

Evolution of Human Behavior

ANTH 156 (Call No. 30062) Spring 2009

Syllabus

Lecture TR 3.00-4.15 PM
MND 4008

Instructor: Dr. Roger Sullivan
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Catalog Description

ANTH156. Evolution of Human Behavior. Introduction to the application of evolutionary theory to human behavior and psychology. Reviews and contrasts contemporary perspectives of human behavioral evolution with emphasis on insights from the emerging field of evolutionary psychology. Topics include human behavior and cognition as adaptations, "selfish genes," game theory, evolution of social behavior, evolution of altruism, human mating strategies, parenting, behavioral disorders, evolution of the life cycle, human behavioral ecology, Darwinian medicine, and evolutionary psychology. Prerequisite: ANTH 001, BIO 010, BIO 011, or PSYC 001 recommended. 3 units.

Required Texts

1. Cartwright J. 2008. Evolution and Human Behavior. 2nd Edition. Cambridge: The MIT Press.
2. Dawkins R. 1976/1999. The Selfish Gene. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Recommended Text*

Gangestad SW, Simpson JA. 2007. The Evolution of Mind. New York: The Guilford Press.

*required for graduate students

Required Readings

Available on LOCUS <http://locus.csus.edu/locus/index.php> and at the Reserve Book Room.

Course Requirements:

ANTH 156 is reading and writing intensive with the objective of encouraging critical thinking about, and engagement with, the course content. Assessment consists of one essay (25%), three written exams (75%), and consideration of your class participation and record of attendance. Course materials include substantial required reading and you are expected to read the assigned articles before class so that you can participate in class discussion.

Essay (25%)

The essay will address a question about the history of ideas about human behavior, or about the evolution of human behavioral adaptations. A choice of essay questions/topics and further details will be provided on the class webpage (see address above). The essay is due in class on Tuesday May 5. NO LATE ESSAYS ACCEPTED.

The essay will be a minimum of six and maximum of eight double-spaced pages, 12-point font, 1" margins, excluding references and title page. For graduate students only, the essay will be a minimum of ten and maximum of twelve double-spaced pages

Exams (75%)

There will be three written exams comprised of short answer/essay questions and each is worth 25% of your final grade. Exams one and two will be conducted in class time and exam three will be held during Finals Week. All exams will be timed at one hour. The exams will be based on lecture content, textbook readings and additional required readings, and are non-cumulative. Study guides will be made available on the class website.

Make-up exam/assignment. If anyone misses the first or second exam, they may qualify for a make-up assignment only if the reason for their absence was a genuine and documented emergency.

Class Participation and Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. It is important that you come to class (on time), having already completed the day's readings, and prepared to participate in discussion. Participation in class discussion and your attendance record will be carefully considered when final grades are allocated.

Class Conduct

Turn off cell phones. Laptops can be used for note taking only. Be punctual. Inform me beforehand if you must arrive late because of work commitments. If your commitments require you to leave class early, let me know before class.

Academic Honesty: If a student is found cheating in any of the assignments/exams of this class, the student will receive an F for that assignment/exam. It is each student's responsibility to be aware of the university policy on cheating and plagiarism. See the CSUS Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures document at <http://www.csus.edu/admbus/manual/UMA00150.htm>

