1602 CE Prehistoric Cultures Week 8:

**Week 8 — Becoming Human, "First Steps"**

Orrorin / Ardipithecus / Australopithecines / Early Homo
Taung / Selam -- "Lucy's Child" / "Lucy" / "Little Foot"

This week we’re going to have our first look at *Becoming Human*—NOVA’s three-part series on Prehistoric Cultures. This week we take the “**First Steps**.” We’ll take the second step next week with “Birth of Humanity,” and the third step Week 11 when we look at “Last Man Standing.”

(180 min., 2010, UM DULUTH Library Multimedia GN282 .B436 2010 DVD)

“**First Steps**” takes us back six million years ago, to have a look at “what set our ancestors on the path from ape to human.”

And we’ll have a closer look at *Origins of Homo Sapiens:* “East African Roots,” where we’ll meet Stw 573, “**Little Foot**,” and have a close look at *South African Roots* . . .


“**Little Foot**” (on the left) with Dr. Ron Clark (on the right)

*Sterkfontein* cave, South Africa
And as time permits, we’ll continue to have a more formal look at Archaeological Methods and Dating Techniques. As mentioned last week, Archaeological Methods and Techniques will be with us on and off for the rest of the semester. Pay special attention to methods and techniques as we go along, and how the investigators go from a few fossils to full-blown animations of the prehistoric species . . .

And speaking of paying special attention, don’t miss “the gorilla” when watching the videos. Remember? . . .

Selective Attention Test
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxI8U75hl8>

The Monkey Business Illusion
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rJQmdoK_ZfY>

In the Moodle Forum this week we have a look at prehistoric dating, then settle in for supper . . .

- Forum: What’s for Supper? (Due by Friday, 2 November 2012)

EXTRA CREDIT

If you didn’t do quite as well as you might have liked on the First Midterm Exam, or if you did better than you even hoped on the First Midterm exam but want to “bank” some insurance points for your final course grade, think about doing one (or even two—one of each) of the optional extra credit papers.

There are two Extra Credit options: (A) a Term Paper Option, and/or (B) a Review Option of a lecture or a related film (other than one of the films we see in class). For the review option you may also compare two or more films. (Remember from Week 1, one of the main features of anthropology is that it is comparative!) Some of the films that qualify for the Film Review Option are listed as “Recommended” and “Good Supplementary” films on the Video Schedules at . . .

CE <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/pcvideo_schedule_CEE.html#title>

- Details on the extra credit are on-line at <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/pcextrac.html#title>
  - Extra Credit Term Paper Option
  - Extra Credit Film / Lecture Review
Helpful information on writing Extra Credit Reports can be found at [the Purdue Online Writing Lab](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/)

**APA Sample Papers**
- Sample APA Paper: Definitions of Online Communication
- Sample APA Paper: Adolescent Depression

**MLA Sample Papers**
- MLA Undergraduate Sample Paper: Andrew Carnegie
- MLA Sample Papers: Nineteenth Century Farming Handbooks

Your [moodle] Topics and Reading Assignments Listings for Week 8 will look something like the information at the end of this memo.

As usual, if you have any questions, please let me know: mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu. Or, better yet, post them on your [moodle] Discussion and Project forum boards.

Share your ideas, including study-questions with your classmates. Discuss them on-line with the others in class.

- Live chat for Project Collaboration
- General Student Discussion Area

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs

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**Anth 1602 Prehistoric Cultures**

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**CE Week 8 Memo**

continued as time allows . . .

**Archaeological Methods and Dating Techniques**

WebPage

**Some Important Concepts** (slides 11B)
Special Skills:

In the Field (slides 10A)
In the Lab (slides 10B)
In the Field and Lab (slides 10C)
Archaeological Dating Methods (slides 10D)
Other Methods of Analysis (slides 10E)

Hominin Origins

Introduction to Early Hominins
slides 17A: (.pptx)

from

Dates and Times to Remember
<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/pctimes.html#hominins>

c. 2.4 mya...

Early Homo
(Homo habilis...)

1. 2.6 mya ... (11 August 2010)

   - first stone tools (Gona / flint, Ethiopia)

1. 2.5 mya ...

   - "Taung Child"
     - Australopithecus africanus (c. 2.6 mya)

1. 2.7 mya ...

   - "Zinj"
     - P. boisei (c. 2.7 mya)
     - aka Australopithecus robustus

1. 3.2 mya ...

   - "Little Foot"
     - Australopithecus afarensis (3.2-3.3 mya)

1. 3.2 mya ...

   "Lucy"
     - Australopithecus afarensis (3.8-3.9 mya / 3.2 mya)

1. 3.2 mya ...

   "Selam"
     - aka Taung Child (3.3 mya)

1. 4.4 mya ...

   "Ardi"
     - Ardipithecus ramidus (4.4 mya)
     - Ardipithecus kadabba (5.8-5.2 mya) – 5.5 mya

1. 5.6 mya ...

   "Touma"
     - Sahelanthropus tchelapensis (6.0-6.2 mya / - 5.6 mya)
     - ("Central termite")
     - (status extinct)

1. 8 mya ...

   *Orrorin tugenensis*
     (3.8-4.1 mya / – 0.3 mya)

*Orrorin tugenensis*
video:

Becoming Human: Unearthing Our Earliest Ancestors, Part 1, "First Steps"
NOVA
(180/3 min., 2010, UM DULUTH Library Multimedia GN282 .B436 2010 DVD)

film HomePage
course viewing guide

Watch Becoming Human Part 1

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video:

"Origins of Homo Sapiens: East African Roots"
part 2 of The Story of Hominid Evolution

course viewing guide

"The Taung Child"
Australopithecus africanus

readings from Understanding Humans, 11th Edition


The materials from Ch. 10 will be reviewed in Week 9 presentations