

Summary Information

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| Module Code | 7200NATSCI |
| Formal Module Title | Palaeoanthropology |
| Owning School | Biological and Environmental Sciences |
| Career | Postgraduate Taught |
| Credits | 20 |
| Academic level | FHEQ Level 7 |
| Grading Schema | 50 |

Teaching Responsibility

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| LJMU Schools involved in Delivery |
| Biological and Environmental Sciences |

Learning Methods

| Learning Method Type | Hours |
|----------------------|-------|
| Lecture | 12 |
| Practical | 15 |
| Workshop | 17 |

Module Offering(s)

| Display Name | Location | Start Month | Duration Number Duration Unit |
|--------------|----------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| SEP-CTY | CTY | September | 12 Weeks |

Aims and Outcomes

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| Aims | This module aims to provide students with an in-depth exploration of the human fossil record, investigating questions such as: What is human? What is the earliest evidence of fossil hominins and how sure are we of this designation? What are the first well known hominins and what characteristics differentiate them from other primates? Why did our genus, Homo, arise, and how do we differ from earlier hominins? What led to the origin of modern humans? Key issues and topics in palaeoanthropology will be examined, ranging from the origins of the earliest hominins to modern humans, the biomechanics of bipedalism, and our distinct growth pattern and life-history. |
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After completing the module the student should be able to:

Learning Outcomes

| Code | Number | Description |
|------|--------|--|
| MLO1 | 1 | Analyse primary and secondary literature on human and non-human ape evolution. |
| MLO2 | 2 | Demonstrate critical knowledge of the paleoanthropological record and of key stages of human and hominid evolution. |
| MLO3 | 3 | Present key ideas to the class and lead a class discussion |
| MLO4 | 4 | Apply knowledge of anatomy and skeletal morphology to provide a thorough understanding of the anatomical features of each hominin group, infer key aspects of the behaviour of the species it represents, and understand how it fits into the larger framework of hominin diversity over the past 6-7 million years. |

Module Content

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|------------------------|---|
| Outline Syllabus | What is human? The Miocene and our earliest putative ancestors. The first true hominins: the australopiths. Biomechanics of bipedalism. Early Homo. Early and later Homo erectus. Middle in the Middle: between Homo erectus to Homo sapiens. Neanderthals: our sister species. Late surviving relics or something else? Homo naledi and Homo floresiensis. Origins of modern humans. How do we grow? Life history evolution in hominins and other primates. |
| Module Overview | |
| Additional Information | LJMU maintains a continually expanding and extensive cast collection of early and later hominin fossils, as well as fossil apes. This collection will be used extensively in the course: in workshops that coincide with lectures and stress fossil identification and behavioural inference. This course complements 7101NATSCI, Advanced Osteology and Skeletal Pathology, which provides the basis for understanding how behaviour relates to skeletal form in modern humans, knowledge students will use in understanding how morphology provides a window on past behaviours in fossil hominins. |

Assessments

| Assignment Category | Assessment Name | Weight | Exam/Test Length (hours) | Module Learning Outcome Mapping |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Centralised Exam | Integrated Exam | 50 | 2 | MLO1, MLO2, MLO4 |
| Presentation | Class Presentation | 50 | 0 | MLO1, MLO2, MLO3 |

Module Contacts

Module Leader

| Contact Name | Applies to all offerings | Offerings |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Mark Grabowski | Yes | N/A |

Partner Module Team

| Contact Name | Applies to all offerings | Offerings |
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