

Course Objectives

(NS) General study of the field of archaeology, which explores human cultures through an examination of material remains and how archaeologists gather and use scientific data. Also this course is a general study of the field of biological anthropology, using evolutionary theory to explore human biological variation, the origins, major evolutionary trends, and modern taxonomic relationships of the nonhuman primates as well as the human fossil record in geological context of the last six million years of earth history. Writing assignments represent a significant component of coursework. Writing assignments represent a significant component of coursework.

Anthropology &115 Outcomes

- Familiarize students with the tenets of primate research.
- Describe hominid evolution.
- Explain the origin of race as a biological concept and why this concept is no longer seen as scientifically supportable.
- Discuss the scientific worldview and why it is often seen as in conflict with other worldviews, especially those that are religion-based.
- Explain the basic principles of archaeological and evolutionary theory.
- Explain how human diversity demonstrates evolutionary processes.
- Describe the contemporary issues associated with controversial topics in archaeology and biological anthropology.
- Discuss evolution in the context of the advent of culture, agriculture, colonialism and globalization.

Anthropology Program Core Learning Outcomes

- Collect information from different types of written sources.
- Present a synthesis of the data they collect in the form of written and/or oral presentations.
- Incorporate a cultural relativistic perspective into all course work.
- Demonstrate how the biocultural model is integral to understanding the world from a holistic perspective.
- Analyze the human condition both in a historical context and from the stance as a global citizen.

Social Sciences-specific Outcomes

- Demonstrate knowledge of a range of facts, terminology, events, and/or methods that social scientists in various disciplines must possess in order to investigate, analyze or give a history of, or predict human, group, or societal behavior.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply classifications, principles, generalizations, theories, models, and/or structures pertinent to social scientific efforts to organize conceptual knowledge in various fields.
- Demonstrate the ability to reach conclusions/make arguments across a range of social science topics that are tied to a defensible sifting of appropriate evidence relative to the questions involved.
- Demonstrate an understanding and tolerance of the diversity of perspectives, cultural understandings, and ways of thinking that others bring to bear on social science questions.