



College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Division of Humanities

AN-369: Biological Anthropology

Fañomnåkan (Spring) 2025

Meeting Time: Mondays & Wednesdays, 11:00am–12:20pm in HSS 110

Final Exam (Practical Lab): Wednesday, May 21, 10–11:50am in HSS 110



Instructor Contact Information

Dr. Rebecca Grunzke

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Office Phone: 735-2412

Office Location: SOE 208E

Office Hours: TBD; by appointment

Time Zone: Chamorro Standard Time (CHST/UTC +10)

(See a [time zone map](#).)

I am available through my Virtual Office Hours Chat during my office hours (at a minimum). You may also message me privately through the Participants tab on Moodle. If you have a question that might benefit your course mates, please consider posting it to our “Lounge” Q & A forum. I strive to respond to messages within 24 hours.

Course Description

This course surveys the subfield of modern biological anthropology, with a focus on the study and interpretation of human and non-human primate evolution, contemporary human biological diversity, and the bicultural, ecological and historical dynamics of selective factors including diseases that have impacted—and continue to impact—the human condition. (3 credit hours)

Student Learning Goals

Students completing this course will achieve a fuller understanding of (a) how to think scientifically, (b) how evolution works, (c) humans as primates, (d) human evolutionary history, and (e) human variation.

Required Text

This course will use the following open-access textbook *EXPLORATIONS: An Open Invitation to Biological Anthropology*. You can access it for free as a PDF or read chapters online here:

<https://explorations.americananthro.org/>

You may purchase a [printed copy of the book from Amazon](#) for about \$50.

Additional materials will be posted in Moodle.

Required Skills, Materials, and other Resources

Taking a Moodle-enhanced hybrid class is quite different from taking a traditional face-to-face class. There are certain skills and equipment needed, as well as other resources like Internet access. Here are some things you will need to successfully complete this class:

- Reliable access to a computer with broadband Internet access. Broadband Internet access is commonly available for residential customers. The UOG campus also has a few computer labs for student use. Many coffee shops and other public spaces also have Wi-Fi hotspots. We strongly recommend that you use malware protection and a VPN app to protect yourself from infection or hacking on public Wi-Fi networks. A desktop or laptop computer is highly recommended. Mobile devices such as iPads, Android tablets, and smart phones are not recommended, as they may have compatibility issues. You may use them for convenience to view most content for this class, but you should use a full computer for the more important class activities.
- This computer should also have the following:
 - [Mozilla Firefox](#) browser with Cookies enabled and the Pop-up Blocker disabled so that you can access and work in this class. Firefox is the most compatible browser for use with UOG Moodle.
 - MS Word and PowerPoint so that you can read, edit, and create documents and presentations for this class. All in the University of Guam community have access to Microsoft Office 365, providing you with the most updated version, free of charge, of these materials. [Visit MS Office 365 at UOG](#) for more information.

- [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#) so that you can open PDF documents provided in this class.
- A media player such as Windows Media Player or [VLC Player Free](#) so that you can play audio and video files provided in this class.
- Virus and spyware protection so that you can protect yourself and your classmates while you are working on the Internet.
- You need to be comfortable enough with computers to perform the following tasks without help from anyone:
 - Send and receive email messages, including messages with an attachment.
 - Be able to find files on your computer that you have saved or downloaded.
 - Be able to navigate through web pages.
 - Be able to search for items on the Internet by using a search engine.
- You need to be able to communicate clearly and effectively in writing to help avoid miscommunications. You will also need a good understanding of online etiquette (also known as “netiquette”). You can find some netiquette guidelines below under “Virtual Classroom Interaction.”
- You need to be self-motivated, disciplined, and you should have good time-management skills. Even though you can access this class at any time of the day on any day of the week, you still need to follow the set course schedule. You need to be able to manage your time and meet deadlines set for the class. **This is not a self-paced class.** For a typical class in a regular 16-week semester, you should be able to commit 6-10 hours per week to your course work. Remember that procrastination can cause you more problems online than in a face-to-face class. There are chances that your computer can crash; your Internet connection can drop; or the UOG Moodle system may become unavailable.
- You will need an account with the UOG Moodle system. For assistance with the UOG Moodle system, please contact the UOG Moodle Help team by email at moodlehelp@triton.uog.edu or call (671) 735-2620.
- You will be expected to carefully read and follow instructions.
- You will be expected to keep track of deadlines and due dates.
- You will be expected to have all the skills and resources listed above.
- You will be expected to ask for help when you need it.