Class Schedule

Section 1: History of ideas about Human Nature and behavior		Readings
T Jan 27	Introduction	Dr Sullivan's Undergraduate Essay Guide
R Jan 29	Human Nature and the Mind I	Hobbes 1655, Locke 1690, Rousseau 1755, Kant 1781
T Feb 3	Anthropology, Ethology and Psychology I	Cartwright Chap 1
R Feb 5	Human Nature and the Mind II	Mead 1928, Chagnon 1988
T Feb 10	Anthropology, Ethology and Psychology II	Cartwright Chap 2.1 & 2.2
R Feb 12	Anthropology, Ethology and Psychology III	Cartwright Chap 4
		*Gangestad & Simpson (G&S) Chaps 2, 4, 10
Section 2: Derived human behavioral adaptations		
T Feb 17	Human Compassion	Dettwyler 1991, Lordkipanidze et al. 2005
R Feb 19	Language I	Cartwright Chap 6, *G&S Chaps 25, 26, 28, 29
T Feb 24	Language II	Schepartz 1993, Mellars 2005
R Feb 26	Exam I	
T Mar 3	Bipedalism I	Rodman & McHenry 1980
R Mar 5	Bipedalism II	Bramble & Lieberman 2004, Liebenberg 2006
T Mar 10	Hunting and Diet I	Aiello & Wheeler 1995, Goren-Inbar et al. 2004
R Mar 12	Hunting and Diet II	Stanford 2001, Bunn 2001
Section 3: Evolutionary Theory of Behavior		
T Mar 17	Replicators and "selfish" genes	Dawkins Chaps 1-4
R Mar 19	Natural Selection	Cartwright Chaps 2.1-2.3, *G&S Chap 22-24
T Mar 24	ESS and Reciprocal Altruism	Dawkins Chaps 5-7, Cartwright Chaps 2.4-2.6
R Mar 26	Kin Selection	Cartwright Chap 9
T Mar 31	Spring Break	
R Apr 2	Spring Break	
T Apr 7	Parental Investment	Dawkins Chaps 8-10, Cartwright Chap 10
R Apr 9	Exam II	
T Apr 14	Reproductive Strategies I	Cartwright Chaps 3.1-3.4
R Apr 16	Reproductive Strategies II	Cartwright Chaps 3.5-3.6
Section 4: Contemporary perspectives		
T Apr 21	Evolution of the Life Cycle	Cartwright Chap 3.7, Kaplan et al. 2000
R Apr 23	Human Behavioral Ecology I	Betzig 1988, Cartwright Chap 11
T Apr 28	Human Behavioral Ecology II	Cartwright Chap 4.1, Symons 1992, *G&S Chaps 6-8
R Apr 30	Evolutionary Psychology I	Cartwright Chaps 7 and 12, *G&S Chaps 41-43
T May 5	Evolutionary Psychology II	Sugiyama et al. 2002, Senghas et al. 2004, *G&S Chaps 15-16
	[Due date in class for essay]	
R May 7	Evolutionary Psychology III	Cartwright Chap 17, Hagen 2005
T May 12	Human Cooperation	Wrangham 1999, Cartwright Chap 18
R May 14	Human Cooperation	Cartwright Chap 16, *G&S Chaps 35, 37, 39
T May 19	Exam III 3.00 – 5.00 p.m. MND 4008	

*recommended additional readings, required for graduate students

Readings on LOCUS or the Reserve Book Room (includes additional readings not listed above but required in the essay assignment questions)

Aiello LC and P Wheeler. 1995. The Expensive-Tissue Hypothesis: The Brain and the Digestive System in Human and Primate Evolution. *Current Anthropology* 36:199-221.

Alvard MS. 2003. The adaptive nature of culture. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 12:136-149.

Barrett HC. 2005. Adaptations to Predators and Prey. In, *The Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology*, Buss DM (ed). New Jersey: Wiley.

Betzig L. 1988. Redistribution: equity or exploitation? In, *Human Reproductive Behaviour: A Darwinian Perspective*, Betzig L, Borgerhoff-Mulder M, Turke P (eds). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Bramble DM, Lieberman DE. 2004. Endurance running and the evolution of Homo. *Nature* 432:345-352.

Bunn HT. 2001. Hunting, power scavenging, and butchering by Hadza foragers and by Plio-Pleistocene Homo. In, *Meat-Eating and Human Evolution*, CB Stanford and HT Bunn (eds). New York: Oxford University Press.

Chagnon N. 1988. Life histories, blood revenge, and warfare in a tribal population. *Science* 239:985-992.

