

Anthropology 3640
RACE, SEX, AND EVOLUTION
Winter 1995

Professor Dean J. Saitta
Office Hours: Th 9:30-11:30;
also by appt.

Office: Pioneer N119-G
Office Phone: 871-2680

Course Description:

The course examines the paleoanthropology of race and sex. Special attention is given to the nature and evolution of human racial differences, sexual anatomy, reproductive behavior, and gender roles. These are issues which have long been debated in anthropology. They have been debated with particular intensity in the last few years and, especially, months. The timing of this course is thus especially fortuitous-- there is plenty of "hot-off-the-presses" material to read and discuss.

We will consider the history of thinking about race and sex in anthropology, and the uses to which particular conceptions have been put in our culture. We will discuss and evaluate alternative models for explaining the evolution of biological and behavioral differences between racial groups and between men and women. Evaluation will proceed in light of evolutionary theory, comparative primate anatomy and behavior, the human fossil record, and general anthropological knowledge. Our aim is to examine myth and reality in popular and scientific understandings of these aspects of the human condition and, in the end, the social and political consequences of this knowledge.

Course Requirements

This course will run largely on group discussion of the subject matter. We will all take responsibility for initiating and sustaining class discussion. You are thus expected to come to class having carefully read the assigned readings, and with ideas, opinions, and questions about this material.

Your grade will be based on class participation and on several short essay assignments based on the assigned reading. The distribution and due dates of these assignments are indicated on the syllabus. Undergraduates will have a take-home final; graduate students will have a take-home final and must also complete a short research paper (topic to be selected and discussed in consultation with the instructor).

Course Readings

Readings for the course are available at the Reserve Desk in Penrose Library.
READINGS ARE TO BE FINISHED, AND READY TO BE DISCUSSED, ON THE DAYS INDICATED. PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED READING LIST FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ASSIGNED READINGS.

I reserve the right to delete or add readings as the course evolves and as new material becomes available.

COURSE SCHEDULE

<u>Week</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	Jan 3	Introduction: Scope and aims of the course.
	Jan 4	Review of evolutionary concepts and mechanics-- what processes create biological and behavioral differences? <u>READING</u> : Shipman.
2	Jan 9	Overview of human evolutionary history. <u>READING</u> : Kuper.
	Jan 11	Paleoanthropology as science, narrative, and political commentary. <u>READING</u> : Landau; Shell.

DISTRIBUTE FIRST ASSIGNMENT.

3	Jan 16	MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY: NO CLASS
	Jan 18	The emergence of racial thinking: Monogeny, polygeny, and scientific racism. <u>READING</u> : Gould; de Gobineau; Nott and Gliddon; Darwin.

FIRST ASSIGNMENT IS DUE.

4	Jan 23	20th century views of race and racial origins. <u>READING</u> : Coon; Dobzhansky; Gould.
	Jan 25	How old are human racial differences? Fossils, DNA, and racial origins. <u>READING</u> : Shreeve; Shipman.
5	Jan 30	Evolution and the new scientific racism. <u>READING</u> : Lynn; Juhel.
	Feb 1	<u>FILM</u> : "Evolution and Human Equality" <u>READING</u> : Lewontin, Rose and Kamin; Gould.
6	Feb 6	Sex and gender in Victorian thought. <u>READING</u> : Gould; Darwin.

DISTRIBUTE SECOND ASSIGNMENT.

- Feb 8 Sex and gender in traditional models of human evolution.
READING: Washburn and Lancaster; Lovejoy.
- 7 Feb 13 Paleoanthropology and the feminist critique.
READING: Slocum; Zihlman; Diamond.
- SECOND ASSIGNMENT IS DUE.**
- Feb 15 Evolution of human sexual anatomy and reproductive behavior.
READING: Diamond.
- 8 Feb 20 Are humans designed for monogamy?
READING: Wright; Fisher.
- DISTRIBUTE THIRD ASSIGNMENT.**
- Feb 22 Orgasms, the nature of evolution, and the social uses of knowledge.
READING: Gould.
- 9 Feb 27 Race, intelligence, and worries about dysgenic trends.
READING: Murray and Herrnstein.
- THIRD ASSIGNMENT IS DUE.**
- Mar 1 Do racism and prejudice have evolutionary benefits?
READING: McGregor; Gould.
- DISTRIBUTE FINAL ASSIGNMENT.**
- 10 Mar 6 Race and public policy.
READING: Limbaugh; Fish; Steele.
- Mar 8 Race, sex, reproduction, and the future of humankind.
- 11 Mar 13 **FINAL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE.**
GRAD STUDENT RESEARCH PAPERS ARE DUE.

RESERVE READING LIST

Week 1

Shipman, P. 1994 One long argument: 1857. In The Evolution of Racism, by P. Shipman, pp. 17-36. Simon and Schuster, NY.

