

T/Th 12:30 – 1:50 PM
ELA 229

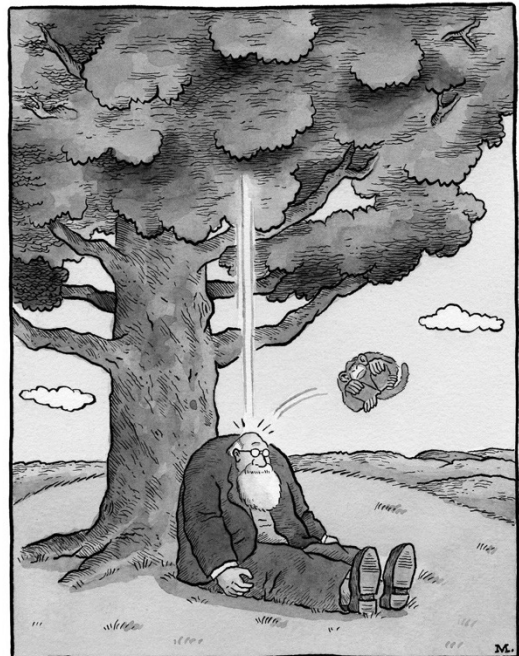
Instructor: Dr. Carrie Veilleux
ccv15@txstate.edu
If you are unable to attend office hours, feel free to make an appointment!

office hours: Tu 10-11, Thurs 11-12
office: ELA 233

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will use an anthropology of science perspective to explore the history of evolutionary thought. We'll trace evolutionary ideas and their impact on the scientific and broader communities through time. We'll also pay close attention to how the societal worldviews of the time periods influenced the development of evolutionary discourse.

This is a writing intensive course, and we will alternate between lecture and discussion formats. You will be required to critically read and evaluate assigned readings and arrive prepared to discuss these readings during class.



How Darwin really came upon his theory of evolution

TEXTBOOKS, READINGS, & ASSIGNMENTS

There is no assigned textbook. However, readings will be posted online in TRACs at least one week prior to the relevant discussion.

Class assignments (essays, etc.) will be handed out in class, as well as posted online in TRACs. Pay attention to the TRACs Announcements for due dates and assignments.

COURSE SCHEDULE *(subject to change)*

8-30 (Tu)	Introduction to course, syllabus. What is science?
9-1 (Th)	Discussion/Lecture: Is science objective?
9-6 (Tu)	Lecture: Pre-Enlightenment worldviews and natural thought
9-8 (Th)	Discussion

9-13 (Tu)	Lecture: The Enlightenment and 18 th century natural thought
9-15 (Th)	Discussion
9-20 (Tu)	Lecture: Setting the stage: evolutionary thought 1800-1859
9-22 (Th)	Discussion
9-27 (Tu)	Exam 1
9-29 (Th)	Lecture: Darwin, Wallace, and the “Dangerous Idea”
10-4 (Tu)	Discussion
10-6 (Th)	Lecture: Responses to Darwin
10-11 (Tu)	Discussion
10-13 (Th)	Lecture: Mendel, genetics, and early 20 th century evolutionary thought
10-18 (Tu)	Discussion
10-20 (Th)	Lecture: the rise of biological determinism and eugenics
10-25 (Tu)	Discussion
10-27 (Th)	Exam 2
11-1 (Tu)	Lecture: the modern evolutionary synthesis
11-3 (Th)	Discussion
11-8 (Tu)	Lecture: Sociobiology
11-10 (Th)	Discussion
11-15 (Tu)	Lecture: “Ultra-Darwinism”, adaptationism, and evolutionary psychology
11-17 (Th)	Discussion
11-22 (Tu)	Lecture: Controversies and debate in modern evolutionary thought
11-24 (Th)	Thanksgiving – no class!
11-29 (Tu)	Discussion
12-1 (Th)	Evolution, science, and creationism I
12-6 (Tu)	Discussion
12-8 (Th)	Evolution, science, and creationism II
12-15 (Th)	Final Exam, 11 am to 1:30 pm

GRADING

Your grade for the semester will be based on the following four components:

Exams	50%
Discussion & Participation	15%
Essays	35%

Final Grade Ranges: A = 100-89.5; B = 89.49-79.5; C = 79.49-69.5; D = 69.49-59.5; F = < 59.49
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Exams

There will be THREE exams. The first two exams will be worth 15% each, while the final exam will be worth 20% of your final grade. Exams will be non-cumulative and will cover all lecture material and assigned readings. Exam questions will be in objective format (e.g., true/false, multiple choice, matching, short answer, possibly long answer).

Make-up exams will be given ONLY with sufficient and appropriate *documented proof* of family or medical emergency or illness. You should strive to contact me ahead of the missed exam if you possibly can. You must contact me within *three days* of a missed exam to qualify for a make-up.

There will be no review sessions.

