contains the provisions necessary to be consistent with applicable state law and this course syllabus requirement policy. Faculty also have the academic responsibility of distributing their course's syllabus to their students and to that course's unit administrator prior to the administrative deadline(s), and to giving reasonable notice to students when changes are made to a course syllabus. Instructional faculty are expected to prepare a course syllabus for all credit bearing courses.

ADA Accommodations

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

If you feel like you need anything further or if your paperwork is still being processed, please email me or speak to me before or after class. I would like to make sure you are setup for success.

Schedule Conflicts

Research has consistently found a connection between attendance and student success, so my primary hope is that you will find a way to attend all your classes. However, I also had to work while I attended college, so I understand schedule conflicts. If you work or family/friend obligations are going to interfere with regular class attendance, please email/speak to me before or after class. If you have a sibling/child that needs supervising, email me and we can figure out a solution. I would rather you bring a sidekick to class than have you miss valuable learning time. Regardless of your situation, if I know your situation ahead of time, it is more likely I will be able to assist you.

Academic Success

UNT strives to offer you a high-quality education and a supportive environment, so you learn and grow. As a faculty member, I am committed to helping you be successful as a student. To learn more about campus resources and information on how you can be successful at UNT, go to unt.edu/success and explore unt.edu/wellness. To get all your enrollment and student financial-related questions answered, go to scrappysays.unt.edu.

Respectful Engagement

I value the many perspectives students bring to our campus. I encourage you to review UNT's student code of conduct so that we can all start with the same baseline civility understanding (Code of Student Conduct) (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-012>). Please work with me to create a classroom culture of open communication, mutual respect, and belonging. All discussions should be respectful and civil. Although disagreements and debates are encouraged, personal attacks are unacceptable. Together, we can ensure a safe and welcoming classroom for all. If you ever feel like this is not the case, please email me or speak to me outside class. We are all learning together and I want everyone to be safe.

Unauthorized Aids During Examinations and Assessments

Students may use only those materials and resources that are expressly authorized by the instructor for a particular examination or assessment. Touching, holding, or accessing any unauthorized aid during the examination period constitutes a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, regardless of whether the aid is used.

Any item that may be considered an unauthorized aid must be kept out of view and in a closed container (e.g. zipped backpack, buttoned purse, etc.) during the entirety of the examination or assessment.

Unless specifically authorized in writing by the instructor, prohibited aids include, but are not limited to:

- Mobile phones and smartphones
- Smartwatches and fitness trackers with communication, recording, or internet capabilities
- Tablets, laptops, and other computing devices
- Earbuds, headphones, and other audio devices
- Smart glasses, cameras, recording devices, and wearable technology
- Artificial intelligence (AI) tools, chatbots, and other generative AI technologies
- Notes, textbooks, study guides, formula sheets, or reference materials
- Any other device, material, or resource not expressly permitted by the instructor

Students are responsible for clarifying any questions about permitted materials before the examination begins.

Research Materials

Reference and in-text citations will be expected for most assignments. For this class we will use [Chicago Manual of Style author-date citation](#). Do not use a citation generator, no matter what anyone else says. They often get the order and punctuation wrong.

Books should include reference citations in the back and ideally published by a university press. The following is a list of acceptable journals. Try to avoid sources older than 2015.

Acceptable Journals:

[American Journal of Human Biology](#)

[American Journal of Biological Anthropology](#)

[American Journal of Primatology](#)

[Annals of Human Biology](#)

[Evolutionary Anthropology](#)

[Folia Primatologica](#)

[International Journal of Primatology](#)

[Journal of Human Evolution](#)

[Journal of Forensic Science](#)

[Journal of Human Evolution](#)

[Journal of Mammalian Evolution](#) -must be on primates

[Nature](#)

[Primates](#)

Please email if you would like to use an article outside of one of the above sources.

Graded Work

Exams: At the end of each section there will be a 40-question exam which consists of matching, multiple choice, short answer, and 1 essay question (10 points). The entire exam will be worth 100 points. Each exam has an associated reading guide and study slides that will provide the best insight into how to study for each exam. Out of the 4 section exams, your lowest exam grade

will be dropped. Each exam will be given remotely on Thursdays during the scheduled lecture hours. If you need to take it in person, please message me and I will arrange for you to take it in the our regular lecture hall. This is my first year administering tests through the lockdown browser. If for any reason Exam 1 does not go well, all future tests will be in-person.

