What is this course about?

Anthropology focuses on how the world works and how humans fit into that world – from a biological perspective. This lab class offers a chance to explore many of the topics from Anthro 101 in a hands-on way. We will build logic skills by studying the genetics behind some common traits. We’ll compare and contrast and measure all sorts of skeletons. We’ll trace the skeletal changes that occurred over hominin evolution using skulls or our ancestors. And we will watch primates doing their thing at the zoo. By the end of the course I hope you will appreciate the wonders of human biology, and have a better understanding of how our bodies function and how we are connected to our hominin ancestors and to monkeys and apes today.

Why should I take this course?

This course is meant to be taken at the same time or soon after passing An101 – they cover all the same topics, just in different ways. An111 fulfills 2 units of the GE Science Lab requirement in earning your Associate Degree or transferring to CSU or UC. A few of you may also need it for your major. Yay Anthro majors!

More importantly, you will get to play with bones and watch primates at the zoo! What could possibly be more fun than learning about how your body works and why it evolved to work that way while getting to do hands on activities!?!?

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to analyze human anatomy and behavior from an evolutionary perspective.
**Course Objectives for Lecture**

- Use knowledge of scientific methods and hypothesis testing to analyze scientific arguments and appraise their validity
- Analyze primate and hominin anatomy and behavior from an evolutionary perspective, with an emphasis on the role of natural selection
- Describe and analyze genetic data using the concepts of Mendelian and population genetics
- Identify, analyze, compare, and contrast the bones of the skeletal system and patterns of behavior of living and fossil primates, including hominin species and modern humans from different parts of the world
- Assess the significance of anatomical changes and their relationship to behavioral changes over the course of hominin evolutionary history

**Course Objectives for Lab**

- Analyze a scientific argument and define the various elements of it. Evaluate its’ strengths and weaknesses. Design a simple experiment and identify its various elements.
- Compare the variation in a group, and identify via experiments how those differences affect success under different conditions.
- Calculate genetic information from observations of a test group and evaluate the significance of the data. Trace Mendelian traits within families.
- Analyze skeletal materials of modern and fossil primates, including hominins, to determine details of forensic interest, such as sex and race, and assess the evolutionary implications thereof.
- Identify major families of living primates, compare and contrast behavioral patterns and assess the implications for human behavior and evolution.

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**What tools do I need for this class?**

1. *Lab Manual to Accompany Anthropology 111: Laboratory in Human Biological Evolution* 4th Ed., by Frank, Pierson, and Stein. It is only available from the LAVC bookstore.
2. (Optional) Any textbook or other readings used in Anthro 101: Human Biological Evolution.
3. Access to Canvas – ilearn.laccd.edu. Your username is your student ID number and your password is 88 + month + day you were born (e.g., 880601 for June 1,1982).

**What is my grade be based on?**

- **Reading Quizzes (75 points):** To encourage your thorough preparation and timely arrival to class each week, there will be a reading quiz related to the assigned exercise(s) each week. Some weeks there may also be an exit quiz to help reinforce what you learned in class that day. Quizzes at the start of class begin promptly and can only be taken within the first 10 minutes of class. Only students with an excused absence can count on a make-up opportunity. The quiz will consist of multiple-choice questions, worth 5 points. **These are not meant to be hard, only to ensure you are reading the lab exercise and any online material before class.** Your one lowest quiz score will be dropped.

- **Lab Exercises (300 points):** There are 12 lab sessions that will take place on campus and 1 required lab session that will take place at the Los Angeles Zoo. During each lab session you will complete
one or two exercises, worth 25 points for the day. Generally, exercises are due at the end of class; any exceptions will be announced in class and ideally submitted at the start of the next meeting. Your one lowest lab exercise score will be dropped. One extra credit exercise (Ex. 13 Primate Behavior) is available. Students who turn in Ex 13 may replace a 2nd low or missing exercise score.

