

ASB 220
ANTHROPOLOGY GOES TO THE MOVIES
BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY READING AND VIDEO SCHEDULE
October 6-NOVEMBER 5, 2008

TOPICS:

What is Biological Anthropology?
Scientific Inquiry
What is Primatology?
Human Paleontology and Evolution
Becoming Human
The Debate: Evolution, Creationism, and Intelligent Design
Forensic Anthropology

READINGS DUE: OCTOBER 22

Read: <http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/biology/humanevolution/humevol.html>

Human paleontology

What is human evolution?

What is a hominid? What is a primate?

What is the difference between a primate and a hominid?

Why do we study primates?

<http://www.answers.com/topic/physical-anthropology>

What is paleoanthropology

Read: What is a Theory? http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/evolution/library/08/1/1_081_55.html

Define a theory and how it relates to scientific inquiry.

Class Discussion: What is Science? What is Scientific Inquiry?

<http://www.becominghuman.org/> Scientific Method, Finding Fossils, Explore a Dig, Profiling Fossils, Dating, Interpretation.

What are primates? http://anthro.palomar.edu/primate/prim_1.htm

What are the similarities/differences between humans and primates?

http://anthro.palomar.edu/primate/prim_8.htm

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/evolution/humans/humankind/index.html>

Read about Homo Habilis, earliest use of fire (Homo erectus), Acheulean Stone tools, Homo neanderthalensis and Homo sapiens

READINGS DUE OCTOBER 31, 2008

Evolution, Creationism, and Intelligent Design

<http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/biology/evolution/index.shtml>

Read about the history of evolution. Read about Natural Selection. What did you learn about evolution? What is natural selection?

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/id/>

Explore this web site. What is intelligent design? How does the essence of science differ from religion? Read the section on the Board vs Teachers. What were the key points made by the Board and the teachers? Listen to portions of the ruling by the judge. What is your opinion-did he address the key issues? Explain.

Finally, provide your own opinion on the underlying question to the Dover court case: Was the Board policy a covert way to introduce religion into a public school, and therefore in violation of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution?

Read about the Scopes "Monkey Trial."

<http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/scopes/evolut.htm>

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4723956>

Answer the following questions:

What is the fundamental conflict?

What was the content of the Butler bill? What role did the Butler bill play in the trial?

MOVIES: Inherit the Wind, The Simpsons: The Monkey Suit.

READINGS DUE NOVEMBER 7, 2008

Forensic Anthropology: The science of forensic anthropology includes archeological excavation; examination of hair, insects, plant materials and footprints; determination of elapsed time since death; facial reproduction; photographic superimposition; detection of anatomical variants; and analysis of past injury and medical treatment.

<http://www.anthro4n6.net/forensics/>

<http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/biology/forensics/>

What is forensic anthropology?

What is osteology?

How do you determine age?

How do you determine sex?

How do you determine probable race affiliation?

How do you determine stature?

How do you determine stature and height?

How do you estimating time of death (TOD)?