COURSE DESCRIPTION

Physical anthropology is a biological science which focuses on adaptations, variability, and the evolution of humans and their nearest relatives, living and fossil. Because human biology is studied in the context of human culture and behavior, physical anthropology is also a social science. This course serves as an introduction to the field. The areas to be covered include the principles of evolution, biological basis of life, Mendelian and population genetics, human diversity, human (climatic) adaptability, growth and nutrition, biological classification, the biology and behavior of non-human primates (primatology), and the study of primate and human fossils (paleoanthropology).

A separate laboratory (1 credit) is offered in conjunction with this course. All those registered for the lecture course MUST register for one of the lab sections (ANTH 215L). Separate grades will be given for each course.


Grading: 3 lecture exams (2 midterms @20 pts. final @ 30 pts.) = 70 pts.
3 film reviews (@5 pts.) = 15 pts.
Unannounced quizzes* = 15 pts.
Total: 100 pts.

Extra Credit: The option of earning 5 extra points (to be added to final grade) is made available through approved projects. Please read handout and/or see course instructor.

Instructor: Prof. M. Pietrusewsky. Office: Dean 207; Tel: 956-6653; e-mail: mikep@hawaii.edu; Office hours: T 3-4, W 10-11, or by appt. Mailbox: Saunders 346.

Teaching Assistant: Adam Lauer; Tel. 956-8425; Office Hrs.: during labs or by appt.


* Quizzes are normally given in the first or the last 5 minutes of each class meeting. Makeup quizzes are not given. Approximately 24 quizzes are given; your final average is based on the 15 highest quiz scores received during the semester. Excuses absences require appropriate (e.g., note from physician) documentation.

Disability Statement: If you feel you need reasonable accommodations because of the impact of a disability, please 1) contact the KOKUA Program (V/T) at 956-7511 or 956-7612 in Room 013 of the QLCSS; 2) speak with me privately to discuss your specific needs. I will be happy to work with you and the KOKUA Program to meet your access needs related to your documented disability.

Class Etiquette: Deactivate all pagers, cell phones, & other electronic equipment during class. Be punctual!