ANTH 250
BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Alison Macintosh

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course is an introduction to the subfields of biological anthropology, stressing the past and present evolution and diversity of humans and nonhuman primates. Course topics include evolutionary theory, population genetics, primatology, paleoanthropology, and contemporary human diversity and adaptation. Lab exercises will cover human osteology, fossil identification, comparative primate skeletal anatomy, human genetic principles and physiological differences in human populations. The major objective of this course is to introduce students to theoretical and methodological techniques within biological anthropology, and to the significance of evolutionary perspectives on humans and our primate relatives.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Students will learn how to think critically about the application of an evolutionary perspective to understanding and explaining human and primate biology, behaviour, and variation. Lab sessions will develop essential skills in the collection and analysis of morphological and quantitative data.

NOTE: Mandatory lab sessions are part of this course and must be enrolled in separately.

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