Course Objectives

This course introduces students to the multi-faceted discipline of Biological (or Physical) Anthropology – the study of human evolutionary history, adaptation, and variation.

Alignment of Student Learning Objectives with Standards and Assessments

Course LOs: By completing this class, students will:	Program LOs	University ILOs	Core Foundations SLOs	Assessment Methods
CLO1. Understand the principles of evolutionary theory and how they have been applied to improve our understanding of the human condition	SLO2. Utilize the concept of cultures as a fundamental organizing concept of anthropology; SLO3. Articulate knowledge of the history and theories of anthropology	ILO1. Mastery of critical thinking and problem solving ILO3. Effective oral and written communication ILO4. Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas, and values in a democratic context ILO6. An appreciation of the arts and sciences ILO7. An interest in personal development and lifelong learning	CT1. Applying the concepts essential to examination and evaluation argumentative discourse. CT3. Synthesizing information in order to examine alternatives and arrive at reasoned conclusions. OC1. Developing and presenting material around a central theme. OC2. Using organization and language to effectively present material to an audience. Written Communication (all apply) Information Literacy (all apply)	Reading quizzes; Lab activities; Class discussions

Course LOs: By completing this class, students will:	Program LOs	University ILOs	Core Foundations SLOs	Assessment Methods
CLO2. Be exposed to the principles of evolutionary genetics, and learn how molecular genetics plays a fundamental role in the evolutionary processes that act on humans	SLO1. Understand the current issues and debates in the subfields of anthropology; SLO3. Articulate knowledge of the history and theories of anthropology	ILO3. Effective oral and written communication ILO4. Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas, and values in a democratic context ILO6. An appreciation of the arts and sciences ILO7. An interest in personal development and lifelong learning	CT1. Applying the concepts essential to examination and evaluation argumentative discourse. CT3. Synthesizing information in order to examine alternatives and arrive at reasoned conclusions. OC1. Developing and presenting material around a central theme. OC2. Using organization and language to effectively present material to an audience. Written Communication (all apply).	Reading quizzes; Lab activities; Class discussions' Practical exam

Course LOs: By completing this class, students will:	Program LOs	University ILOs	Core Foundations SLOs	Assessment Methods
CLO3. Be introduced to our closest living relatives, the nonhuman primates, and learn what insights into the human condition have been obtained from studying these animals	SLO4. Collect anthropological data according to generally accepted professional anthropological practices; and SLO5. Analyze anthropological data in both oral and written forms	ILO1. Mastery of critical thinking and problem solving ILO2. Mastery of quantitative analysis ILO4. Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas, and values in a democratic context ILO5. Responsible use of knowledge, natural resources, and technology	CT1. Applying the concepts essential to the examination and evaluation of argumentative discourse. CT3. Synthesizing information to examine alternatives and arrive at reasoned conclusions. Information Literacy (all apply). Written Communication (all apply). Quantitative Reasoning (all apply)	Reading quizzes; Lab activities; Class discussions
CLO4. Be exposed to the primate fossil record that spans more than 50 million years and has given rise to modern humans and the other living primates, as well as many extinct lineages	SLO1. Understand the current issues and debates in the subfields of anthropology	ILO4. Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas, and values in a democratic context	CT3. Synthesizing information in order to examine alternatives and arrive at reasoned conclusions.	Reading quizzes; Lab activities; Class discussions; Practical exam

Course LOs: By completing this class, students will:	Program LOs	University ILOs	Core Foundations SLOs	Assessment Methods
CLO5. Be introduced to the bewildering variation that exists both within and between modern human populations	SLO1. Understand the current issues and debates in the subfields of anthropology	ILO4. Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas, and values in a democratic context	CT3. Synthesizing information in order to examine alternatives and arrive at reasoned conclusions.	Reading quizzes; Lab activities; Class discussions

Methods of Instruction

This course is structured as lecture/discussion seminar on Mondays and a practical lab on Wednesdays, informed by weekly readings, film viewings, and related discussions.

Evaluation and Grading

To determine whether students have achieved the course learning objectives, students will be evaluated with the following assessment activities.

Course Requirements

Reading Quizzes (30 percent)

Each week, students will complete a quiz corresponding to each of the chapters in the course text. Quiz items will be primarily in the multiple-choice format. They may be repeated until the class meeting in which the material will be discussed. Because of this expectation, they cannot be taken late, but the lowest two quiz grades will be dropped.

Participation (20 percent)

Participation is based on attendance, contributions to class discussions and activities, and responses to classmates. It includes but is not limited to: staying current with electronic communication and activities (e.g., the use of Moodle), reading assigned materials, preparing all course assignments on time, responding actively to fellow students, asking questions, and creating a positive learning environment. Students are encouraged to “take risks” to build on what they have learned. Participation cannot be made up.

