In this introductory Physical Anthropology course, you will learn about human evolution and our descent from early primate ancestors. During the next eight weeks, we will examine the close biological and historical connections shared with living apes—especially chimpanzees and bonobos—and our early primate ancestors that lived in Africa between 5 and 7 million years ago. You will also discover the amazing facts about a small group of less than 200 early humans from sub-Saharan Africa who left that continent around 100,000 years ago to become the ancestors of all the 6 billion-plus humans alive today! You will trace their earliest migrations as they left Africa—not once,
but several different times—to inhabit most the livable spaces on Planet Earth. It’s a fascinating and important story and one for which I am pleased to act as a guide on this journey of discovery.

Please contact the instructor via email anytime at: Richard.Martinez@canyons.edu if you have any questions about course requirements, content or procedures.

Before embarking on the journey however, we should discuss a few practical matters since planning for an online “safari” is, in its own way, as important as planning for a real trek into the unknown. First, be aware that this online version of Anthropology 101 is essentially the same three unit Anthropology 101 course taught at COC throughout the school year. In this course, you will be required to complete all (100%) coursework without ANY direct “face-to-face” contact with either the instructor or your fellow students. While no attendance is kept or “absences” (excused or otherwise) recorded in online courses, you cannot work too far ahead, or be able to “make up” assignments where a deadline has been missed for any reason. You may, however, work ahead 24/7 on reading and future assignments according to the demands of your personal schedule—a real advantage. To succeed in this course, you need self-discipline, the willingness and curiosity to learn something new, good reading comprehension, writing skills and course management skills, and a willingness to work independently and participate in group activities—characteristics shared by all successful distance learners.

The links below will provide detailed background information, tutorials and other practical assistance:

For General Information about Distance Learning at COC:

For direct logon to Blackboard:
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/BBSupport/BbLogin.asp
For Blackboard assistance:
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/blackboard/

For Online Learning Readiness Assessments:
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/info/Assessments.asp

For Computer hardware and software requirements:
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/info/minitutorial.asp

For Counseling 070 information:
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/info/COUNS070.asp

ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE COURSE:

If you experience technical problems accessing or using Blackboard, please call the Blackboard Help Desk in the Teaching-Learning Center (TLC) at Extension 3344 for assistance. Please do NOT contact the instructor regarding Blackboard-related problems! If you experience difficulty accessing Extension 3344, dial “O” and ask the switchboard operation for the current Blackboard Student Help Desk number. However, do email the instructor with any questions or issues related to course content, schedule, procedures or requirements.

If you are officially registered and enrolled in the course on Day One:

Complete ALL initial logon procedures on Blackboard anytime after 6:00 AM on opening day (Day 1) of the course. Read the Course Syllabus and Class Schedule immediately after logging in to Blackboard for the first time. You must also post a biographical statement on the appropriate Blackboard discussion forum not later than 6:00 PM on Day 1 and enter a valid email address into the “Tools” area of Blackboard.
IF YOUR NAME IS ON THE OFFICIAL COURSE ROSTER, YOU MUST COMPLETE ALL OFFICIAL LOGON PROCEDURES BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE FIRST DAY. FAILURE TO POST A BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT ENTER YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS INTO BLACKBOARD MAY RESULT IN BEING DROPPED FROM THE CLASS AS A "NO-SHOW."

If you are officially registered, but only “wait-listed” for the course on Day One:

YOU MUST REQUEST AN “ADD” CODE FOR THIS CLASS DIRECTLY FROM THE INSTRUCTOR VIA EMAIL. You may do this from 6:00 AM Monday (Day 1) through 6:00 PM on Tuesday (Day 1). Only students whose names appear the official wait list, and who have indicated via email to the instructor their desire to add this course, will be added to replace “no-shows” on the roster. This will be done in order of your position on the waitlist (#1 first, #2 second, etc....). You will be contacted by the instructor VIA RESPONSE TO YOUR EMAIL and provided with an add code on either Monday (Day One (or Tuesday 2) of the course.

NOTE ALSO THAT YOUR ADD-CODE IS GOOD FOR ONLY UNTIL 7:00PM ON WEDNESDAY (DAY 3). IF YOU RECEIVE AN ADD-CODE FROM THE INSTRUCTOR AND DO NOT USE YOUR ADD-CODE BEFORE THE DEADLINE, IT WILL BE CANCELLED AND YOUR PLACE GIVEN TO ANOTHER WAITLISTED STUDENT.

