



Price and Feinman, 1997

Human Origins

SS 399i, 3 Credits

Fall 2010

Tuesday and Thursday

8:30 – 9:50 a.m.

Summit 203

Dr. Sue Short

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651-757-4003 (faculty office)

Office hours Monday, 10:00 am – noon; Thursday, 10:00 am – noon; and by appointment.

Summit Corner Office, first floor

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Human Origins class studies the biological origins of the species *Homo sapiens sapiens*. Physical anthropology, a sub-field of anthropology, is the discipline of study. The course begins with an examination of evolution and heredity. Primate behavior and evolution set the stage for the development of the hominid species. Detailed examination of the Hominid species begins with very early human ancestors and progresses through time to the development of modern humans. The approach to the materials will give students an understanding of how scientific knowledge about the ancient past is developed. The lab and primate observation projects emphasize critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The following CVA learning goals will be relevant in this course:

- A. Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing.
- B. Skills in critical thinking and in critical valuation of ideas and information.

III. METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Assessment is a part of this course and will center on the learning goals stated in section II. You will be asked to do certain exercises this semester to assess how well the course is meeting these goals.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Evaluation and Grading

Your performance in this class will be evaluated in several different ways during the semester. There will be a narrative evaluation at mid-semester as well as graded evaluations of your assignments. The CVA catalog specifies certain standards for evaluation.

Assignments in this course will have the following weight in calculating the course grade:

Midterm:	25%
Final Exam:	35%
Primate observation report:	20%
Lab reports:	20%

B. Attendance

Classes that meet 2 times per week recognize 4 absences as grounds for failure.

Classes that meet 1 time per week recognize 3 absences as grounds for failure.

2 tardy are equivalent to 1 absence.

A student will forfeit all rights and privileges for the course failed due to attendance and/or tardy absences.

Excused absences are only granted due to hospitalization and/ or death in the family or legally mandated activities such as military service or court appearances. Students are required to show documentation of their circumstance to their Academic Advisor.

CVA recognizes all religions and will grant excused absences for documented religious holidays. Students are required to register the particular times and dates of these holidays at the beginning of each semester with the Office of Academic Affairs. This office will communicate to the given faculty.

Students are responsible for understanding this policy and tracking their own attendance and tardiness.

C. Academic Honor Code

1. Principles

Every student at the College of Visual Arts must adhere to high standards of honorable behavior. Academic work for all liberal arts and studio classes must be a student's own, with appropriate credit given for use of the words, images, and ideas of another. If a student uses fraudulent means to obtain grades or other advantages in academic work, he or she has not truly gained in knowledge, understanding, or skill. Grades, honors, and other marks of achievement lose their meaning; the reputation of the College of Visual Arts is diminished and the value of its B. F. A. degree reduced. It is therefore essential to the integrity of the college that every member of the community -- students, faculty, staff, and administration -- uphold the highest standards of academic integrity.

2. Definition and Examples of Academic Dishonesty

Cheating

- ✦ Copying another student's answers on a quiz or exam
- ✦ Using notes or other source materials on a quiz or exam without the instructor's permission
- ✦ Collaborating on a take-home exam meant to be completed individually
- ✦ Using electronic devices such as phones, computers, or calculators during an exam without the instructor's permission
- ✦ Copying another student's homework assignment
- ✦ Using answers from an instructor's version of a textbook for a homework assignment meant to be completed individually.

Plagiarizing

- ✦ Presenting for either a liberal arts or studio class the work of another without acknowledgement, as though it were your own
- ✦ Using the "cut and paste" method of constructing a paper from internet or print sources without synthesizing the ideas to create your own independent thesis or identifying the sources
- ✦ Using information, ideas, or images from any source (internet, book, article, a classmate's research paper or artwork) without proper attribution
- ✦ Using the exact words of another without using quotation marks and citing the source
- ✦ Paraphrasing the words of another without citing the source

Making multiple submissions

- ✦ Submitting, without prior permission, a paper, project, or other assignment completed in one class to fulfill a requirement for another class

Facilitating academic dishonesty

- ✦ Allowing another student to copy answers from your exam paper
- ✦ Giving or selling another student a completed assignment, project, or paper
- ✦ Informing students in a later section of a class the questions on an exam

Stealing or defacing materials or other property

- ✦ Theft or defacement of any materials or property belonging to another student or member of the staff or faculty
- ✦ Theft or defacement of any materials or property belonging to the college
- ✦ Theft or defacement of library books or other materials
- ✦ Theft of proprietary software

Using materials in an unauthorized manner

- ✦ Unauthorized entry into college property such as classrooms, studios, computer labs, faculty offices, or library
- ✦ Unauthorized use or manipulation of studio equipment or computer programs

Falsifying academic records

- ✦ Alteration of grade books or files
- ✦ Use of personal relationships to gain grades or favors
- ✦ Any attempt to obtain grades or credit through fraudulent means.

