

GENM0201

Human Origins

Course authority: Prof. Ken Ashwell (k.ashwell@unsw.edu.au, 9385 2482), Room 304A of the Goodsell Building

Lectures will be held in the **Biomed Theatre E**. Practical Classes will be held in 101 (Dissecting Room) in the Wallace Wurth Building.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- **Students must wear enclosed shoes (i.e. no thongs or sandals) in the Dissecting Room.**
- **No eating, drinking or smoking in the Dissecting Room.**
- **Mobile phones must be switched off during lectures and classes.**

Official Communication By Email

All students in GENM0201 are advised that email is the official means by which the School of Medical Sciences at UNSW will communicate with you. All email messages will be sent to your official UNSW email address and, if you do not wish to use the University email system, you **MUST** arrange for your official mail to be forwarded to your chosen address. The University recommends that you check your email at least every other day. Facilities for checking email are available in the School of Medical Sciences and in the University Library.

Plagiarism

The School of Medical Sciences will not tolerate plagiarism in submitted written work. The University regards this as academic misconduct (please see the following website where this policy is displayed:

http://www.student.unsw.edu.au/academiclife/assessment/academic_misconduct.shtml) and imposes severe penalties. Evidence of plagiarism in submitted assignments, etc. will be thoroughly investigated and may be penalized by the award of a score of zero for the assessable work. Flagrant plagiarism will be directly referred to the Division of the Registrar for disciplinary action under UNSW rules.

The attention of students is drawn to the following extract from the above website:

"The basic principles are that you should not attempt to pass off the work of another person as your own, and it should be possible for a reader to check the information and ideas that you have used by going to the original source material. Acknowledgment should be sufficiently accurate to enable the source to be located speedily."

The following are some examples of breaches of these principles:

- a) Quotation without the use of quotation marks. It is a serious breach of these rules to quote another's work without using quotation marks, even if one then refers to the quoted source. The fact that it is quoted must be acknowledged in your work.
- b) Significant paraphrasing, e.g., several sentences, or one very important sentence, which in wording are very similar to the source. This applies even if the source is mentioned, unless there is also due acknowledgment of the fact that the source has been paraphrased.
- c) Unacknowledged use of information or ideas, unless such information or ideas are commonplace.
- d) Citing sources (e.g., texts) which you have not read, without acknowledging the 'secondary' source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Appropriate citation of sources therefore includes surrounding any directly quoted text with quotation marks, with block indentation for larger segments of directly-quoted text. The preferred format for citation of references is an author-date format with an alphabetically arranged bibliography at the end of the assignment. Note that merely citing textbooks or website URLs is unlikely to yield a bibliography of satisfactory standard. The internet should be avoided as a primary source of information. Inclusion of appropriate journal articles, both primary research publications and reviews, is usually expected.

OH & S – Safety Guidelines

Generic Safety rules for the School of Medical Sciences can be found at the URL below.

<http://medicalsciences.med.unsw.edu.au/SOMSWeb.nsf/page/Policies%20and%20Procedures>

Applications for Consideration

Students who miss an assessment through illness or misadventure must submit an application for consideration within **three working days** to New South Q. Full details for the application (e.g., Medical Certificate, etc.) are available at <http://www.student.unsw.edu.au/atoz/atoz-Special.shtml>

Problems With The Course

If you have any problems or grievances with the course you should, in the first instance, consult the Course Organiser. If you are unable to resolve the difficulty, you can consult the Department of Anatomy's nominated Grievance Resolution Officer, who is currently CHECK, Room CHECK.

Course aims

The aims of this course are to:

1. *Provide the student with an understanding of the major biological (physical, ecological and evolutionary) attributes of non-human primates and humans*
2. *To assist the student to develop a deeper appreciation of the place of humans in the natural world and their relationship to other primates*
3. *To provide the student with some knowledge and skills from the field of biological anthropology*
4. *Help the student to appreciate the importance and relevance of the study of human origins to problems faced by people in the modern world*

Student learning outcomes

Students should complete the course knowing (among other things):

1. *Some basics of primate and human anatomy, especially of the skeleton, muscles and brain*
2. *Anatomical features of the order primates and of major groups of primates*
3. *The elements of evolutionary biology and the evidence for human evolution*
4. *The broad patterns of evolution for the primates and humans, including major evolutionary trends*
5. *The basis for human physical variation across the world*
6. *Modern human health problems related to compromises during our evolution*

The University of NSW has developed a list of attributes that its graduates should possess upon graduation (the 'graduate attributes'). The curriculum and assessment of this course have been designed to help students to develop these capabilities/attributes. Students satisfactorily completing the course will have gained knowledge and skills that contribute directly to them acquiring these attributes during their study at UNSW. One way this has occurred is through curriculum mapping of this course (see below: Assessment).

