

MESABI RANGE COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE – VIRGINIA/EVELETH

Course Outline

Course Title: Human Origins  
Semester Course Prefix and Number: ANTH 1535  
Old Quarter Course Prefix and Number:

Submitted By: Patrick Nelson  
Approval Date: Jan. 2003  
Revision Date: New

Number of Credits: 3      Number of Lecture Credits: 3  
Semester(s) Offered: Fall      Number of Lab Credits:      Number of Lab Hours:  
Negotiated Class Size:      Number of Studio/Demonstration/Internship Credits:

**Course Purpose Code:**

- 0 – Developmental Courses
- 1 – Non-transferable, General Education
- 2 – Technical course related to career programs
- 3 – College course which has the primary goal of applying certain concepts (e.g. vocal ensemble)
- 4 – Other college course not considered a part of general education (MNTC) e.g. computer science, health, physical education
- 5 – Course which is intended to fulfill the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MNTC) requirements.
- 9 – Continuing Education/Customized Training specialized credit course (not occurring in 0-5)

**Catalog Description:**

This course will study the biological and cultural evolution and variation of the human species from its earliest hominid form to the development of written history. This course will examine the data provided through the interdisciplinary study of physical Anthropology including the mechanisms of evolution, archeology and primatology.

**Prerequisites and/or recommended entry skills/knowledge:**

Course Prerequisite(s): None  
Reading Prerequisite: None  
Composition Prerequisite: None  
Mathematics Prerequisite: None

**Career Programs and Transfer Majors Accessing this Course:**

All transfer students

**Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal(s) partially met by this course if applicable:** Notes: No more than two goals may be met by any one course. (Curriculum Committee review and the Chief Academic Officer's approval are required).

- 0.  None
- 1.  Communications
- 2.  Critical Thinking
- 3.  Natural Sciences
- 4.  Mathematical/Logical Reasoning
- 5.  History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences
- 6.  The Humanities and Fine Arts
- 7.  Human Diversity
- 8.  Global Perspectives
- 9.  Ethical and Civic Responsibility
- 10.  People and the Environment

**Learning outcomes, including any relevant competencies listed in the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum:**

1. Demonstrate an understanding of scientific theories.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Employ the methods and data that historians and social behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition as it pertains to human origins.
4. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
5. Explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies that facilitated human physical and cultural evolution and variation.
6. Discern patterns and interrelationships of biophysical and socio-cultural systems; describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that have evolved, over tens of thousands of years, and continue to evolve in order to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.
7. Evaluate critically environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions.
8. Articulate and defend the actions they would take on various environmental issues in light of the knowledge gained through the study of the environmental-cultural interaction and its impact on evolution and variation of the human animal.

**Student assessment methods:**

Exams  
Paper  
Individual or group project

**Use of instructional technology** (includes software, interactive video and other instructional technologies):

Films - Videos

**Outline of the major course content:**

A study of human evolution from the earliest prosimians to the time of written history. Topics of discussion will include: mechanisms of evolution (genetics and natural selection), radiometric dating, primatology, archaeology, paleo-Anthropology, forensics, geology, cultural adaptation and biodiversity.

**Additional special information** (special fees, directives on hazardous materials, etc.)  
None

**Transfer Information:** (Please list colleges/majors that accept this course in transfer.)  
Bemidji State, Mankato State, UMD, etc...

**Approvals:**

Body	Representative Signatures	Date
Curriculum Committee	Dr. Bonnie Edwards	10-10-02
Faculty Association	Georgia Suoja	12-16-02
Meet and Confer	Dr. Jill Peterson	12-10-02
Chief Academic Officer	Dr. Jill Peterson	1-25-03

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