

Introduction to Biological/Physical Anthropology TCSU ANTH 110

A. Description

This course covers the concepts, methods of inquiry, and theory of biological evolution and their application to the human species. There is a specific focus on molecular, Mendelian and population genetics, mechanisms of evolution, primatology, paleoanthropology, biocultural adaptations, human variation, and current bioethical issues. The philosophy of science and the scientific method serve as foundations to the course. The course may include a lab component.

B. Recommended Preparation

Completion of IGETC Area 1A or CSU General Education-Breadth Area A2

C. Prerequisites

None

D. Minimum Unit Requirement

3 semester units

E. Course Topics

1. Molecular, Mendelian and population genetics
2. Mechanisms of evolution
3. Primatology
4. Paleoanthropology
5. Biocultural adaptations
6. Human variation
7. Bioethics

F. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the basic concepts, methods of inquiry, and the theory of biological evolution;
2. Apply the above to the human species to explain observed change and adaptation; and
3. Explain how the scientific method serves as a foundation for such anthropological understandings.

Introduction to Biological/Physical Anthropology Lab

G. Description

This is a laboratory course that covers the methods, techniques, and procedures used in biological/physical anthropology research. Subjects include those contained in the lecture course. Students gain practical experience by participating in laboratory activities, exercises, and experiments employing the scientific method.

H. Recommended Preparation

Completion of IGETC Area 1A or CSU General Education-Breadth Area A2

I. Prerequisites

Prior or concurrent enrollment in Introduction to Biological/Physical Anthropology

J. Minimum Unit Requirement

1 semester unit

K. Course Topics

1. Molecular, Mendelian and population genetics
2. Mechanisms of evolution
3. Primatology
4. Paleoanthropology
5. Biocultural adaptations
6. Human variation
7. Bioethics

L. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate and use basic concepts and methods of inquiry of biological/physical anthropology;
2. Apply the above to the human species to explain observed change and adaptation; and
3. Explain how the scientific method serves as a foundation for such anthropological understandings.