Anthropology 604 (1)  

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Office: Dean 207

Course Objectives

This seminar in physical anthropology offers a theoretical and conceptual basis for investigating evolution and variation in living and past human (and to a lesser extent non-human primate) populations. The general weekly topics to be covered include: the history of physical anthropology, theory of evolution, biological classification and systematics, primate studies, primate fossils, paleoanthropology, biological basis of life and heredity, human variation/diversity, human growth and fertility, human adaptability studies, adaptation to biotic stress (malnutrition and infectious disease), and studies of modernization. Where possible, issues and topics of recent concern in the field will be discussed. The text and assigned readings provide background and perspective to the weekly topics. Class attendance and participation in the general discussion is mandatory.

Organization/Readings

There will be weekly assigned readings for this course The seminar will include formal student seminar presentations as well as discussions and reviews of the assigned reading.

Grade Evaluation

The final grade for the course will be based on the two seminar presentations (@20 pts. x 2= 40 pts. total); one written paper (20 pts.); two written examinations (midterm and final) @15 pts. x 2 = 30 pts. total; and general weekly discussion (10 pts.). [Total = 100 pts.].