Your Choice, Research Project or Comprehensive 50-question Exam:

By August 27th, I would like you to decide if you would like to work on the research analysis project or take the comprehensive final exam. Both are worth 150 points. The project will have 4-5 parts, depending on your Ai interests.

The final exam will be comprehensive, all the material we reviewed over the semester. The final exam be 50 questions, worth 3 points each. If you chose the comprehensive exam, you would have 5 exams, with one of the first four dropped.

Research Analysis

If you choose the research analysis as your final grade, the following assignments will be your responsibility:

a topic proposal (1-2 paragraphs) = 20 points

an annotated bibliography (over 2 articles) = 25 points

a 3-5 min presentation = 25 points

All the completed questions for all 4 sources= 60/80 points

Ai comparison (optional) = 20 points

This analysis can cover any biological anthropology topic you find intriguing. You will select 4 sources (no older than 2015) to analyze: one book, two articles, and one documentary/podcast/professional talk. The last one needs to be at least 30 minutes long. Each source will require Chicago Manual of Style, author date reference citation at the top of the analysis. Each project piece as a longer explanation listed with its Canvas assignment, along with a grading rubric.

Group Work, Discussion Boards, and In-class Activities

Technically, I do not require attendance. However, there are 3 group assignments (90 points) that you will have throughout the semester, two which will require multiple class periods. One assignment will require meeting with your team at least once before we discuss each team's findings in class. Thus, if you decide to skip class on regular basis you could lose up to 90 points.

This includes the following: survey (5), news article (10), my field (30), Ai Sleuth project (40), primates (10), generational interview (15), Ethics discussion (40)

Dallas Zoo Field Trip/3rd Short Review (Lab Grade)

The Oct 20th or 22, weather dependent, will be reserved for our zoo observations project. During this week, we will **NOT** have lab and **there will be only one lecture day. You will need to bring the observation form provided on Canvas.** If the visit to the zoo is too inconvenient, you may turn in an alternative assignment. You can write a 1-page review on an 1 hour documentary, a scholarly talk, or a journal article (prior approval required). The alternate assignment and the zoo observation form is due Nov. 30th. This is technically part of your lab grade but I include it on your lecture syllabus as a reminder.

Assessing Your Work

Your entire grade will be 1000 points, 600 points from the lecture and 400 points from your lab grade.

Group assignments, Discussions & In-class activities = 150 points

Labs grade = 400 points

Exams = 300 points

Final project grade/ comprehensive= 150 points

Group/In-class Activities= 150

TOTAL = 1,000 points

A.= 900 - 1000 = GPA 4.0

B.= 800 – 900 = GPA 3.0

C.= 700 – 800 = GPA 2.0

D.= 600 - 700 = GPA 1.0

F ≤ 599 = GPA 0

Late Work Policy

All assignments are due at 11:59 p.m., the date listed on this syllabus. I allow a one day grace period. For no more than two assignments, you may turn in your assignment a maximum of 48 hours late for a 10% deduction. After 48 hours or the second assignment, you will need to email me regarding your situation.

If you experience an emergency, please check in with me as soon as possible, so we can configure the best steps for you going forward.

Extra Credit

You are allowed **two** opportunities to earn extra credit (up to 40 points). You can choose any of the following:

- Respond to a classmate's presentation post (10 points, located under extra credit)
- Write a biological anthropology article analysis (must be from approved journal list).
- Visit the FW Zoo, Primarily Primates, or another zoo (a different one) and fill out an observation report.
- Fill out an application for a field school, internship, or job for a position related to bio-anth.
- Watch a scholarly talk on biological anthropology and write a one paragraph review on it.
- **October 2nd-4th: attend the annual Texas Archaeological Conference that will be at UNT this year. You will need to show me a pic of you there and a paragraph summary on one of the talks you heard (40 points).**
- Volunteer for [Trasform 1012](#) (40 points)



Lastly, occasionally, I will have options for bonus points. I will mention them in class, or they will quietly hide them on Canvas. These will be points outside of your regular grade and extra credit.

