

Fall 2015

BIOS 1002

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BIOS 1002 - Biology Freshman Learning Community

Fall Semester 2015: The Story of the Human Body: Human evolution, health and disease

Dr. Jerry Howard

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Meeting time and place: Monday 2-2:50, CRC 202

Office Hours: M 1-2, W,F 12:30-3

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Topic/activity	Reading
August 24	Introduction	
August 31	Time management, adaptation and the human body	Ch 1: Introduction
September 7	Labor Day	
September 14	Bipedalism and the skeleton	Ch 2: Understanding apes
September 21	Dietary shifts in human ancestry	Ch 3: Much depends on dinner
September 28	Climate change and the human niche	Ch 4: The first hunter-gatherers
October 5	Evolution of the brain and fat storage	Ch 5: Energy in the ice age
October 12	Human dominance: intelligence and strength	Ch 6: A very cultured species
October 19	Selection lags behind cultural change	Ch 7: Progress, mismatch, and dysevolution
October 26	The good and bad effects of agriculture Paper proposal due	Ch 8: Paradise lost?
November 2	Mismatch diseases today	Ch 9: Modern times, modern bodies
November 9	Energy surplus promotes disease	Ch 10: The vicious cycle of too much
November 16	Loss of function and its consequences	Ch 11: Disuse
November 23	Perverse effects of technology on health	Ch 12: Dangers of novelty and comfort
November 30	Evolutionary thinking promotes health, post test, survey	Ch 13: Survival of the fitter
December 4, 5	Wrap-up discussion, final paper due	

Course Notes

1) Student Learning Objectives: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Read and understand scientific articles.
2. Summarize arguments presented in scientific articles and evaluate them using supporting data.
3. Analyze tables and graphs in scientific papers.
4. Summarize scientific information by constructing appropriate illustrative tables and graphs.
5. Communicate scientific information in oral and written form.
6. Effectively work as a member of a team to carry out scientific inquiry.
7. Develop skills to manage time, well-being, and personal resources.
8. Develop learning strategies to manage the University of New Orleans academic environment.
9. Gather information on campus resources that support academic growth and development as UNO community members.
10. Integrate information concerning career exploration, community service, wellness, and involvement to become a successful, well-rounded student.

2) Text:

Lieberman, Daniel. 2013. The story of the human body: Evolution, health, and disease. Pantheon Books, New York. ISBN-10: 0307379418/ISBN-13: 978-0307379412.

Additional readings from the original literature may be assigned; check Moodle for assignments.

3) Office hours: Hours may be altered as necessary due to changing schedules, new assignments, meetings, etc., during the semester. Come to class, check my door (Biology 221) or consult Moodle for current office hours each week.

4) Attendance: You must attend class every meeting. Missing class in this course seriously affects your ability to carry out assignments and puts an extra burden on other class members. Contact the instructor in advance if you know you will miss class. If you miss class unexpectedly, contact the instructor as soon as possible and provide a written excuse for the absence. It will not be possible to make up daily problems missed through unexcused absences.

5) Individual and group work: The class will be divided into small working groups of 4-5 students to facilitate detailed discussion and group problem solving. Each working group will be responsible for leading two discussions during the semester. In order to lead the discussion, each group will prepare 3-5 focus questions on the day's topic and present them to the class at the beginning of the discussion. Working groups will use Moodle to communicate outside of class as necessary.

6) Schedule of activities: Each class will begin with a 10-15 minute session on data analysis or interpretation relevant to the day's topic. The class will be given a table or figure to analyze from the original literature, or a data set to summarize. Each class member will complete the assignment individually, and then compare notes with their small working group to come to a consensus, which is then presented to the class. The balance of each session is devoted to open

discussion of the day's topic, led by the working group of the day. We will have some assignments on survival as a student, such as time management, and on campus resources including how to use the library

7) Paper: Students will write a brief literature review paper on a topic of their choosing. Papers should include three or more references on the topic, and should be a minimum of 5 pages, double spaced. Topics must be approved by the instructor.

8) Grading: Point distributions are as follows:

<u>Activity</u>	
Individual answers to daily problems	60%
Group-lead discussions	10%
Participation in discussion	10%
Paper	20%

9) FINAL DROP DATE is March 11, 2015.

10) Course evaluation: This project is being funded by a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. As part of grant expectations, an evaluation of project usefulness and impact will be conducted. All students are requested to participate in the project evaluation.

Academic honesty and Disability Policies

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further information. The Code is available online at <http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu>.

It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students who seek accommodations for disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services prior to discussing their individual needs for accommodation with their instructors as well as their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations. For more information, please go to <http://www.ods.uno.edu>.

This material is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact: Coordinator, Disabled Student Services, 260 University Center, 280-6222 (voice/TDD) or 280-3975 (fax).