

# Human Biology

## An Ecological and Evolutionary Approach

### 15 May to 6 June 2015

Biology 1050, Section A  
 Bailey Science Complex, Room 1023  
 Monday-Friday, 8:00 am – 10:50 am,

**Objectives:** ( All objectives meet University Educational Outcome 5 <http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/VSUGeneralEducationOutcomes.shtml> and Biology Educational Outcomes 1,2 ,4, and 5)

1. To develop an appreciation for our biological origins and relationships to other organisms and especially primates.
2. To develop an understanding of how our biology is influenced by our past genetic and non-genetic history and cultures.
3. To develop an understanding of how our biology influences our present lives, our families, and possibly our future.
4. To develop an appreciation of the scientific process.

**Lecture Material:** In lecture, the following topics below will be discussed, but the sequence of the topics may change and some topics will be combined. There will **not** be a major review session prior to tests. All the topics are important to your understanding of human evolution and ecology; and you are encouraged to read additional material to enhance your own understanding of human biology.

Lecture Topics and/or Chapters in Third Chimpanzee	Notes/3 <sup>rd</sup> Chimp
Introduction	Lecture Notes
The Scientific Process	Lecture Notes
Basic Genetics and Evolution	Lecture Notes
Species, Speciation and Being Human	Lecture Notes
Review of Recent Geologic History	Lecture Notes
Human Phylogeny, A Change Study in Flux	Lecture Notes
The Great Leap Foreword	Lecture Notes and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Chimp
Human Migrations about the World	Lecture Notes
The Neanderthals, Denisovans and Flores Man	Lecture Notes
Aspects of Human Genetics	Lecture Notes
Evolution of the Human Brain	Lecture Notes
Life History Strategies and the Human Life cycle	Lecture Notes
Human Sexuality and Reproduction	Lecture Notes and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Chimp
Science of Adultery	Lecture Notes and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Chimp
Picking Our Mates and Sex Partners	Lecture Notes and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Chimp
Sexual Selection and Origins of Human Races	Lecture Notes and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Chimp
Why Do We Grow Old and Die?	Lecture Notes and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Chimp
Tool Making	Lecture Notes
Human and Primate Language	Lecture Notes and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Chimp
Human Artistic Expression	Lecture Notes and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Chimp
Human Agriculture and Its Mixed Blessing	Lecture Notes and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Chimp

**Special Notes:**

- The list of topics above is tentative, but in general will not change significantly.
- Lecture Notes—Notes from classroom lectures only. Not found in suggested text.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Chimp--Lectures from suggested text with explanatory notes and additional information given in lecture only.

**Textbook:** There is no required textbook for this class, and all test questions will come from your lecture notes or other materials presented in class. However, in past years the text The Third Chimpanzee, the Evolution and Future of the Human Animal (Jared Diamond, HarperPerennial of Harper Collins Publishers) has been used. This is an inexpensive text (~\$17.00) and some of the notes will follow this text; so you might want to purchase the book to enhance your understanding of these lectures (see 3<sup>rd</sup> Chimp in topics section above) as well as for your own interest in human biology.

**Other Recommended Readings:** The following books have material in them related to the topics we will be discussing as well as a wealth of additional material on a wide range of topics related to human biology.

- Arsuaga, Juan L. 2002. The Neanderthal's Necklace. Four Walls and Eight Windows, Publishers, NY. 334 pgs.
- Cavalli-Sforza, Luigi Luca. 2000, Genes, Peoples, and Languages. University of California Press. Berkeley. 228 pgs.
- Diamond, Jared. 1999. Guns, Germs, and Steel. W.W. Norton & Company. NY. 480 pgs. (Pulitzer Prize Winner)
- Poirier, Frank E. and Jeffery K. McKee. 1999. Understanding Human Evolution, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. Prentice Hall. New Jersey. 386 pgs.

**Summer I (Maymester), May 2014, Academic Calendar**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12 May	13 May	14 May	15 May-- First Class, Class starts at 8 am.	16 May
19 May	20 May	21 May	22 May	23 May--Test 1 at 8 am, followed by lecture.
26 May--Memorial Day Holiday, no classes	27 May--Summer I Midterm, last drop date	28 May	29 May	30 May--Test 2 at 8 am, followed by lecture.
2 June	3 June	4 June	5 June--Summer I Last Class Day	6 June--Summer I Final Exam Day, Non- comprehensive examination at 8 am

**Tests, Testing and Calendar--**All tests will be multiple-choice and must be taken with a #2 pencil. Do not use mechanical pencils as some of these graphites/leads are not as soft as is the #2 pencil graphite. Test dates for test one and two given below and above may be changed as needed with changes being announced in class prior to the test. See the calendar for test dates. Questions will be taken from the notes. If you are late for a test and arrive after the first person has left, you will not be allowed to take

the test. There will be 50-75 questions on each test. The final will be non-comprehensive. Missed tests will be made up as essay tests. You do not want to take a makeup test.

**Grading Scale:** A=100-90, B=89-80, C=79-70, D=69-60, F=59-0

**Student Honesty Policy:** Students caught cheating on tests or who help others cheat will be given a zero (0) for the test. For further information on student honesty, please consult the student handbook or web related sites (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyPoliciesandProcedures.shtml>).

**Class Attendance:** Class attendance will not be taken after the first week. It is expected that you will attend class and take good notes. Since there is no actual textbook with this class, you will need to attend class to be sure that you get all the notes needed for class and tests. You may make tape recordings of the lecture if you wish. If images are shown, you may photograph them.

**Behavior in Class--**It is expected that you remain quite and attentive during class. However, questions and class discussion on topics related to lecture are strongly encouraged. It is also expected that you will be on time. If you are late, please enter the classroom quietly from the back so as to not disturb others or disrupt the lecture. If you have a conflict that causes you to be repeatedly late, please inform me so that I understand the cause of your tardiness. Food and beverages are not permitted in the classroom at anytime, this includes during movies if shown.

**Cell Phones:** Please turn off your cell phones during class. Your task is to learn the material being taught, and your stock broker can wait. If you are caught using a cell phone/I-pad during a test, you will be given an "F" for the test as you do not need to be communicating to anyone during the test.

**Access Office for Students with Disabilities:** If you are registered with the Access office and are eligible for special testing or some other learning process, please be sure to let me know. If you are a student with disabilities and have not registered with the Access office, please do so and notify me if you intend to use their services. The Access office is located in 1115 Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498 (voice) and 219-1348 (tty). By e-mail contact [access@valdosta.edu](mailto:access@valdosta.edu).

**Office hours--**The best times to see me are usually Monday through Thursday right after class. I will often leave to conduct fieldwork with my graduate students shortly after class.

David L. Bechler,

Locations in Bailey Science Complex where I might be found when not in class:

- Office 2030
- Research Lab 2050
- Aquatic Lab 1053

Phone 293-6063

E-mail [dbechler@valdosta.edu](mailto:dbechler@valdosta.edu)