Dettwyler KA. 1991. Can paleopathology provide evidence for "compassion"? *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 84: 375-384.

Foley RA. 1997. The adaptive legacy of human evolution: a search for the EEA. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 4:194-203.

Freeman D. 1999. The fateful hoaxing of Margaret Mead: A historical analysis of her Samoan research. Boulder: Westview Press.

Gintis H, Bowles S, Boyd R, Fehr E. 2003. Explaining altruistic behavior in humans. *Evolution and Human Behavior* 24:153-172.

Goren-Inbar N et al. 2004. Evidence of hominin control of fire at Gesher Benot Ya'aqov, Israel. *Science* 304: 725-727.

Hagen EH. 2005. Controversies surrounding evolutionary psychology. In, *The Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology*, Buss DM (ed). New Jersey: Wiley.

Hobbes T. 1651/1957. *Leviathan*. New York: Oxford University Press.
Extract "Chapter XIII. Of the Natural Condition of Mankind as Concerning Their Felicity and Misery". (also available online at [Wikisource](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Leviathan/Chapter_XIII))

Kant I. 1781. Critique of Pure Reason. Extract "Introduction" I and II.
http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Critique_of_Pure_Reason/Introduction

Kaplan H, Hill K, Lancaster J, Hurtado AM. 2000. A Theory of Human Life History Evolution: Diet, Intelligence, and Longevity. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 9:156-185.

Liebenberg L. 2006. Persistence Hunting by Modern Hunter-Gatherers. *Current Anthropology* 47: 1017-1025.

Locke J. 1690/1947. An Essay Concerning Human Understanding. New York: EP Dutton.
Extract "Book II: Of Ideas. Chapter 1: Of Ideas in General and their Original". (also available online at [Wikisource](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/An_Essay_Concerning_Human_Understanding))

- Lordkipanidze D et al. 2005. Anthropology: The earliest toothless hominin skull. *Nature* 434: 717-718.
- Mead M. 1928/1963. *Coming of Age in Samoa: A Study of Adolescence and Sex in Primitive Societies*. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books.
Extract "Chapter 13. Our Educational Problems in the Light of Samoan Contrasts".
- Mellars P. 2005. The Impossible Coincidence. A Single-Species Model for the Origins of Modern Human Behavior in Europe. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 14:12-27.
- Rodman PS, McHenry HM. 1980. Bioenergetics and the origin of hominid bipedalism. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 52:103-6.
- Rousseau J-J. 1755/1994. *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality Among Men*. New York: Oxford University Press. Extract "Part II". (also available online at *Wikisource*)
- Schepartz LA. 1993. Language and modern human origins. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. 36: Suppl S17:91-126.
- Senghas A et al. 2004. Children creating core properties of language: Evidence from an emerging sign language in Nicaragua. *Science* 305: 1779-1782.
- Stanford CB. 2001. A comparison of social meat-foraging by chimpanzees and human foragers. In, *Meat-Eating and Human Evolution*, CB Stanford and HT Bunn (eds). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Stiner MC. 2002. Carnivory, Coevolution, and the Geographic Spread of the Genus Homo. *Journal of Archaeological Research* 10:1-63.
- Stocking GW Jr. 1989. The Ethnographic Sensibility of the 1920's and the Dualism of the Anthropological Tradition. In, *Romantic Motives: Essays on Anthropological Sensibility*, Stocking GW Jr. (ed). Madison: University of Wisconsin Press.
- Sugiyama LS et al. 2002. Cross-cultural evidence of cognitive adaptations for social exchange among the Shiwiar of Ecuadorian Amazonia. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 99: 11537–11542.
- Symons D. 1992. On the use and misuse of Darwinism in the study of human behavior. In, *The Adapted Mind: Evolutionary Psychology and the Generation of Culture*, Barkow JH, Cosmides L, Tooby J (eds). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Wrangham RW. 1999. Evolution of Coalitionary Killing. *Yearbook of Physical Anthropology* 42:1-30.