



HHA 305: PRIMATE BIOLOGY, ADAPTABILITY AND EVOLUTION.

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COURSE CONTENT

Introduction: Definition of primates and their place in mammalian taxonomy. Importance of primate biology in human anatomy.

Life and environment of primates: Primate taxonomy. Primate ecology and population dynamics. Primate and zoonoses.

Primate behaviour and adaptability: Adaptations for posture, position, feeding and mating behaviour. Social organization. Aboreality and brachiation. Prehensile hands, feet and tail.

Comparative and functional anatomy.

Primate research: Use of primates in research for human diseases. Primates in captivity. Genetics of primates.

Human evolution: Fossil evidence. Features of hominids and hominoids. Evolution of bipedalism and bipedal striding. Tool use and language.

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