- **Exams (200 points):** You will take a midterm and a final exam. Exams will cover material presented in class or the lab exercises for that portion of the class and will be worth 100 points each. Each exam will include practical (eg. examine and identify bones) and theoretical components (eg. answer written or multiple-choice questions). **Do not be late for an exam.** Once the first student is finished, no other students will be permitted to begin the exam.

**Final grades**
A total of 575 points may be earned in this course. The points required for specific grades are:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points Range</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>517 - 575</td>
<td>90 – 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>460 – 516</td>
<td>80 – 89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>402 – 459</td>
<td>70 – 79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>345 – 401</td>
<td>60 – 69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 – 344</td>
<td>0 – 59%</td>
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</tbody>
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You will be able to see all the points you earn in Canvas and keep track of how you are doing in the class. Please ask if you have any questions and let me know if you are having trouble as soon as possible. I can’t help if I don’t know anything is wrong!

**How can I prepare for class each week?**

- Read through the entire lab exercise(s) you will be working on each week before coming to class. Review any material posted in Canvas related to the week’s topic. Remember, there will be a reading quiz at the start of class! Post in Canvas or email me if you have any questions – I hope everyone can earn 5 points each week on these. To do your best, you will want to spend at least 2 to 4 hours preparing and studying outside of class each week.

- Arrive to class on time so you don’t miss the reading quiz. Stay for the full class period and take your time working on the lab for that day, writing thorough answers and making sure you understand what you are doing. The lab exercises are not tests – if you need help please ask! I want everyone to earn 25 points ever week!

- Bring your lab manual to each class meeting. You need to complete your work on the printed lab exercise pages – no notebook paper after the first week unless you need extra pages to show your work. If you aren’t sure what type of answer I’m looking for in a particular box, just ask!

**What can I expect during our class meetings?**

Each class will begin with the reading quiz – the first 10 minutes of class. After I collect those, we’ll review the answers and then I’ll lecture for about an hour. In lecture, I will review the background information from An101 introduce or review any techniques or materials you will need to complete the assigned exercise(s) for the day.
Everyone must attend this lecture portion of the class, whether you took An101 previously or are taking it currently. We will then take a quick break, and the rest of class will be time to work on the assigned exercise(s).

Please work on the exercises in small groups. Students who work in groups may choose to turn in a single group exercise. **Please write all group members' names on the top of the Exercise.** It is also fine if you chose to work on your own, or to work in a group and turn in individually completed exercises. Things get lively and working in groups can be fun. Treat everyone in class with respect.

In most cases, it is difficult to make-up a lab exercise if you miss class. Lab sessions involve hands-on activities using materials you will not have access to outside of class. You will need to make an appointment to use the lab materials and must complete as much of the exercise as is possible to do without lab materials ahead of your make-up session.

On Sep 20th we will not meet for our regular class. Instead, we will meet at the Los Angeles Zoo for a special docent tour on Sep 24th. I will email and we will discuss more details in class.

**What if I need an accommodation?**

If you are a student with a disability requiring classroom accommodations, and have not contacted SSD, please do so in a timely manner. SSD is located in the Student Services Annex, Room 175 or call SSD at (818) 947-2681 or TTD (818) 947-2680 to meet with an SSD counselor. If SSD has already sent the memo confirming the accommodations you need, please meet or email with me to discuss arrangements.

**Where can I go for help?**

There are many different programs available on campus to help students in different situations. Please visit the **LAVC Special Programs** webpage for more information on these great programs.

LAVC offers tutoring in Anthropology (and other subjects) and help with writing assignments. Visit the **General Tutoring** webpage and the **Writing Center** webpage for more information and schedules. Writing tutors can help via email, not just in person! Check out NetTutor via Canvas, as well.

