

# Learning Outcomes

- Information fluency
- Research methods
- Evidence-based arguments
- Critical reasoning

Biological Anthropology WAC Spring 2015

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# ANT 2511: Human Species



## **Investigating Bipedality and the Piltdown Mystery** 15 points

**The objective of this assignment is to:**

- Identify and summarize the features unique to bipedality.
- Describe and understand the three major hypotheses for the origin of bipedalism.
- Describe the Piltdown Fossils and their significance.

**By the end of the assignment, the student will be able to:**

- Demonstrate the characteristics of bipedalism.
- Understand how bipedalism has affected the human skeleton.
- Summarize the context of evidence for the three major hypotheses regarding the origin of bipedalism and be able to think about them critically.
- Explain the discovery of the Piltdown Fossils, their significance for human evolution, and make an argument about the evidence.

### **Changes to assignment after WAC peer review:**

1. Defined assignment objectives and itemized student outcomes (and altered verb use)
2. Added an additional component to one question in order to better engage student critical thinking
3. Rearranged point distribution for questions in order to more accurately grade well-formulated evidence-based arguments

# ANT 4525c: Human Osteology

## **Purpose**

- A poster presentation is an important format in bioarcheology and forensic anthropology. The purpose of this presentation is to learn how to construct and present an osteological topic in a discipline-specific manner for an audience of your peers. This project/presentation will involve library & internet research on an approved topic, which you will then present as a poster to the class. You will also peer-review poster drafts of your classmates.

## **Objectives**

- Understand how to synthesize the appropriate literature and present an osteological topic in a poster format.
- Appropriately apply osteological concepts using specific terminology & methodology, including a differential diagnosis based on skeletal pathology evidence using a case study
- Gain an understanding of the peer-review process by reviewing poster drafts of fellow classmates.
- Demonstrate competence in presenting a poster format akin to a professional meeting.

## **Major Changes to assignment after WAC peer review:**

1. Revised purpose to reflect the importance of poster presentations in the discipline.
2. Revised assignment objectives to reflect assignment revisions.
3. The assignment now includes a required poster draft that will be peer-reviewed.

# ANG 6587: BioAnthro Seminar

## **Purpose**

- This week's précis paper will focus on learning how to identify and evaluate the argument of an academic paper in a discipline-specific manner for an audience of your peers. You will also peer review at least one other student's précis. After your paper has been peer reviewed, you have three days to revise your précis and resubmit based on the comments received.

## **Learning Objectives**

- Identify and restate key points from the assigned reading using discipline-specific writing style
- Recognize the premise(s) of an argument and evaluate how well the argument is formed and supported
- Discuss how a poorly formed argument can be restructured and/or reorganized into a effective argument
- Defend criteria used to assess your own work and the work of others (i.e., peer review)

## **Major Changes to Assignment After WAC Peer Review:**

1. Revised purpose to clarify précis writing.
2. Revised assignment objectives to reflect assignment revisions.
3. Added revision and resubmission to précis writing and peer review process.

# Curriculum Grid for Biological Anthropology

	Learning Outcome 1: Information fluency	Learning Outcome 2: Research methods	Learning Outcome 3: Evidence-based arguments	Learning Outcome 4: Critical reasoning
ANT 2511 Human Species (GEP)	Investigating Bipedality and the Piltdown Mystery: MS	Intro to Anthropology Discussion Post: LS	Primate Behavior Experiment: MS	
ANT 3550c Primatology	Primate Project Presentation: LS	Primate Observation Lab: LS		Primate Project Paper: HS
ANT 4462 Medical Anthropology	Healers Around the World: LS	Outbreak Engineering: HS	Weekly Discussion Topic: LS	Cultural Competency Case Study: HS
ANT 4516 Human Biological Diversity	Sound Bytes to Substance: LS	Population Modeling Problem: HS	Vitamin Supplements: LS	Ethical Genetics Case Study: HS
ANT 4521 Forensic Anthropology	Article Critiques: LS		Written Exams: HS	Written Exams: HS
ANT 4525c Human Osteology	Bell-ringer short answer: LS	Human Osteology Poster Presentation: HS	Human Osteology Poster Presentation: HS	
ANG 6587 Seminar in Biological Anthropology	Précis Paper 2: What is the Argument?: LS	Weekly Methodology Discussion: LS	Précis Paper 2: What is the Argument? Peer-review: LS	Final Symposium (Presentation & Paper): HS

LS= Low Stakes assignment

MS= Middle Stakes assignment

HS= High Stakes assignment