Lectures

I will post some lecture slides to TRACs. However, it is in your best interests to come to class. If you need me to repeat something – ask! If you have questions – ask! You can ask in class, via email, or come by office hours!

If you are absent from class, you will miss important material that will be covered in the exams. It is in your best interests to attend every class. If you miss a class, you must get the notes for that class from someone who attended. You should read/copy those notes, and see me if you have any queries regarding the material. It is YOUR responsibility to catch up on any material you have missed through absence. If you know you will be absent on a certain date, I would appreciate being notified ahead of time.

Discussion Classes

Discussion are fun and useful ways to help students formulate and articulate opinions, ensure a grasp of the material, provide an opportunity to ask questions, and to deal with arising issues from the class material. Discussion also helps ensure a collegial class atmosphere! We will generally have discussion classes once a week.

You will each be expected to lead discussion for one of those sessions with 1-2 other classmates. A discussion leader should try to facilitate discussion with classmates by reading the material carefully, and bringing questions, scenarios, ideas, etc. to the table. You and your fellow discussion leaders will be graded on how well you facilitate discussion of the readings, and this grade will represent 5% of your final grade. Some students may feel more comfortable participating in discussion if they can prepare prior

to class. Therefore, discussion leaders should post some or all of their discussion prompts on the thread for their discussion at least one day before class.

The job of the class, then, is to discuss! Thus, everyone is expected to come to class prepared and ready to participate. Discussion is not always easy, but it is an important skill, and it comprises 10% of your final grade (15% with being a discussion leader). In other words, if you do not participate in discussion classes, the highest grade you can get is a B. It is OK to be wrong! It is OK to be shy! But at some point you have to get over it, and start talking. For some of you this will be a challenge. Rise to it!

Essays

You will be asked to write 3 short papers (5% each) and 1 final essay (15%). The written pieces will be scheduled throughout the semester, and details given during class time. Your final essay will be a 2000 word paper due in on the last class day. I will provide a list of titles in the next few weeks. Your essays should be typed, double-spaced, using a standard 12 point font. You will be expected to do some library research in producing your paper. Wikipedia or other websites are never acceptable sources. Google Scholar is a useful search tool for finding appropriate academic journal articles or books, and the Alkek Library website can help you find appropriate online and library resources as well. Prior to submitting your first essay, you *must* complete the online plagiarism tutorial linked in the *Assignments* tab in TRACs (additional 5% of final grade).

COURSE POLICIES

Students with disabilities

Students with special needs (as documented by the Office of Disability Services) are encouraged to meet with me at the beginning of the semester to discuss any needs. The Department of Anthropology is dedicated to providing these students with necessary academic adjustments and auxiliary aids to facilitate their participation and performance in the classroom.

Grading Policies

If you have any questions about your grade on any exam, I will be happy to recheck your whole exam. Simple errors of grading (e.g., incorrect addition) will be corrected immediately. More complicated issues should be addressed in writing within 3 days after the return of the exams. Please include the exam with your request. You have 3 days after the exams have been returned to you to notify me of any errors or disagreements. After that, grades are final.

If you are struggling in the course, please come for help *during* the semester when there is still time for me to help you. Take advantage of my office hours or make an appointment with me. If your performance during the semester is adversely affected by personal problems, you are encouraged to contact your dean's office as soon as possible to discuss your options.

Manners

It is important to practice respectfulness to your professors and fellow classmates. For this reason, as your professor, and barring extenuating circumstances, I pledge:

1. To arrive to class on time and prepared
2. To arrive properly attired
3. To be awake during class
4. To switch off my cellphone for the duration of class
5. To not check my e-mail, listen to my iPod, surf the internet, or read non-class related materials during class time
6. To behave in a respectful and appropriate manner

I expect you, as my students, to uphold the same values and behave accordingly.

ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

Cheating Policy

"Cheating" means engaging in any of the following activities.

- a) Copying from another student's exams, laboratory assignment, or homework, or from any electronic device or equipment.
- b) Plagiarism, such as copying sentences or phrases from other sources without sufficient paraphrasing, citation, and/or quotation marks.
- c) Using materials not authorized by your instructor during an exam.
- d) Collaborating, without authorization, with another person during an examination or in preparing academic work. This might include hand gestures, signals, etc.
- e) Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of an unadministered or administered exam.

Plagiarism

"Plagiarism" means the appropriation of another's work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one's own written work offered for credit. This includes copying verbatim sentences or phrases from another's work even if citation is given.

"Collusion" means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing any work offered for credit.

I take plagiarism very seriously in this class. You will be required, prior to submitting any essays, to complete an online plagiarism tutorial and successfully pass a Certification Test. Information about the test and links to other university resources are in the TRACs *Assignments* page.

Without exception, any student found cheating on an assignment will receive a grade of zero for the assignment, will result in a reduced final class grade, and will be referred to the Honor Code Council.

Note that any attempt to alter a graded, returned exam in order to improve the score will be considered cheating and will result in a grade of zero for the exam.