ZOOL30004 Evolution and the Human Condition

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	3 (Undergraduate)
Dates & Locations:	This subject is not offered in 2013. 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 200-level subjects that address biological or human-related issues, or by arrangement with the coordinator
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Description, Subject Objectives, Generic Skills and Assessment Requirements of this entry.The University is dedicated to provide support to those with special requirements. Further details on the disability support scheme can be found at the Disability Liaison Unit website: http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/
Contact:	Email: ZOOL30004@zoology.unimelb.edu.au
Subject Overview:	How human are humans? Is Darwin's extraordinary idea relevant for our species? This subject examines the role of evolution in shaping human biology, by examining our past origins, our current behavior and life-histories, and our future relationships with other organisms. Topics include the evolutionary history of hominids, patterns of migration and variation in skin colour; human reproductive strategies and sex ratios; why language makes us different; how genes and environment shape sexual and cooperative behavior; antagonistic co-evolutionary processes and antimicrobial resistance, pathogen virulence, and management of natural resources. Lectures draw on contemporary examples from the primary literature, complemented with TV documentaries. There is a strong emphasis on distinguishing between unsubstantiated conjecture and concepts that are supported by rigorous science.
Objectives:	This subject aims to provide students with an understanding of the evolution of adaptation by natural and sexual selection; knowledge of how evolutionary theory explains human behavior and life-histories; and how an understanding of evolutionary processes can help resolve questions about human interactions with other species
Assessment:	Written essays and/or excursion report of up to 2000 words due during the semester (40%); a 2-hour written examination in the examination period (60%).
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/2013/B-ARTS)** # **Bachelor of Commerce (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2013/B-COM)** # **Bachelor of Environments (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2013/B-ENVS)** # **Bachelor of Music (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2013/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 Majors/Minors/ Specialisations:	Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Genetics Genetics Genetics Reproduction and Development (pre-2008 Bachelor of Science) Science credit subjects* for pre-2008 BSc, BASc and combined degree science courses Science-credited subjects - new generation B-SCI and B-ENG. Core selective subjects for B-BMED. Zoology Zoology Zoology Zoology
Related Breadth Track(s):	Ecology, Evolution and Humanity