Instructions for Essay Assignment ANTH 155

The essay is worth 25% of your final grade and is due in class on Tuesday November 27 (the first class after Thanksgiving). NO LATE ESSAYS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Choose one of the following essay topics.

1. Compare and contrast the monogenist and polygenist perspectives of the origin of races, with reference to one or more of the historical thinkers on race, evolution or physical anthropology discussed in class.

2. Discuss Washburn's "New Physical Anthropology" with reference to the practice of American physical anthropology in the 19th and early 20th Centuries.

3. Compare and contrast the views of Roy D’Andrade and Nancy Scheper-Hughes (class readings) on the place of objective science in anthropology. How is this debate relevant to contemporary physical anthropology and its future as a sub-discipline within anthropology?


5. Determining whether fossils from the earliest periods of hominid evolution belong to ape or human ancestors can be difficult. Discuss with reference to the readings by Brunet et al. (2002) and Galik et al. (2004).

6. Differentiating early Homo species, such as habilis, rudolfensis and erectus/ergaster, is fraught with difficulties and reflects controversies about theories of paleo species and speciation in general. Discuss with reference to Wood and Collard (1999), Ungar et al. (2006) and Spoor et al. (2007).


Essay Length
The body of your essay will be a minimum of four and a maximum of six double-spaced pages, 12-point font, 1” margins, excluding references and title page. Use a separate title page with your name and chosen essay topic, and start your reference list on a new page.

Use of References
In addition to references to the class readings, your essay will include at least two (2) further primary-source references (i.e. peer-reviewed journals and scholarly books). Examples of potentially useful journals available in the library are listed below. DO NOT, under any circumstances, reference websites. Follow the referencing style of the American Journal of Physical Anthropology.
Any deviation from these instructions will result in grade reduction.

**Essay Structure and Grading Expectations**
Refer to *Dr. Sullivan's Essay Guide* (available from the class webpage) for further information on how to plan and organize your essay and my expectations in terms of grading your work.

**Useful full-text journals that are available online at the CSUS library:**
American Anthropologist
American Journal of Human Biology
American Journal of Physical Anthropology
Current Anthropology
Evolutionary Anthropology
Evolution and Human Behavior
Human Biology
Journal of Human Evolution
Nature (except the current year)
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (except the previous 6 months)
Science (except the current year)