



ASM 246: Human Origins

Overview

In this course, you will be guided through an exploration of the scientific evidence for the evolution of humans and our fossil relatives, and humankind's place in the natural world. This includes an introduction to evolutionary theory, an overview of the hominin fossil record and what that record teaches us about our place in nature. Dr. Donald Johanson, a world-renowned paleoanthropologist who found the skeleton known as Lucy will present an exciting in-depth exploration of paleoanthropological field research from his unique perspective.

What You'll Learn

- Outline the nature of science and explain how scientific research is conducted
- Identify humans' place in the natural world from taxonomic/phylogenetic perspectives
- Define the role of paleoanthropologists in human origins research
- Identify how paleoanthropologists use the scientific method to formulate hypotheses and strategically conduct research
- Articulate differences between scientific evidence for human evolution and non-scientific, non-testable, explanations for human origins

How to Succeed

To be successful in this course, we recommend English language fluency and computer literacy. We also encourage you to make sure your laptop or desktop computer meets the [technical requirements](#).

ASM 246 fulfills a Science and Society curriculum requirement for students pursuing Bachelor of Science degrees in [The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#).

Earn College Credit

This course appears on your transcript identically to how it appears on the transcript of an enrolled ASU student.

This course satisfies 3 credit hours toward the Social-Behavioral Sciences (SB) General Studies requirement at Arizona State University. It is strongly encouraged that you consult with your institution of choice to determine how these credits will be applied.

In order to receive academic credit for this course, you must earn a grade of "C" or better. You have one year to add the course to your transcript.

Exams and Grading

25%

Content Mastery

15%

Midterm Exam

30%

Quizzes

30%

Final Exam

ASM 246: Continued

Time Commitment

This is an asynchronous, online course. This means, while you will have deadlines, you do not need to be at your computer at specific times or participate in live activities.

To be successful in this class, you must view all course pages and complete all graded work by the deadlines indicated. Also, keep in mind that "attendance" in an online course means logging into the platform on a regular basis, checking for course announcements, and visiting and participating in the discussion forums.

This 3 credit, 8 week course requires about 135 hours of work. Therefore, expect to spend approximately 15-20 hours per week preparing for and engaging in this course.

Materials

This course makes use of open educational resources (OERs) provided within the course, **no purchase necessary**.

Graded Assignments

Graded assignments are required and count towards your final grade. Students must submit all assignments via the course site unless otherwise instructed.

Content Mastery (25%): There are seven interactive content mastery exercises. You must reach level 0.1 on each interactive content mastery exercise to receive credit.

Quizzes (30%): You will take a total of eight quizzes: A Course Readiness Quiz on the course's Academic Integrity policies and syllabus, plus seven quizzes on course material. Each quiz is open book and must be completed by you. The quizzes are multiple choice and based on the week's readings, lectures, and video materials. You may take a quiz at any time during the week but must complete it by the stipulated deadline.

Midterm Exam (15%): The midterm covers content from weeks 1 through 3. The midterm exam is not proctored. You will have a total of two hours to complete the exam.

Final Exam (30%): The final exam covers content from weeks 4 through 7. The final exam is not proctored. You will have a total of three hours to complete the exam.

Assignment Deadlines

Your instructional team will provide all content and learning activities on or through your course site. It is your responsibility to review all content, fulfill all assignments on time, and ask any questions you have in the designated discussion area. It is also your responsibility to determine the due dates and times for all course assignments according to your time zone. Due to the large-scale format of Universal Learner Courses, late assignments will not be accepted at any point during the course, and we cannot make exceptions.

Course Communication

All communication will take place via the discussion forums and course announcement page. There will be a discussion forum where you can post general questions, comments, and direct inquiries for the instructor and course team. Please use these forums to ensure a timely response. Your instructor will not be able to respond to email.

Additional Information

If you have questions about Universal Learner Courses and how they work, please visit ea.asu.edu or contact our support team at ulcourses@asu.edu.