3. Process for Dealing with Violations of the Honor Code

The College of Visual Arts will treat violations of the honor code with the utmost seriousness. If a student is accused of academic dishonesty, the student will be informed of the alleged violation and the evidence on which the allegation is based. If circumstances warrant, the instructor and relevant department chair, in

consultation with the academic dean, may decide on a penalty such as a failing grade or 0 on the assignment or exam or a failing grade in the course. A record of the violation will be filed in the office of the dean, who will maintain a permanent record of reported student violations. Students may appeal to the relevant department chair. If dissatisfied with that decision, the student may appeal to the academic dean. The decision from that office will be final. In special circumstances a student may appeal to a standing hearing committee. Second and subsequent violations of the honor code will be dealt with by the academic dean. Students may appeal decisions to the standing committee, the decision of which is final.

4. **Penalties for Violations**

Penalties for students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty may include:

- ✦ A grade of F or 0 on an assignment, paper, or exam
- ✦ A grade of F for the course
- ✦ Suspension from the college
- ✦ Expulsion from the college

D. Student Responsibilities

1. Treat class time as an opportunity to learn.
2. Abide by the CVA Attendance Policy, Honor Code, Grievance Procedure and Code of Conduct.
3. Arrive on class on time, with all materials, ready to work steadily throughout the session.
4. Be prepared with all your required materials for every class.
5. Complete assignments on time. Late work will be substantially penalized.
6. Cite all research, text and image sources. See the citation guide at:
<http://www.shortstreet.net/mlacites.htm>
7. Participate in all class discussions and critiques.
8. Confront difficulties in your work in the spirit of learning, creative exploration, and personal growth.
9. Ask for help from your instructors when needed.
10. Avail yourself of all available support services including advising, tutorials, and workshops.
11. Respect your fellow students at all times.
12. Disruptive behavior is not tolerated.
13. You are responsible for cleaning up after yourself at the end of each class.
14. No radios, MP3 players, iPods, pagers, or cellular phones may be used in class.
15. No smoking is permitted anywhere in any CVA building. Smoke only in designated outdoor smoking areas on campus.

V. RESOURCES AND READINGS

Required text:

Author: Barry Lewis, Robert Jurmain, and Lynn Kilgore

Title: *Understanding Humans: Introduction to Physical Anthropology and Archaeology*

Publisher: Wadsworth CENGAGE Learning

Edition: Tenth Edition, 2010

ISBN: 978-0-495-60474-7

VI. COURSE METHODOLOGY

Classroom time will be spent primarily in lecture enhanced by projected text and images and discussion of key concepts. Some class periods will be dedicated to laboratory exercises and simulations. Assignments will include readings from the textbook, laboratory exercises, and a primate observation field exercise (instructions distributed separately).

VII. OUTLINE OF ASSIGNMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

(Schedule subject to change)

[Chapter references are to course text, Lewis, Jurmain, and Kilgore, described above in section V]

Tuesday	Thursday
9.7 Introduction to the course. Assessment exercise. Chap 1: Introduction to Anthropology	9.9 Chap 2: Development of Evolutionary Theory
9.14 Chap 2: Development of Evolutionary Theory Film: Evolution	9.16 Chap 2: Evolutionary Theory; Chap 3: Heredity and Evolution
9.21 Chap 3: Heredity and Evolution	9.23 Lab Day: Lab exercise #1: Mendelian Traits
9.28 Chap 4: Modern Human Variation and Adaptation	9.30 Chap 5: Vertebrate and Mammalian Evolution Lab Report #1 due in class
10.5 Chap 5: Vertebrate and Mammalian Evolution	10.7 Chap 6: Primate Overview Film: Jane Goodall's "Wild Chimpanzees"
10.12 Chap 6: Primate Overview Chap 7: Primate Behavior	10.14 No Class Meeting: Primate Observation Project
10.19 Chap 7: Primate Behavior Discuss Primate Observation Project Review Primate Observation Report due in class	10.21 Midterm Examination
10.26 Chap 8: Archaeological Methods	10.28 Chap 9: Hominin Origins
11.2 Chap 9: Hominin Origins Film: Anthropoid: "Search for the Beginning"	11.4 Chap 10: <i>Homo erectus</i> and contemporaries Lab Report #2 due in class
11.9 No Class Meeting: Advising and Registration Day	11.11 Chap 10: <i>Homo erectus</i> and contemporaries
11.16 Chap 11: Premodern Humans	11.18 Chap 12: Modern Humans Lab Report #3 due in class
11.23 Chap 12: Modern Humans	11.25 Happy Thanksgiving!
11.30 Chap 13: Hunters and Gatherers	12.2 Chap 14: Food Production
12.7 Chap 14: Food Production Chap 15: First Civilizations	12.9 Chap 15: First Civilizations
12.14 Review and Evaluation	12.16 Final Examination

IX. AGREEMENT

I have received, read, and understand the course syllabus for SS 399i, Human Origins, as well as the CVA Student Policies. The instructor has, within the structure of the class, explained the material contained within the syllabus.

I hereby agree to abide by the structure outlined in the syllabus and by the policies dictated in the CVA Student Policies.

Student Signature:

Printed Name:

Introductory Questionnaire

Name: _____

CVA student box number: _____

Hometown: _____

Previous school: _____

Mailing address: _____

E-mail address (please write clearly): _____

Home phone number: _____

Cell phone number: _____

Faculty advisor: _____