**Service Learning** extra credit is available for this class. Please talk to me if you are interested and contact Dr. Brossman. [http://www.lavc.edu/servicelearning](http://www.lavc.edu/servicelearning)

**Financial Aid** is available! Call (818) 947-2412. Go to the Financial Aid Office in the Student Services Center. For more info: [http://www.lavc.edu/financialaid/](http://www.lavc.edu/financialaid/)

And don’t forget – I’m here to help you too! Anytime you have questions, need help, or want to chat, stop by or send me a message.
What are the rules?
In this class I hope everyone will feel comfortable sharing ideas, personal examples, and questions. To support everyone’s learning, please write and interact professionally as appropriate to a classroom setting. Stay focused on course material. Treat others with respect and generosity, even if you do not agree. I will speak privately with anyone who’s behavior is not following these guidelines.

Plagiarism is the use of others’ words and/or ideas without clearly acknowledging their source. When you incorporate those words and ideas into your own work, you must give credit where credit is due.

Plagiarism, intentional or unintentional, is considered academic dishonesty and is not ok. Anyone found to be plagiarizing or cheating on assignments (e.g., copying or giving answers, using ‘crib’ sheets, cutting and pasting text from websites or copying text from written sources, paying someone to write a paper for you) will (1) receive a zero on the assignment, and (2) be referred to the Vice President of Student Services for further disciplinary action, following due process. For further information on plagiarism and how to avoid doing it please visit the Writing Center website: www.lavc.edu/WCweb/plagiarism.html

How do I stay in – or get out of – the class?
I’ll be taking attendance and recording your participation on activities in class each meeting. Regular attendance is the #1 way to do well in a class. During the first two weeks of the semester your attendance signals you are committed for the semester – please don’t miss class these first two weeks and if you do, let me know that you do intend to stay enrolled. I will check in if I see you missing class and assignments, and may drop you if you don’t respond.

It’s ultimately your responsibility to drop any course you are not attending. If you stop participating in this class and do not officially drop the class through the Admissions and Records Office, you will receive an ‘F’ for your final grade. And I know neither of us wants that – let me know if things come up and you need help.

Important Campus Dates
Labor Day Holiday
Last day to drop classes without a fee or “w”/with refund
Veteran’s Day Holiday
Last day to drop classes with a “w”
Thanksgiving Holiday
Final exams week

Monday September 5th
Sunday September 11th
Friday November 11th
Sunday November 20th
November 24th – 27th
December 12th – 18th
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Exercise(s) of focus each week</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug 30</td>
<td>Scientific Method</td>
<td>Ex. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sep 6</td>
<td>Human Osteology: The Skull</td>
<td>Ex. 5</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Human Osteology: Dentition</td>
<td>Ex. 6</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sep 13</td>
<td>Human Osteology: Postcranial Skeleton</td>
<td>Ex. 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sep 20</td>
<td><strong>No Class Meeting – Zoo Trip Sep 24th</strong></td>
<td>Ex. 9</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>The Living Primates</td>
<td>Ex. 13 (Optional Extra Credit)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sep 27</td>
<td>Comparative Anatomy of Primate Skull &amp; Dentition</td>
<td>Ex. 10</td>
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<td>Ex. 11</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Oct 4</td>
<td>Comparative Anatomy of Primate Postcrania</td>
<td>Ex. 12</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Oct 11</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 18</td>
<td>Natural Selection</td>
<td>Ex. 2</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Oct 25</td>
<td>Genetics</td>
<td>Ex. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Nov 1</td>
<td>Population Genetics</td>
<td>Ex. 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nov 8</td>
<td>The Hominin Fossils: Australopithecines &amp; Paranthropines</td>
<td>Ex. 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov 15</td>
<td>The Hominin Fossils: Genus <em>Homo</em></td>
<td>Ex. 15</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Nov 22</td>
<td>Review Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Nov 29</td>
<td>Anthropometry of the Human Body</td>
<td>Ex. 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>Abnormalities of the Body &amp; Forensic Anthropology</td>
<td>Ex. 16 (review only)</td>
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<td>Ex. 17</td>
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<td>Dec 15</td>
<td>Final Exam 10:30 – 12:30</td>
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