ZOOL30004 Evolution and the Human Condition

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	3 (Undergraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2010, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 1, Parkville - Taught on campus. Lectures and tutorials/excusions/practical work.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 2 x one hour lectures per week; 16 hours excursion, tutorial or practical work during the semester Total Time Commitment: Estimated total time commitment of 120 hours
Prerequisites:	25 points of second year level life sciences subjects, or by arrangement with the coordinator.
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study and reasonable steps will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's programs. Students who feel their disability may impact upon their active and safe participation in a subject are encouraged to discuss this with the relevant subject coordinator and the Disability Liaison Unit.
Coordinator:	Prof Mark Elgar
Contact:	Email: 654307@zoology.unimelb.edu.au
Subject Overview:	This subject explores the significance of contemporary evolutionary theory to our understanding of human biology. Specific topics include the theory of natural and sexual selection; primate speciation and the fossil record; the evolution of language; the role of genetics and environment in shaping the human condition; the relevance of evolutionary theory for understanding the life-history traits, and the sexual and social behaviour of humans; the evolution of pathogen virulence and immune responses, and the application of evolutionary theory to understanding medical, veterinary, primary production and environmental practices.
Objectives:	This subject aims to provides students with an understanding of the evolution of adaptation by natural selection; an appreciation of the phylogenetic place of humans among primates; and knowledge of how evolutionary theory might resolve questions about the human condition.
Assessment:	Written essays and/or excursion report of up to 2000 words due during the semester (35%); a 2-hour written examination in the examination period (65%).
Prescribed Texts:	None
Breadth Options:	This subject potentially can be taken as a breadth subject component for the following courses: # **Bachelor of Arts (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2010/B-ARTS)** # **Bachelor of Commerce (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2010/B-COM)** # **Bachelor of Environments (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2010/B-ENVS)** # **Bachelor of Music (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2010/B-MUS)** You should visit **learn more about breadth subjects (http://breadth.unimelb.edu.au/breadth/info/index.html)** and read the breadth requirements for your degree, and should discuss your choice with your student adviser, before deciding on your subjects.

Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	The subject builds upon existing generic skills, including an ability to assimilate and critically evaluate new knowledge within a scientific paradigm, and to communicate that knowledge to a broad audience.
Notes:	This subject is available for science credit to students enrolled in the BSc (both pre-2008 and new degrees), BASc or a combined BSc course.
Related Course(s):	Bachelor of Science
Related Majors/Minors/ Specialisations:	Behavioural Ecology Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Genetics Genetics Reproduction and Development Reproductive Physiology Wildlife and Conservation Zoology