For a science based general education course, the UNSW graduate attributes are as follows:

1. *Research, inquiry and analytical thinking abilities.* Technical competence and discipline specific knowledge. Ability to construct new concepts or create new understanding through the process of enquiry, critical analysis, problem solving, research and inquiry.
2. *Capability and motivation for intellectual development.* Capacity for creativity, critical evaluation and entrepreneurship. Ability to take responsibility for and demonstrate commitment to their own learning, motivated by curiosity and an appreciation of the value of learning.
3. *Ethical, Social and Professional Understanding.* Ability to critically reflect upon broad ethical principles and codes of conduct in order to behave consistently with a personal respect and commitment to ethical practice and social responsibility. Understanding of responsibility to contribute to the community. Respect and value social, multicultural, cultural and personal diversity.
4. *Communication.* Effective and appropriate communication in both professional (intra and inter disciplinary) and social (local and international) contexts.
5. *Teamwork, collaborative and management skills.* Ability to recognize opportunities and contribute positively to collaborative scientific research, and to perceive the potential value of ideas towards practical applications. Demonstrate a capacity for self-management, teamwork, leadership and decision making based on open-mindedness, objectivity and reasoned analysis in order to achieve common goals and further the learning of themselves and others.
6. *Information literacy.* Ability to make appropriate and effective use of information and information technology relevant to their discipline.

This course and the required assessments will assist you to develop skills in all of these areas.

Assessment: 2 quizzes, one group assignment and one individual assignment

- Quizzes 1 and 2 are each worth 25% of the final mark and consist of 30 multiple-choice questions (1 in 5 choice). No marks are deducted for incorrect choices.
- The group poster/oral presentation is worth 20% of the final mark and will be assessed by your tutor. Note that you will be assessed both on the poster itself and the oral presentation made by your group. Each of these components will have equal weighting

in determining the final mark for the paired tasks. The mark given by your tutor will apply to all students in the group.

- The individual assignment is worth 30% of the final mark and will be assessed by the course authority.

Lecture and Practical/Tutorial Schedule

WEEK 1

Day 1 Monday 23rd November 5 hours

10-11	Lecture 1	Introduction to Primate Biology (KA)
11-12	Lecture 2	Elements of Genetics (CL)
12-1	Lecture 3	Diversity and Evolution (CL)
2-4	Practical 1	Primate Musculoskeletal Anatomy

Day 2 Tuesday 24th November 5 hours

9-10	Lecture 4	The Origin and Early Evolution of Primates (KA)
10-11	Lecture 5	Principles of Paleoanthropological Techniques (KA)
11-12	Film	Ape and Human Behaviour
1-2	Lecture 6	Ethics of Human Remains and Forensic Anthropology (EL)
2-3	Tutorial 1	Group Orientation and Choosing of Poster Topics

Day 3 Wednesday 25th November 5 hours

10-11	Lecture 7	Early Hominins (KA)
11-12	Lecture 8	<i>Homo ergaster</i> and <i>Homo erectus</i> (KA)
12-1	Films	Portrayals of Human Ancestors
2-3	Lecture 9	Archaic <i>Homo sapiens</i> (KA)
3-4	Tutorial 2	Review of Lectures and Film Portrayals of Human Ancestors

Day 4 Thursday 26th November No classes

Day 5 Friday 27th November No classes

WEEK 2

Day 6 Monday 30th November 6 hours

9-10	Lecture 10	Modern <i>Homo sapiens</i> (KA)
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10-12 Humans	Practical 2	Cranial Anatomy of Australopithecines and Early Humans
1-2	Lecture 11	Humans in Australia (EL)
2-3	Lecture 12	Evolution of Human Behaviour (KA)
3-4 and Future	Tutorial 3	Review of Lectures; Modern Humans, their Behaviour and Future

Day 7 Tuesday 1st December 6 hours

9-10	Lecture 13	Origin and Mechanics of Bipedalism (CL)
10-12	Practical 3	The Human Lower Limb and Bipedal Locomotion
1-2 (CL)	Lecture 14	Human Sexuality and the Problems of Human Childbirth
2-4	Practical 4	Human Childbirth

Day 8 Wednesday 2nd December 6 hours

9-10	Lecture 15	The Hominin Brain (KA)
10-12	Practical 5	The Human Brain
12-1 (CL)	Lecture 16	The Comparative Anatomy and Function of the Hand

NOTE: another group has booked Biomed E for 1 to 2

2-4	Practical 6	The Human Hand and Tool Use
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Day 9 Thursday 3rd December No classes

Day 10 Friday 4th December No classes

WEEK 3

Day 11 Monday 7th December 4 hours

10-11 Lect 12)	Quiz 1	Covers all material from days 1 to 6 inclusive (i.e. up to Lect 12)
11-1 (lecture/film)(KA)	Lecture 17	Language, Speech and the Human Face

2-4 Practical 7 The Human Face and the Functional Anatomy of
Language

Day 12 Tuesday 8th December 5 hours

10-11 Lecture 18 Variation and Adaptation of Modern Humans (CL)
11-12 Lecture 19 Malaria and Human Evolution (CL)
1-2 Lecture 20 Changing Patterns of Disease During Human History
(KA)
2-3 Lecture 21 Syphilis, Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS (KA)
3-4 Tutorial 4 Review of Lectures and Humans and Their Environment

Day 13 Wednesday 9th December No classes

Day 14 Thursday 10th December No classes

Day 15 Friday 11th December 5 hours

10 to 11 **Quiz 2** Covers days 7 to 12 inclusive
11-1 Tutorial 5 Presentation of Group Posters
2-4 Tutorial 6 Presentation of Group Posters (continued)

KA – Prof Ken Ashwell

CL – Dr Carol Lazer

EL – Dr Estelle Lazer