

May 2025
M.Sc.
Fourth Semester
DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE – 03
ANTHROPOLOGY
Course Code: MAND 4.11 (A)
(Palaeoanthropology)

Total Mark: 70

Pass Mark: 28

Time: 3 hours

Answer five questions, taking one from each unit.

UNIT-I

1. Give a historical overview on the development of palaeoanthropology as a discipline to understand human origin. 14
2. Discuss some processes of fossilisation and cite the importance of fossils in palaeoanthropological studies. 8+6=14

UNIT-II

3. Briefly discuss some of the major developments that took place in human history during the Paleogene and Neogene periods. 7+7=14
4. What is palaeodemography? Discuss some important parameters use for understanding palaeodemography. 2+12=14

UNIT-III

5. What is phylogenetic position? Describe the characteristics and phylogenetic position of the gracile australopithecines. 2+12=14
6. What is ancient DNA? How does it help in understanding past humans. 2+12=14

UNIT-IV

7. Describe the physical characteristics and geographical distribution of the Cro-Magnon. 7+7=14

8. Describe the morphological features of the Chancelade man and cite the anatomical differences with the Cro-Magnon. 10+4=14

UNIT-V

9. Critically evaluate the punctuated equilibrium theory and state how different it is from gradualism. 10+4=14
10. Discuss the “Out of Africa” hypothesis and why is it considered the more widely accepted model. Substantiate your answer with relevant evidence. 6+8=14
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