**Primate Evolution**
ANT 4554C* section 1A89; ANG 6930 section 1A90
ZOO 4926** section 1C07; ZOO 6927 section 1C03
Spring Semester 2015

**Course Prospectus**

This course will provide a survey of primate evolution from the Paleocene through Miocene epochs. Topics include methods of paleontological inference with an emphasis on problems of taxonomy, phylogeny, biogeography and functional morphology in the fossil record.

**Instructor:**


- Jonathan Bloch, Curator and Professor, 222 Dickinson (FLMNH), jbloch@flmnh.ufl.edu


**Credits**: 3

**Class periods**: Tu 8th and 9th periods (3:00 to 4:55 pm)/Thursday 9th period (4:05-4:55)

**Prerequisite**: *Prereq: ANT 3514C or instructor permission; **Prereq: BSC 2011 and 2011L or equivalent and instructor permission

**Room**: NRN Rm 0331

**Grades will be based on**

- Mid-term exam (25%). This is an open-book take-home exam covering all material from the first half of the course.
- Research Paper (35%). Topics must be chosen, approved by intructor, and briefly summarized in written form by February 26th
- End term Exam (25%)
- Class attendance and participation (15%)

**Readings**

Journal/book articles assigned from the primary literature. Will use the following text:

Primate Adaptation & Evolution, 3rd Ed (2013) by John Fleagle. Academic Press

Schedule (**Please Note**: ***subject to change***):

| | | | |
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| Jan. | 6 | Lecture | Introduction to course & discussion of research papers |
| | 8 | Lecture | Introduction (cont): Evolution, Systematics, Osteology<br>Reading: Fleagle--Chapters 1 & 2 |
| | 13 | Lecture | Primate Adaptations, Fossil Record & Geology<br>Reading: Fleagle—Chapters 9 & 10 |
| | 15 | Discussion | Using fossils to reconstruct past behavior (e.g., diet, locomotion)<br>Reading: 2-3 short journal articles from recent literature |
| | 20 | Lecture | Primate Origins: tree shrews, flying lemurs, and plesiadapiforms<br>Reading: Fleagle—Chapter 11 |
| | 22 | Office/Lab 1 | Part of this day will be reserved for office/lab hours (FLMNH) to discuss topics for research papers. Times to be set up on an individual basis (contact instructor; sign-up sheet). |
| | 27 | Discussion | Evaluating adaptive theories of Primate Origins<br>Reading: 2-3 short journal articles from current literature |
| | 29 | Office/Lab 2 | As above. Students must sign up for one of these days. If not possible-arrange an alternate time with instructor |
| Feb. | 3 | Lecture | Early Euprimates: Adapoids & Omomyoids<br>Reading: Fleagle—Chapter 12 |
| | 5 | Discussion | Eocene primates & climate<br>Reading: 2-3 short journal articles from current literature |
| | 10 | Lecture | Living Strepsirrhines & subfossil lemurs<br>Reading: Fleagle—Chapter 4 |
| | 12 | Lecture | Anthropoid Origins and Early Anthropoids<br>Reading: Fleagle—Chapter 13 |
| | 17 | Discussion | Controversies in Anthropoid Origins<br>Reading: 2-3 short journal articles from current literature |
| | 19 | Office/Lab 3 | Optional: part of the day will be reserved office/lab hours (FLMNH) to discuss topics for research papers and/or work in the collections. Times to be set up on an individual basis (contact instructor; sign-up sheet). |
| | 24 | **Review 1** | Review/questions: hand out questions for open book *take home exam*: based on lectures, book readings, and journal articles to date. |
| | 26 | **Test 1 Due** | Discussion of take home exam questions.<br>*Research paper topic summaries must be turned in by this date!* |

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| Mar. | 3 | ****No Class**** | **UF Spring Break** |
| | 5 | ****No Class**** | **UF Spring Break** |
| | 10 | Lecture | Living New World Monkeys |
| | | | Reading: Fleagle—Chapter 5 |
| | 12 | Lecture | Fossil New World Monkeys |
| | | | Reading: Fleagle—Chapter 14 |
| | 17 | Discussion | Controversies: Phylogeny & Biogeography of New World Monkeys |
| | | | Reading: 2-3 short journal articles from current literature |
| | 19 | Lecture | Living Old World Monkeys |
| | | | Reading: Fleagle—Chapter 6 |
| | 24 | ****No Class**** | **American Association Of Physical Anthropology Annual Meeting** |
| | 26 | ****No class**** | **American Association Of Physical Anthropology Annual Meeting** |
| | 31 | Lecture | Fossil Catarrhines and Old World Monkeys |
| | | | Reading: Fleagle—Chapter 16 |
| Apr. | 2 | Discussion | New Discoveries: Fossil Record of Old World Monkeys |
| | | | Reading: 2-3 short journal articles from current literature Lecture |
| | 7 | Lecture | Living Apes |
| | | | Reading: Fleagle—Chapter 7 |
| | 9 | Lecture | Fossil Apes |
| | | | Reading: Fleagle—Chapter 15 |
| | 14 | Discussion | New Discoveries: Fossil Apes |
| | | | Reading: 2-3 short journal articles from current literature Lecture |
| | 16 | **Review 2** | Review/questions: hand out questions for open book *take home exam*: based on lectures, book readings, and journal articles from 2nd half of course. |
| | 21 | **Test 2 Due** | Discussion of take home exam questions. |
| | 27 | **Research Papers Due** | |