Week 2

Kuper, A. 1994 To begin at the beginning. In The Chosen Primate, by A. Kuper, pp. 19-53. Harvard University Press, Cambridge.

Landau, M. 1991 Prologue: the story of human evolution. In Narratives of Human Evolution, by M. Landau, pp. 1-16. Yale University Press, New Haven.

Shell, E. 1991 Flesh and bone. Discover, December, pp. 37-42.

Week 3

Gould, S.J. 1985 Bound by the great chain. In The Flamingo's Smile, by S.J. Gould, pp. 281-290. Norton, NY.

de Gobineau, A. 1967 (1853) The Inequality of Human Races, pp. 205-212. Howard Fertig, NY.

Nott, J. and G. Gliddon 1854 Types of Mankind, pp. 448-465. Lippincott, Grambo and Co., Philadelphia.

Darwin, C. 1871 On the races of man. In The Descent of Man, by C. Darwin, pp. 222-273. P.F. Collier and Son, NY.

Week 4

Coon, C. 1967 Selections from The Origin of Races, by C. Coon. Alfred Knopf, NY.

Dobzhansky, T. 1963 Review of The Origin of Races, by C. Coon. Scientific American, February.

Gould, S.J. 1992 The most unkindest cut of all. Natural History, May, pp. 2-9.

Shreeve, J. 1990 Argument over a woman. Discover, August, pp. 52-59.

Shipman, P. 1993 On the origin of races. New Scientist, January 16, pp. 34-37.

Week 5

Lynn, R. 1991 The evolution of racial differences in intelligence. Mankind Quarterly 32:99-121.

Juhel, J. 1991 Has the study of racial differences in intelligence overcome its racist origins? Mankind Quarterly 32:141-145.

Lewontin, R., S. Rose, and L. Kamin 1984 What is race? In Not in Our Genes, by R. Lewontin, S. Rose and L. kamin, pp. 119-129. Pantheon Books, NY.

Gould, S.J. 1987 Bushes all the way down. Natural History, June, pp. 12-19.

Week 6

Gould, S.J. 1993 Women's brains. In On Prejudice: A Global Perspective, edited by D. Gioseffi, pp. 118-124. Anchor Books, NY.

Darwin, C. 1871 Sexual selection in relation to man. In The Descent of Man, by C. Darwin, pp. 716-728. P.F. Collier, NY.

Washburn, S. and C. Lancaster 1968 The evolution of hunting. In Man the Hunter, edited by R. Lee and I. DeVore, pp. 293-303. Aldine, Chicago.

Lovejoy, C.O. 1984 The natural detective. Natural History, October, pp. 24-28.

Week 7

Slocum, S. 1971 Woman the gatherer: male bias in anthropology. In Women in Perspective: A Guide for Cross-Cultural Studies, edited by S. Jacobs. University of Illinois Press, Urbana.

Zihlman, A. 1989 Woman the gatherer: the role of women in early hominid evolution. In Gender and Anthropology, edited by S. Morgan, pp. 21-33. American Anthropological Association, Washington DC.

Diamond, J. 1993 What are men good for? Natural History, May, pp. 24-29.

Diamond, J. 1992 The evolution of human sexuality. In The Third Chimpanzee, by J. Diamond, pp. 67-84. HarperPerennial, NY.

Week 8

Wright, R. 1994 Our cheating hearts. Time Magazine, August 15, pp. 44-52.

Fisher, H. 1992 Blueprint for divorce. In The Anatomy of Love, by H. Fisher, pp. 98-117. Norton, NY.

Gould, S.J. 1991 Male nipples and clitoral ripples. In Bully for Brontosaurus, by S.J. Gould, pp. 124-138.

Week 9

Murray, C. and R. Herrnstein 1994 Race, genes, and IQ-- an apologia. The New Republic, October 31, pp. 27-37.

McGregor, A. 1986 The evolutionary function of prejudice. Mankind Quarterly 26:277-284.

Gould, S.J. 1985 Human equality is a contingent fact of history. In The Flamingo's Smile, by S.J. Gould, pp. 185-198. Norton, NY.

Week 10

Limbaugh, R. 1993 Conservatism and race. In See, I Told You So, by R. Limbaugh, pp. 239-248. Pocket Books, NY.

Fish, S. 1993 Reverse racism, or how the pot got to call the kettle black. The Atlantic Monthly, November, pp. 128-136.

Steele, S. 1990 Affirmative action. In The Content of Our Character, by S. Steele, pp. 111-125. St. Martin's Press, NY.

Jamieson, J. 1993 Concerning scientific creativity: Hermann J. Muller and germinal repositories. Mankind Quarterly 33:443- 456.

Gould, S.J. 1985 Carrie Buck's daughter. In The Flamingo's Smile, by S.J. Gould, pp. 306-318. Norton, NY.