

Global Learning Semesters

Course Syllabus

Course: BIOL-210 Human Biological Variations

Department: Health and Life Sciences

Host Institution: University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus



| Course Summary | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Course Code | Course Title | Recommended Credit Hours |
| BIOL-210 | Human Biological Variations | 3 |
| Semester Offered | Contact Hours | Prerequisites |
| Please contact us | 42-45 | None |
| Department | Level of Course | Language of Instruction |
| Health and Life Sciences | Lower Division | English |

Course Description

The aim of the course is to present what is known about biological variation as it relates to race, age, and gender with regard to health, illness and to culture. The course will cover racial uniformity and difference; biological differences during growth and development; developmental variation in adulthood; biochemical and enzymatic variations and disease susceptibility differences between races and between sexes as well as the effect of the external environment and culture on biological variation. At the end of the course the student will: Become familiar with the research findings and what is known about biological differences as they relate to health and illness; Have an understanding of the theoretical mechanisms that may have an effect on biological variations; Be able to relate biological variations to anatomical variations, developmental variation, sex, biochemical and enzymatic variations, susceptibility differences to diseases, and influence of the external environment; Understand the bicultural nature of human diversity with regard to racial taxonomy and genetic variation. The course format will be 3h/week lectures and assigned readings.

Prerequisites

None

Topic Areas

1. Biological Variations patterns and processes
2. Human and Population Genetics
3. Surface Variations and Anatomical Differences
4. Developmental Variation in Childhood
5. Developmental Maturity Differences
6. Developmental Variation in Adulthood
7. Disease Susceptibility, Longevity Prediction and Promotion
8. Biochemical Variation and Differential Disease Susceptibility
9. Sexual Variation and sex differences
10. Environmentally Related Variations
11. Cultural evolution and modern culture theory
12. Physical anthropology as the study of human variation
13. Biological process as social process
14. The eugenics movement
15. Racial and racist anthropology

Readings and Resources

Required Textbooks

1. Biological Variation in Health and Illness: Race, Age, and Sex Differences by Theresa Overfield, Theresa Cverfield Publisher: CRC Press; 2nd edition (April 28, 1995) ISBN: 0849345774.
2. Human Biodiversity: Genes, Race, and History (Foundations of Human Behavior) by Jonathan Marks Publisher: Aldine de Gruyter; (January 1995) ISBN: 0202020339.

Recommended Textbooks

1. Biological Anthropology and Aging: Perspectives on Human Variation over the Life Span by Douglas E. Crews, Ralph M. Garruto (Editor), Douglas E. Crews (Editor) Publisher: Oxford University Press; (February 1997) ISBN: 0195068297.
2. Biodiversity and Human Health by Francesca Grifo (Editor), Joshua Rosenthal (Editor), Thomas E. Lovejoy Publisher: Island Press; (February 1997) ISBN: 1559635002.
3. Human Variability and Plasticity by C. G. Nicholas Mascie-Taylor (Editor), Barry Bogin (Editor) Publisher: Cambridge University Press; (August 1995)
4. ISBN: 0521453992.
5. The Value of Life: Biological Diversity and Human Society by Stephen R. Kellert Publisher: Island Press; (March 1997) ISBN: 1559633174.
6. Aspects of the Genesis and Maintenance of Biological Diversity by Michael E. Hochberg (Editor), Jean Clobert (Editor), Robert Barbault (Editor) Publisher: Oxford Univ Pr; (March 1996) ISBN: 0198548842.
7. Genes, Peoples and Languages by Luigi Luca Cavalli-Sforza, Mark Seielstad (Translator) Publisher: North Point Press; ASIN: 0865475296.
8. Human Natures: Genes, Cultures, and the Human Prospect by Paul R. Ehrlich Publisher: Penguin Putnam; 1st edition (January 15, 2002) ISBN: 0142000531.