Instructions for Essay Two

Essay two is worth 20% of your final grade and is due in class on Tuesday May 2. LATE ESSAYS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Choose one of the following essay topics.

**Topic 1.** Do selfish genes inevitably lead to selfish behavior? Discuss whether the gene selectionist perspective is deterministic in regard to human behavior and psychology. Refer specifically to Dawkins Chapters 11 and 12, and Cartwright Chapter 12.

Develop your essay with reference to the following readings:

**Topic 2.** In what ways do human life stages (Kaplan et al. 2000) relate to the mating strategies and conflicts discussed in Dawkins and Cartwright?

Develop your essay with reference to the following readings:

**Topic 3.** Compare and contrast the different approaches to understanding the evolution of human behavior represented in the studies by Betzig (1988) and Barrett (2005). Refer specifically to the discussion by Symons (1992) when constructing your essay.

Develop your essay with reference to the following readings (Reserve Book Room):

**Essay Length**
The body of your essay will be a minimum of four and a maximum of six double-spaced pages,
Essay Structure and Grading Expectations
Refer to Dr. Sullivan's Undergraduate 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)