1602 CE Prehistoric Cultures Week 9

"Early *Homo* . . ."

and

"*Homo erectus* and Contemporaries . . ."

Week 9 we’ll continue to have a more formal look at archaeological methods and dating techniques. These will be with us on and off for the rest of the semester—that should be hard to forget by now. Continue to pay special attention to methods and techniques as we go along—from the field to the final film.

After more introductory methods and dating slide materials, we’ll have a look at “Early *Homo*”—*Homo habilis* and *Homo rudolfensis*.

From there we’ll eventually move on to “Java Man” and “Peking Man” and their “contemporaries” in Europe and Africa—all known as one or other form of *Homo erectus*. We’ll meet “The Turkana Boy” from Kenya.

And we’ll continue having a look at *Becoming Human*—NOVA’s three-part series on Prehistoric Cultures. This week we take a look at “*Unearthing Our Earliest Ancestors . . . ‘Birth of Humanity.’*” We’ll watch the last of the series Week 11 when we look at “Last Man Standing.”

“In *Birth of Humanity,*’ the second part of the three-part series ‘Becoming Human,’ NOVA investigates the first skeleton that really looks like us—‘Turkana Boy’—an astonishingly complete specimen of *Homo erectus* found by the famous Leakey team in
Kenya. These early humans are thought to have developed key innovations that helped them thrive, including hunting large prey, the use of fire, and extensive social bonds.”

“The program examines an intriguing theory that long-distance running—our ability to jog—was crucial for the survival of these early hominids. Not only did running help them escape from vicious predators roaming the grasslands, but it also gave them a unique hunting strategy: chasing down prey animals such as deer and antelope to the point of exhaustion. ‘Birth of Humanity’ also probes how, why, and when humans' uniquely long period of childhood and parenting began.”

In the moodle Forum this week we have a look at a Chinese challenge to Africa . . .

- Forum: "Chinese challenge to 'out of Africa' theory" (Due by Friday, 9 November 2012)

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

Try sharing your ideas with others in class. Discuss them on-line . . .

- Live chat for Project Collaboration
- General Student Discussion Area

The above items will be found at the top of your moodle folder under “Student Collaboration Space.”

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs
**Homo rudolfensis**
(slides 20) (.pptx)

"Homo Erectus"
Java (Pithecanthropus erectus)
"Peking Man"/"Zoukoudian Homo erectus"
"Turkana Boy"

**Homo erecti Slides**

Major Discoveries slides: Homo erectus and "The Hobbit"

09 17 Homo erectus: "Java Man" (slides 25) (.pptx)

Homo erectus in China: "Peking Man" (slides 26A) (.pptx)

European Homo erectus (slides 26B) (.pptx)

African Homo erectus (slides 26C) (.pptx)

09 18 Migrations Out of Africa (slides 26D) (.pptx)

"Hobbit" (slides) (.pptx)

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**Premoderns**

Introduction to Premoderns
slides 29: (.pptx)

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from

 Dates and Times to Remember
<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/pctimes.html#homoerectus>
CE Week 09 Monday, 5 November 2012 nlt tba

video:

Becoming Human: Unearthing Our Earliest Ancestors, Part 2, "Birth of Humanity"
NOVA
(180/3 min., 2010, UM DULUTH Library Multimedia GN282 B436 2010 DVD)

film HomePage

course viewing guide

Watch Becoming Human Part 2

For Week 9 Activities see moodle

readings from Understanding Humans, 11th Edition

Ch. 11, "Premodern Humans," pp. 251-278

The materials from Ch. 11 will be reviewed in the Week 10 presentations

For Week 9 Activities see moodle

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