Lab Assignments (30 percent)

Students will work individually and in groups to complete a weekly practical activity. Much of the work for these assignments will be done during class. However, written analyses of the results may need to be completed on your own time as necessary.

Practical Exam (20 percent)

Our final exam will be a practical exam addressing some of the skills and knowledge gained during our lab activities, including, but not limited to the identification of hominin skulls and elements of osteology (i.e., identification of individual bones in the human skeleton).

Grading Scale

A+	98–100
A	93–97.9
A-	90–92.9
B+	87–89.9
B	83–86.9
B-	80–82.9
C+	77–79.9
C	73–76.9
C-	70–72.9
D	60–69.9
F	<59.9

Assignment descriptions/percentage allocations may be modified to enhance the course. Students will be notified well before any changes. Changes will not be a detriment to grades.

Course Expectations**Class Attendance and Punctuality**

This class is designed so that you become a community of active and engaged learners; therefore, you are expected to be present at all class meetings on time and for the entire session. Absences also include being out of class for significant amounts of time (i.e., arriving late and/or leaving early). If an emergency should arise and you are unable to be in class, or if you must arrive late or leave early, please notify the instructor prior to class. In case of illness or emergency, the instructor may require documentation of the absence. You are responsible for all class material missed during your absence. You should check Moodle for announcements and updates and/or check with a classmate.

Readings, Quizzes, and Assignments

You are expected to complete all reading assignments before class, and you should always bring a device with which you can access our textbook and be prepared to discuss the material. Much of our class time is devoted to taking what you have learned and read in assignments and applying it to class discussions and activities. In fairness to classmates and the instructor, late assignments will not be accepted, unless previous arrangements have been made with the instructor; however, points will be deducted for all late assignments. Assignments are automatically considered late if they are not submitted in the proper Moodle tool by the deadline; late assignments may not be emailed to the instructor. To receive full credit, assignments must be primarily in the students' own words (i.e., generating an Originality Report demonstrating less than 10% concordance with external sources) and submitted on time. Deadlines are posted well in advance to allow students to avoid last-minute emergencies caused by unforeseen circumstances.

Assignments are expected to be typed, double-spaced, in a professional 12-point font, and adhering to the American Anthropological Association (Chicago Manual of Style) referencing format, where applicable. Please proofread your work before submitting it. Points will be deducted for excessive errors in grammar, mechanics, and style. Clarity in writing is important for clarity of understanding. **All assignments must be completed to pass this class.**

Instructor Communication

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns. I can be reached via Moodle or at the email address and office above. My office hours are time that I've set aside to meet with you to talk about any questions you might have about the class, study strategies, or Anthropology in general. If my office hours conflict with your schedule, I am happy to meet at another time, either by zoom or in person. Just let me know that you want to meet, and we'll find a time that works for both of us.

In case of unexpected instructor absences, the information will be posted on Moodle website. Always check the UOG website and/or your university email account in the event of inclement weather to check for possible class cancellations or delays. Changes or cancellation of office hours will also be posted in Moodle.

Virtual Classroom Interaction

There are several things to keep in mind with regards to interaction in the virtual classroom.

- Communicating with the Instructor
 - At any point during this course, you are welcome to contact me via email with questions regarding grades, instructions, advisement, or even for personal

issues. I check my email frequently and will typically respond to messages within 24 hours.

- I have included a “Lounge” forum in the Moodle shell where you can post any questions you might have regarding the class. I will post answers to your questions in this forum so that you, and anyone else with the same questions, can always refer to the forum for answers. Students are also invited to provide their own answers and feedback based on their own experience. Such sharing of information allows us all to help each other.
- Communicating with classmates
 - In the virtual classroom, you will see a “Participants” list in the left column. This will include links to all students enrolled in the class. You can send messages through this system or email them directly.
- Online Etiquette (aka: Netiquette)
 - Do not SHOUT. Using All Caps when you type is “shouting” online. Remember to turn off your Caps Lock.
 - Be prompt. Follow class schedules and respond to email messages promptly.
 - Participate. Participation helps everyone learn. Especially for group activities, be sure to do your share of the work.
 - No flaming, trolling, or cyber bullying. You are all expected to be respectful and professional. If you have any concerns with classmates, please contact your instructor regarding the problem.
 - Stay on topic and try to back up any claims or statements that you make.
 - Do not dominate any discussion. Give other students the opportunity to join in the discussion.
 - Use and cite credible sources.
 - Do not plagiarize.
 - Avoid jokes and sarcasm as these are often misinterpreted online.
 - Use emoticons if they will help to convey the tone of your message.
 - Always re-read what you type before you send it. Remember that you cannot take back anything that you post. Also remember that people cannot see you or hear you. That means that they cannot see your body language or hear the tone of your voice. They can only rely on what you type. So, try to make sure that what you type cannot be misinterpreted. Be clear and brief.
 - Be patient and open-minded. Do not judge others or jump to conclusions. Remember that, just as others might misunderstand you... you might misunderstand them. If something sounds confusing or offensive, ask for clarification before you jump to conclusions. Never respond out of emotion because what you say online can stay online and may be used against you in the