Attendance and Your Final Grade

Attendance will indirectly impact your grade in this class. I do not grade for attendance, but research has shown students who attend class are more likely to be successful. Regular attendance increases your likelihood of participation and good participation often results in good grades and thus credible work ethic. You could loose up to 90 points and this could drop you a full letter grade. Attend as much as possible, ideally every class, unless you have a university excused absence such as active military service, a religious holy day, or an official university function as stated in the [Student Attendance and Authorized Absences Policy \(PDF\)](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039) (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039>). If you have other obligations, for example family or work, which could end up interfering with your attendance, speak to me and I will see what we can arrange. I want you to prevail, realize your full potential, but I do not pretend we all have the same pressures or challenges. Let me know how I can help. If you cannot attend a class due to an emergency, please let me know. Your safety and well-being are important to me.

Academic Integrity & Citations

Students only improve their skills and expand their knowledge by working their hardest on their own work. Students who use other people's work without citations will be violating UNT's Academic Integrity Policy.

Please read and follow this important set of guidelines for your academic success (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>). If you have questions about this, or any UNT policy, please email me or come discuss this with me during my office hours.

This course uses Chicago Manual of Style to cite studies and facts.

AI policy

The use of grammar editors is allowed and encouraged in this course. Using the writing center is also highly encouraged. Checking for tone, formatting, and grammar are markedly reasonable questions for college students. However, **the use of use of AI to write your papers is prohibited, unless it is part of the assignment. If your assignment is showing above 40%, you will receive a 50% reduction to your grade. If your work is showing over 75%, it will be an automatic ZERO.** This includes ALL written and lab work. I expect that all work students submit for this course will be their own. I have carefully designed all assignments and class activities to support your learning. Doing your own work, without human or artificial intelligence is the best choice for your achievement in this course. Whether you are at work or school, your supervisors are going to want to work with someone who has integrity and knows how to communicate. Companies are realizing they are still going to need expert human supervision of AI, otherwise they will be subject to lawsuits. Work towards preparing yourself to build that integrity. Do not deny yourself opportunities to grow because you simply want to complete a task. Instructors, especially field experts, can tell the difference between undergraduate writing and AI. We also have access to several AI checkers. If you are still considering using AI, you should **review the Dallas College policy on cheating**. Even if you do not get caught, the majority of the class will not use AI and your future employer will quickly realize what you are and are not capable of.

Course Schedule

Lecture Days	Lecture Plan	Points	Due Dates	Readings
Wk 1 Aug 18 & 20	Group Introductions & What is...	10		1
Wk2 Aug 25 & 27	Culture & Health Final Decision for Final Exam or Paper		Decision: Aug 27th	16, 17, 18
Wk3 Sept 1 & 3	Natural Selection			5 & 6
Wk4 Sept 8 & 10	Review & Exam 1	100*	Exam 1: Sept 10th	
Wk5 Sept 15 & 17	Molecular Components of Heredity Final Paper Proposal	(25/150)		2 & 3
Wk6 Sept 22 & 24	Genetics			4
Wk7 Sept 29 & Oct. 1	Review & Exam 2 Bonus: TAS annual archaeology conference in Denton Oct 2-4	100*	Exam 2: Oct. 1	
Wk8 Oct. 6 & 8	Primatology Annotated Bibliography	(50/150)		7 & 8
Wk9 Oct 13 & 15	Primatology Presentations Upload			9 & 10
Wk10 Oct 20 & 22	Zoo Field Trip: No labs [^]			
Wk11 Oct 27 & 29	Review & Exam 3 Presentation Responses (2)	100*	Exam 3: Oct 29th	
Wk12 Nov 3 & 5	Geology & Primate Evolution	50		11 & 12
Wk13 Nov 10 & 12	Hominin Evolution			13 & 14
Wk 14 Nov 17 & 19	Review & Exam 4	100*	Exam 4: Nov 19th	
XX Nov 24 & 26	Thanksgiving Break			
Wk15 Dec 1 & 3	Study Week - No CLASS! ONLINE Kahoot Review			
Wk16 Dec 10th	Final Grades: Research Analysis OR Comprehensive	80/150 or 150	Comp. Final Dec. 10th (@10:30 am)	

*Lowest grade will be dropped

[^]weather dependent, the week of our field trip will be one lecture day only and no labs.