COURSE SYLLABUS
ANTHROPOLOGY 302: FOUNDATIONS OF HUMAN VARIATION

Semester: Spring 2017
Instructor: Mark C. Griffin
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Office Hours: M, F 12-2 (appts. reserved at https://drmarkgriffin.youcanbook.me/)

Section: 1 (10:10-11:00, MWF, HSS 302)
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Office Hours: M, F 12-2 (appts. reserved at https://drmarkgriffin.youcanbook.me/)

DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the nature and extent of heritable differences among human populations in an evolutionary perspective. The role of genetics and environment in the formation of these differences is considered, as well as the biological concept of race.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

There are four formal writing assignments for this course. Each assignment contributes 25% toward your final grade. All of the exercises must be completed in order to receive a passing grade or “CR” for this course. Your final grade for the course is assigned on a "ten point" grade scale: 90-100% = "A", 80-89% = "B", 70-79% = "C", 60-69% = “D”, <60% = “F”.

No incompletes will be given for this course, except with the approval of the instructor.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance is mandatory for this course. You must come to class if you plan to pass the course.

If you stop attending this course, you will not be “automatically dropped” from the course. Withdrawing from courses is your responsibility. If you do not officially withdraw from the course, you will receive an “F”.

TEXTBOOK:


CRITICAL THINKING EXERCISES:

The written assignments for this course will be take-home critical thinking exercises. Your responses will be typed.

You will be held responsible for all information presented in lectures, assigned readings, and any other media (i.e., films, video tapes, slides, etc.). The assigned readings are meant to compliment the material presented in class, not substitute for it (i.e., attend lectures if you plan to pass the course). Passing grades on the essays require that you successfully integrate the information from class and from the readings.
In general, late assignments will not be accepted. In extenuating circumstances, assignments may be turned in late with the prior consent of the instructor. Jammed printers, obstinate computers, incompetent computer users, recalcitrant cars, irritating viruses, busy schedules, and general lack of prior planning are not valid excuses for late papers.

**SCHEDULE:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READING</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction (Darwin)</td>
<td>Darwin et al. 1930*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Molecular Genetics</td>
<td>Mielke et al. Chp. 2</td>
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**CRITICAL THINKING EXERCISE 1**

- Population Genetics                            | Mielke et al. Chp. 3         |
- Polygenic Traits and Nature/Nurture             | Mielke et al. Chp. 10        |

**CRITICAL THINKING EXERCISE 2**

- Human Variation                                 | Mielke et al. Chp. 1         |
- Body Size, Shape, and Pigmentation Variations   | Mielke et al. Chp. 11, 12    |

**CRITICAL THINKING EXERCISE 3**

- Human Adaptation                                | Baker 1988*                 |
- Human Blood Polymorphisms                        | Mielke et al. Chp. 4, 7, 6   |

**CRITICAL THINKING EXERCISE 4**

* available on the Anthropology Graduate Seminar website: http://online.sfsu.edu/~mgriffin/A760/index.htm

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

1. Students are responsible for knowing the San Francisco State University regulations concerning cheating and plagiarism that are described in the University Bulletin.

2. Misconduct includes, but is not limited to: cheating on exams; fabrication of reports, assignments, sources, etc.; plagiarism or the reproduction of others’ work without proper acknowledgment; interfering with another student’s work; or helping another student cheat.

3. Plagiarism is specifically defined as copying another person’s words without appropriate acknowledgment. This includes: (a) quoting another person's actual words; (b) paraphrasing another person's words; (c) use of another person's idea, opinion, or theory; or (d) borrowing of facts, statistics, or other illustrative material, unless the information is common knowledge.

4. The essays you write for this course are to be substantially your work. That is, long block quotes, paraphrasing or copying from the text or any other source, and copying another student’s work are unacceptable.

5. If plagiarism is proven in this class, the student will be given an "F" for the assignment.
Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- discuss the history of the race concept in biological anthropology and relate these concepts to the cultural context of the time period
- explain the biological mechanisms of DNA coding, protein expression, and inheritance
- apply the concepts of heritability, genetic and environmental interactions, developmental plasticity, and epigenetics to critically analyze research studies of human biological variation
- evaluate evolutionary hypotheses of human adaptations and the distribution of phenotypic traits, relating them to mechanisms of evolutionary change: genetic drift, gene flow, mutation, and natural selection
- discuss examples of the interacting effects of culture, environment, and selection on the frequency of alleles in populations

Disability Statement Policy

Students with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations are encouraged to contact the instructor. The Disability Programs and Resource Center (DPRC) is available to facilitate the reasonable accommodations process. The DPRC is located in the Student Service Building and can be reached by telephone (voice/TTY 415-338-2472) or by email (dprc@sfsu.edu).

University Withdrawal Policy

The Withdrawal deadline occurs two weeks after the semester starts. After this deadline, students must petition for a Withdrawal, or receive a non-passing grade for a class if they do not complete the requirements of the course. Withdrawals are permitted only for serious and/or compelling reasons. In the last three weeks of the semester, students must be able to document the reason for their withdrawal.

SF State fosters a campus free of sexual violence including sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and/or any form of sex or gender discrimination. If you disclose a personal experience as an SF State student, the course instructor is required to notify the Dean of Students. To disclose any such violence confidentially, contact: The SAFE Place - (415) 338-2208; http://www.sfsu.edu/~safe_plc/ Counseling and Psychological Services Center - (415) 338-2208; http://psyservs.sfsu.edu/ For more information on your rights and available resources: http://titleix.sfsu.edu