

Anthropology 2110 - The Biology of Human Variation
Fall 2015

Instructor: Laura Adlam

Location: Simcoe Hall 1025

Lecture Time: Wed. & Fri. 8:30-10:00 a.m.

Office: OA X3008, Desk #2

Email: ladlam@lakeheadu.ca

Office hours: Wednesday and Friday 10:00-11:30 a.m. (or by appointment)

I will respond to emails within 24 hours.

Course Description:

This course focuses on human microevolution and, in particular, how random and adaptive evolutionary processes are responsible for human biological variation. Topics include evolutionary theory, the genetic background of human variation, the distribution of human variation, human adaptability and the role of disease and other influences on human evolution.

Required textbooks: (available at the University Bookstore)

Stone, L., Lurquin, P.F., and Cavalli-Sforza, L.L. 2007. *Genes, Culture, and Human Evolution: A Synthesis*. Blackwell. (paperback)

Brown, D.E. 2010. *Human Biological Diversity*. Pearson Education Inc. (paperback)

Learning Objectives

At the end of this course, you will understand:

- how biological anthropologists study human diversity
- the range of human biological diversity
- human variation has genetic and environmental (including cultural) components
- human variation has and is evolving due to these components
- human variation also is due to human adaptation and human adaptability

Evaluation

Midterm exam - 30% - FRI. OCT. 23

- a mixture of multiple choice, short and long answer questions.

Movie questions and response - 5% - WED. OCT. 28

Short Paper - 25% - DUE WED. NOV. 18

- instructions will be handed out in class the first week.

Final Exam - 40% - IN EXAM SCHEDULE

- same format as mid term but on full term's material with an emphasis on the topics since the midterm.

Please note that that last day to withdraw from this course without academic penalty is Friday November 6. You will have received feedback on 35% of your final grade by this date.

Missed Tests/Due Dates

Missed tests will not be made up without official documentation that is submitted with a reasonable reason. You must contact me within 48 hours of the missed test or due date.

Course Website - Desire2Learn (D2L) - under MyCourseLinks

Lecture slides will be posted after each class is complete on the course website. Marks will be posted for the midterm, movie response and paper on the course website.

Classroom behaviour

Please ensure cell phones are turned off...fully off not just set on silent.

Please ask questions...if you have a question probably someone else in the class has the same question.

Arrive on time for class!

Code of Conduct

Please familiarize yourself with the Lakehead University code of conduct that can be found at

<http://policies.lakeheadu.ca/policy.php?pid=60>

READING SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Required Reading	Suggested Reading
Sept 16	Introduction/Syllabus	American Anthropology Association Statement on Race (link on D2L site)	
Sept 18	History of Study of Human Variation	Brown Chapter 6 (89-96)	
Sept 23	Human Variability Phenotypic Characters	Brown Chapter 6 (96-115)	
Sept 25	Evolution - History of Study/Theory	Brown Chapter 2 Stone Chapter 2 (13-20)	
Sept 30	Taxonomy & Hominid Evolution	Brown Chapter 5 (66-81) Stone Chapter 2 (21-47)	
Oct 2	Hominid Evolution (Continued)	Stone Chapter 2	
Oct 7	Genetics - Chemical Basis of Life	Brown Chapter 3 (26-40)	Stone Chapter 3
Oct 9	Genetics - Microevolution	Brown Chapter 3 (40-47)	Stone Chapters 5 & 6 (108-117)
Oct 14	Genetics - Chromosomes	Brown Chapter 4 (48-55)	Stone Chapter 3
Oct 16	Genetics - Genetic Variability	Brown Chapter 4 (55-65)	
Oct 21	Genotypic Traits	Brown Chapter 7 (116-133)	
Oct 23	MID TERM TEST		
Oct 28	"Ghost in Your Genes"	Movie with Response Assignment	
Oct 30	Drift, Migration & Diversity	Stone Chapter 6	
Nov 4	Geography of Human Genes	Stone Chapter 8 (144-160)	
Nov 6	Prehistory of Human Genes	Stone Chapter 9	
Nov 11	Prehistoric Human Expansions	Stone Chapter 10	
Nov 13	Peopling of Europe and the Americas	Stone Chapter 11	
Nov 18	Growth/Development PAPER DUE	Brown Chapter 9	
Nov 20	Aging/Senescence	Brown Chapter 10	
Nov 25	Environmental Stressors	Brown Chapter 11	
Nov 27	Biological Stressors	Brown Chapter 12	
Dec 2	Modern Human Biology - Medicine etc.	Brown Chapter 13 / Stone Chapter 14	
Dec 4	Human Biological Diversity - Future	Brown Chapter 14 / Stone Conclusion	

Brown - Brown, D.E. 2010. *Human Biological Diversity*. Pearson Education Inc.

Stone - Stone, L., Lurquin, P.F., and Cavalli-Sforza, L.L. 2007. *Genes, Culture, and Human Evolution: A Synthesis*. Blackwell.