future. Also remember that other students may not be native English speakers and may have difficulty in saying what they really mean online.

- Respect the privacy of others. Do not post or communicate personal or confidential information in the virtual classroom.
- Remember that the UOG Moodle system keeps logs of all your activity inside of UOG Moodle.

Tobacco-Free/Smoke-Free/Vape-Free Campus

UOG is a tobacco-free/smoke-free, vaping/e-cigarette-free campus. Thank you for not using tobacco products or e-cigarettes on campus, for helping to fight cancer, and for helping to make UOG a healthy learning environment.

No Recording Policy

Recording of class meetings (both online and in-person) is not allowed. Not only is the delivery of course content the intellectual property of the instructor, but students enrolled in the course have privacy rights. Unauthorized recording and distribution of online courses may violate federal law. While resource materials will be provided for you to add to your own resources, and the professor will provide presentations for viewing, the material remains the property of the professor and permission is needed for their use or reference.

Title IX/EEO/ADA Guidance and Services

The University is committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our community. Federal and local laws protect the University community from any act of sex discrimination. Such acts violate the essential dignity of our community members. If you need assistance with EEO (Equal Employment Opportunity) and/or Title IX concerns, please contact the Director of EEO/ADA & TITLE IX Office at 671-735-2244, 671-735-2971, TDD 671-735-2243 or eeo-ada@triton.uog.edu.

For individuals covered under the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990), if you are a student with a disability requiring academic accommodation(s), please contact the Student Counseling and Advising Service Accommodations Office to discuss your specific accommodation needs confidentially. The SCAS counselor will provide you with an approved accommodation letter, which you can then discuss with me. To register for academic accommodations, please contact or visit the Student Center, Rotunda office #6, disabilitysupport@triton.uog.edu or telephone/(TDD) 671-735-2460.

For applicants or employees with a disability requiring employment or workplace accommodation(s), please contact the Director of EEO/ADA and TITLE IX Office to discuss your



specific needs. Please provide documentation concerning your disability and the need for employment or workplace accommodation. Their office is located at the Iya Hami Hall, Dorm 2, right side entrance, first floor, Room 104, and their contact numbers are indicated above.

Honor Code/Academic Dishonesty

Entering the honored profession of education means that you will hold yourself to a high standard of academic honesty. Students who violate this (by copying the work of others, lying, forgery, cheating, etc.) demonstrate a violation of the Code of Ethics. Professionalism is expected in your actions, your language, and your effort. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing assignments will receive a zero on the assignment and a failing grade for the class. University/Department policy will also apply.

Plagiarism (taken from plagiarism.org):

Many people think of plagiarism as copying another's work or borrowing someone else's original ideas. But terms like "copying" and "borrowing" can disguise the seriousness of the offense.

According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, to "plagiarize" means:

- To steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own
- To use (another's production) without crediting the source
- To commit literary theft
- To present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.

In other words, plagiarism is an act of fraud. It involves both stealing someone else's work and lying about it afterward.

But can words and ideas really be stolen?

According to U.S. law, the answer is yes. The expression of original ideas is considered intellectual property, and is protected by copyright laws, just like original inventions. Almost all forms of expression fall under copyright protection if they are recorded in some way (such as a book or a computer file).

The following are considered plagiarism:

- Turning in someone else's work as your own
- Copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit
- Failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
- Giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation

- Changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit
- Copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up a substantial portion of your work, whether you give credit or not (see our section on "fair use" rules)

Most cases of plagiarism can be avoided, however, by citing sources. Simply acknowledging that certain material has been borrowed and providing your audience with the information necessary to find that source is usually enough to prevent plagiarism.

