Anthropology 106.  

Essay questions
Read the instructions and questions carefully. Consult your TA if you need any clarification.

• Write an essay on one of the three topics below.
• Your essay should be at least 7 pages long, have one inch margins, double spaced and in font size 12.
• For references, use the textbooks for this course, lecture notes and at least two outside sources. The sources should be peer-reviewed. Internet sources (unless they are from peer-reviewed online publications) should not be used.
• The essay is due on the 15th of October in discussion session (hard paper copies). There will be penalties for late papers.
• Check the anth 106 link (Anthropology department website) for citation procedures.

1. Bipedalism is the defining trait for hominization. Discuss in detail three theories for the origins of bipedalism.

2. Hominid species are divided into two genera. Australopithecines and Homo. Choose one hominid species from EACH of the genera below. Compare and contrast them. Remember that all hominid species are a product of bio-cultural evolution. Your comparison should therefore include a biological description: what was their behavior like? What were their physical features? It should also include the environment the creatures inhabited. How did the environment impact their adaptation? Finally, the description and comparison should include cultural means of adaptation.

Australopithecines
A. Afarensis
A. robustus and A. boisei
A. garhi

Homo
H. habilis
H. erectus
H. neanderthalensis
H. sapiens

3. Outline the cultural adaptations of the genus homo (2.5 million years to 12,000 years ago). How do these adaptations compare to those of preceding hominids species?.