Please monitor your emails carefully during the first three days of the course and respond immediately to any message from the instructor. Upon receipt of an “add” code, purchase your textbook at the Valencia Campus Bookstore not later than 6:00 PM Wednesday (Day 3) of the course. Since it takes at least 24 hours for newly-added student names to be added into the Blackboard online roster, keep trying to log on until you are successful. Then post your biographical statement in the “Biography” Discussion Forum and your current email address in the “Tools” section of Blackboard as quickly as
possible the same day. Read the Course Syllabus and Schedule and familiarize yourself with their contents immediately.

**If you are officially registered, but neither enrolled nor waitlisted in this course:**

You may request to “crash add” only after all enrolled and waitlisted students have been processed. Students who add later during the week will have access to course materials via Blackboard only after their names are added to the Blackboard course roster. Upon initial login, post the required "Biographical Statement" in the discussion forum and add your email address in the “Tools” section of Blackboard. Read the Course Syllabus and Schedule and familiarize yourself with their contents immediately. Please note that the enrollment limit for this section is 35 students. If you are not enrolled (with no holds on your registration) or your name is not on the wait-list prior to the first day of class, your chances of adding this class are practically zero. Please keep this in mind while planning your spring 2012 program of classes.

**ALL STUDENTS: PURCHASE REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AT THE COLLEGE BOOKSTORE BEFORE THE OPENING DAY OF CLASS. AFTER DAY 1, THERE WILL BE NO TIME TO COMPARISON SHOP ONLINE OR FROM ALTERNATIVE SOURCES.**

The textbook for this course is Robert Jurmain et al: *Introduction to Physical Anthropology* 2010 (12th ed.). Thomson Higher Education (ISBN: 13:978-0-495-18779-0 or ISBN 10: 0-495-18779-0). You may purchase the textbook (new or used) online at the COC bookstore: [http://coc.bncollege.com](http://coc.bncollege.com), or through any suitable online vendor or local bookstore in your area. **Caveat:** The new 12th edition of the text is the one used in this course; if you purchase an earlier edition (10th or 11th only), you do so at your own risk (the chapter order and topical arrangements are different). If you make a purchase online, or the book is backordered or otherwise temporarily unavailable, check on shipping costs and delivery dates before placing an order with an alternate vendor. If you are without a text on opening day of the
course, you cannot complete the "first-day" assignments" and those due later during the first week. This is your responsibility--no assignment deadlines will be changed if you don't have the textbook.

BUY YOUR TEXTBOOK IMMEDIATELY—YOU ABSOLUTELY CANNOT PASS THE COURSE WITHOUT IT!
You will need daily access to an internet-capable personal computer and a personal email address where you can receive assignments and course updates and where you can be easily reached by the instructor. It is advisable to line up a backup computer (on or off-campus) in the event that a problem should develop with your regular system. Computer or peripheral problems, software “glitches,” “down” internet or email, “unviewable video clips” or any other computer hardware/software-related problems that arise, are not acceptable excuses for failure to fulfill course requirements or meet deadlines. Also be sure that your computer has all necessary plug-ins (including Adobe reader, Shockwave, and either QuickTime or RealPlayer) installed before the course starts and that you know how to use them.

If you experience computer, Blackboard, internet or email-related problems at any time during the course, it is your responsibility to fix the problem and/or find an alternative solution. System-wide outages of Blackboard (very rare) will be announced via an email from the instructor. If you cannot quickly access, view and download course materials on the internet, or receive and send emails, or participate in course-related activities because of some “technical problem” with your PC, you cannot succeed in a 100% online course.

Finally, do not rely on handheld devices such a ePhones, Blackberries, etc. as substitutes for a properly-equipped desktop or laptop computer. Often, these devices will not properly format assignments, allow you to take online tests reliably or permit participation in give-and-take Blackboard discussion activities. If your work cannot be received, read or responded to by the instructor and your classmates, they will be ignored. Don’t take chances—use a reliable PC!
I look forward to “meeting” you all online on opening day. In the meantime, please email me at: Richard.Martinez@canyons.edu any time if you have questions about anything concerning the course.