COVID Guidance

When to isolate, quarantine, or get tested: All students should review and follow the latest [Isolation & Quarantine Guidelines flowchart](#) and [Positive Test Flowchart](#) from DPHSS regarding when it is necessary to get tested and the timeframes for isolation or quarantine. For more information, please see the [UOG COVID-19 Updates and Operations website](#).

Masks: The mask mandate for indoor and outdoor settings has been rescinded. Masks are not required on the UOG campus. However, masks are still encouraged and recommended in general. Use of KN95, KF94, N95, or 3-layer surgical masks are recommended for employees and students working and attending classes on campus. Cotton, neoprene, and other fabric-only masks are not recommended, as they may not provide adequate protection against the new COVID-19 variant. KN95 masks are available upon request, while supplies last. (Recommended masks are available for purchase at the Triton Store) View chart of recommended masks ([LINK](#)).

Student Support

The following is a list of resources that students can utilize as needed:

- Problems with course instructions or other content – Contact instructor for clarification.
- Technical problems with UOG Moodle system – Contact the UOG Moodle Help by email at moodlehelp@triton.uog.edu or by phone at 671-735-2620.
- Problems with WebAdvisor or GoTritons student email – Contact the UOG Office of Information Technology (aka: the computer Center) by email at helpdesk@uog.edu or by phone at 671-735-2640.
- [UOG Library Resources and Services](#)
- [UOG Student Services](#) for Admissions, Records Office, Financial Aid Office, Student Life Office, Housing and Resident, counseling, Student Health, and other services

Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Learning Outcome(s)	Assignments Due
1	Course orientation What is biological anthropology?	CLO 1	≠ Reading: Syllabus, Chapter 1 ≠ Chapter 1 Reading Quiz
2	Historical, Social, and Biopolitical Dimensions of Evolutionary Thought	CLO 1; CLO3	≠ Reading: Chapters 2, 17 ≠ Chapters 2 & 17 Reading Quizzes ≠ Week 2 Lab
3	Molecular Biology and Genetics	CLO1; CLO2	≠ Reading: Chapter 3 ≠ Chapter 3 Reading Quiz ≠ Week 3 Lab
4	Forces of Evolution	CLO1; CLO2	≠ Reading: Chapter 4 ≠ Chapter 34 Reading Quiz ≠ Week 4 Lab
5	Living Primates	CLO1; CLO2	≠ Reading: Chapter 5 ≠ Chapter 5 Reading Quiz ≠ Week 5 Lab
6	Primate Ecology, Behavior, and Conservation	CLO1; CLO2	≠ Reading: Chapter 6, Appendix B ≠ Chapter 6 & App B Quizzes ≠ Week 6 Lab
7	The Fossil Context	CLO1; CLO2	≠ Reading: Chapter 7 ≠ Chapter 7 Reading Quiz ≠ Week 7 Lab
8	Primate Evolution	CLO1; CLO2; CLO3	≠ Reading: Chapter 8 ≠ Chapter 8 Reading Quiz ≠ Week 7 Lab
9	Early Hominins	CLO1; CLO2	≠ Reading: Chapter 9 ≠ Chapter 9 Reading Quiz ≠ Week 9 Lab
10	Early Members of the Genus <i>Homo</i>	CLO1; CLO2	≠ Reading: Chapter 10 ≠ Chapter 10 Reading Quiz ≠ Week 10 Lab
11	Archaic <i>Homo</i> and Ancient DNA	CLO1; CLO2	≠ Reading: Chapter 11, Appendix D ≠ Chapter 11 & App D Quizzes ≠ Week 11 Lab
12	Modern <i>Homo sapiens</i>	CLO3	≠ Reading: Chapter 12 ≠ Chapter 12 Reading Quiz ≠ Week 12 Lab
13	Race and Human Variation	CLO3	≠ Reading: Chapter 13 ≠ Chapter 13 Reading Quiz

Week	Topic	Learning Outcome(s)	Assignments Due
			☐ Week 13 Lab
14	Adaptation and Human Variation	CLO3	☐ Reading: Chapter 14 ☐ Chapter 14 Reading Quiz ☐ Week 14 Lab
15	Forensic Anthropology and Human Osteology	CLO1; CLO2; CLO3	☐ Reading: Chapter 15, Appendix A ☐ Chapter 15 & App A Quizzes ☐ Week 15 Lab
16	Week 16: Human Biology, Behavioral Ecology, and Health	CLO3	☐ Reading: Chapter 16, Appendix C ☐ Chapter 16 & App C Quizzes ☐ Week 16 Lab
17	Practical Examination	CLO1; CLO2; CLO3	☐ 10:00–11:50 AM