Bio 1309 Life on Earth!

Welcome

Who is Teaching?

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Home Campus = Cypress Creek
Where to find Info:

Our websites:
• Blackboard
• http://www.austincc.edu/rlewis3/bio1309_html/home_1309.html

How is the Class Run?

• Lectures
• Movies
• Readings
• Discussion
• Exams
What to Expect?

- I lecture, show videos and tell anecdotes to help you remember.
- I expect you will study and ask questions about things or definitions that you don’t understand.
- The only dumb questions are the ones you don’t ask!<br>  <i>They might hold the key to your understanding…</i>
- Exams = multiple choice & possible essay questions.
- Drop lowest exam! (woo!)

How to Succeed?

- Prepare for class:
  - Read the notes before class.
  - Bring questions about readings so we can answer them.
  - Listen to lectures and ask questions
  - Take notes during videos.
  - Make friends to interact with.
How Learning Works

• **Hear it** (videos and lectures)
• **See it** (videos, reading, write it out)
• **Say it!** – teach your teddy bear, kitty, significant other etc., the topics you don’t understand – duh!
• **This doesn’t work! →**

What will I Learn?

- Science and why do I care? **FOSSILS!**
- geology cells, organs, animals
- extinctions **floating continents?**
- Man and his relatives **who dreamed this stuff up?** **How do we know?**
- Comparative anatomy & embryology?
- *Archaeopteryx? Lucy? Homo habilis? DNA, adaptations?!* **radiations** **Symbiosis** **Evolution??**
Who will I meet?

• Neils deGrasse Tyson – Astrophysicist & Director of the Hayden Planetarium

Who else?

Charles Darwin for example:

Darwin did not invent the idea of evolution, but gets most of the credit for explaining how evolution works...

His ideas caused a lot of uproar...

[1909-1882]
Jean-Baptiste Lamarck

Another historical figure, a scholar who thought about processes that drive evolution

And?

George Cuvier: Zoologist and paleontologist - Studied fossils for similarities...
Who else?

Georges Buffon
According to Ernst Mayr (Harvard prof of Zoology):
"Truly, Buffon was the father of all thought in natural history in the second half of the 18th century"

More Modern Guys..

• Neil Shubin

American paleontologist, evolutionary biologist, from Harvard, Columbia and UC Berkley

Department of Organismal Biology and Anatomy
University of Chicago:
http://pondside.uchicago.edu/oba/faculty/shubin_n.html
• Edward Daeschler, Associate Curator of Vertebrate Zoology at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University. Fish paleontologist.

Farish A. Jenkins, Jr., Harvard University paleontologist
• Carl Zimmer – Yale University
• Author of your book and many others, for example:
  • A Planet of Viruses
  • Evolution making Sense of Life
  • Parasite Rex
  • Microcosm
  • Descent of Man
  • Smithsonian Intimate Guide to Human Origins