

Duluth Campus

Department of Sociology -Anthropology

College of Liberal Arts

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23 October 2011

DAY 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."

On Thursday 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* . . .

(47 min., 1997, UM DULUTH Library Multimedia GN281 .O755 2005 DVD)



"Little Foot" (on the left) with Dr. Ron Clark (on the right)
[Sterkfontein](#) cave, South Africa

http://www.flickr.com/photos/acacia_adventure_holidays/4389607640/

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=vJG698U2Mvo>>

[The Monkey Business Illusion](#)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGQmdoK_ZfY>

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

- [Forum: "Pre-Human Dating Scene Was a Real Jungle \(Due by Friday, 4 November 2011\)](#)
- [Forum: What's for Supper? \(Due by Friday, 4 November 2011\)](#)

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>

DAY <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/pcvideo_schedule.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.

DAY

DAY class wiki: [General Student Discussion Area Forum](#)

DAY project live chat: [Live chat for Project Collaboration](#)

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs

Your **moodle** Presentations and Readings Listings for Week 8 will look something like this:

[Anth 1602 Prehistoric Cultures](#)

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

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Taung / [Selam](#) -- "Lucy's Child" / "[Lucy](#)" / "Little Foot"



DAY 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*...)

Cf., *Text 10th Ed.*, Ch. 9
"Hominin Origins,"
pp. 201-232



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

-- first stone tools (Gona / Bouri, Ethiopia)

c. 2.5 mya ...

"Taung Child"

-- *Australopithecus africanus* (c. 2.5 mya)

c. 2.7 mya ...

"Zinj"

-- *Paranthropus* (c. 2.7 mya)
-- aka *Australopithecus robustus*

c. 3.2 mya ...

"Little Foot"

-- *Australopithecus* [species uncertain] (2.2-3.3 mya?)

c. 3.2 mya ...

"Lucy"

-- *Australopithecus afarensis* (2.9-3.9 mya / 3.2 mya)

c. 3.3 mya ...

"Selam"

-- [aka "Lucy's Child"] (3.3 mya)

c. 4.4 mya ...

"Ardi"

-- *Ardipithecus ramidus* (4.4 mya)
-- *Ardipithecus kadabba* (5.8-5.2 mya / ~ 5.6 mya)

c. 5.6 mya ...

"Toumai"

-- *Sahelanthropus tchadensis* (5.8-5.2 mya / ~ 5.6 mya)
["Dental hominin"]
[[Nature article](#)]

c. 6 mya ...

Orrorin tugenensis

(5.8-6.1 mya / ~ 6.0 mya)

"Early Hominins"

Cf., *Text 10th Ed.*, Ch. 9
"Hominin Origins,"
pp. 201-232



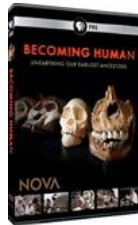
DAY 15 Tuesday, 25 October 2011 nlt 12:35
CE Week 08 Monday 31 October 2011 nlt tba

video:

Becoming Human: Unearthing Our Earliest Ancestors, Part 1, "First Steps"
NOVA

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

[film HomePage](#)
[course viewing guide](#)



[Watch Becoming Human Part 1](#)

DAY 16 Thursday, 27 October 2011 nlt 12:48
CE Week 8 Monday, 31 October 2011 nlt tba

video:

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

(47 min., 1997, UM DULUTH Library Multimedia GN281 .O755 2005 DVD)

[course viewing guide](#)



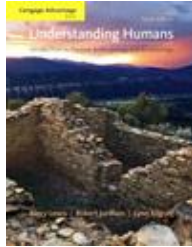
"The Taung Child"
Australopithecus africanus

For Week 8 Activities see [moodle](#)

readings from [Understanding Humans, 10th Edition](#)

Ch. 10, "The First Dispersal of the Genus *Homo*: *Homo erectus* and Contemporaries," pp. 233-254

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



For Week 8 Activities see [moodle](#)
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