

Syllabus
Anthropology 325
Human "Biological" Variation
Fall 2009

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Name: Margaret Streeter, Ph.D.
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Boise State University
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COURSE INFORMATION

Course Title: Anthropology 325- Human Variation
Section: 001
Cat. # 79330
Room ILC 204
MWF 12:40pm – 1:30pm
Credit: 3 hrs.

Office Hours Room 115 Hemingway Western Studies Center

MW 1:45 – 2:45 or by appointment

I am occasionally required to leave campus for forensic consultation, PLEASE! let me know if you are planning to come to my office hours.

Course Description

This course examines the nature and basis of the biological variation observed in modern members of our species *Homo sapiens*. I will stress the evolutionary perspective through a biocultural approach, that is, how human variation has developed as a functional and adaptive response to the environment keeping in mind that human adaptation must be viewed within a biological, behavioral and cultural context.

Course Objectives

- o Gain a basic understanding of human biological variation
- o Gain a knowledge of the interaction between environmental, biological, and cultural factors in the development of human variation
- o Be able to describe the mechanisms that contribute to human adaptation to the environment and the role that culture has played in the evolution of *Homo sapiens*.

Prerequisites Anthropology 101 or consent of the instructor

Textbook

Human Variation: Races, Types and Ethnic Groups 6th edition
Stephen Molnar, New Jersey, Prentice Hall

EVALUATION:

- Three in-class exams - short answer, essay (30pts each)
 - 6th week
 - 9th week
 - Final Dec 14, 2009 1:00-3:00**
- Class presentation 10-15 minutes (50pts)
Topic to be approved
Detailed outline due at time of presentation (20pts)
 - o Outline format
 - o References in APA format (see dept web page for AJPA style guide or American Association of Physical Anthropologist web page)
- Class participation (100pts)

All test questions will be from lectures, assigned readings, films (if any), and class assignments. Participation in class discussions and regular attendance is expected of all students. Attendance will be taken randomly. If you must be absent it is your responsibility to get the notes or handouts from a fellow student.

GRADING SCALE

A = 90%-100%
B = 80%-89%
C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69%
F = 59% or less

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

As a courtesy to your instructor and classmates please turn off all cell phones during class. You are expected to attend all classes and arrive on time. Take advantage of my office hours to ask questions and for clarification of information. If you have a conflict with my office hours you may set up an appointment.

EXPECTATIONS

You will need to do the reading, attend class, and study for the test to pass this class. If this is not your intention, please drop out now!! If you know you need to get a particular grade in this class (e.g. C), do not wait until the last one or two weeks of the semester to ask for help.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

I expect students to fulfill their academic obligations through honest and independent effort. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious offense subject to strong disciplinary actions, including being dropped from the course with a grade of "F."

Disabilities:

Students with disabilities are referred to the office of special student services and asked to speak with me early in the semester.