

November 2025
M.Sc.
First Semester
CORE – 01
ANTHROPOLOGY
Course Code: MANC 1.11
(Fundamentals of Physical Anthropology)

Total Mark: 70

Pass Mark: 28

Time: 3 hours

Answer five questions, taking one from each unit.

UNIT-I

1. Discuss the major branches of physical anthropology and explain how each branch contributes to our understanding of human biological evolution and variation. 14
2. Provide a systematic timeline of the history and development of physical anthropology. 14

UNIT-II

3. Define evolution. Discuss in detail the key assumptions of the neutral theory of evolution. 2+12=14
4. Explain how adaptive radiation contributes to the emergence of different primate lineages. 14

UNIT-III

5. Identify and discuss the general characteristics of the strepsirrhine primates and mention their distribution. 10+4=14
6. Compare the anatomical differences in the long bones and pelvis, between the human and non-human primates. 14

UNIT-IV

7. What are the anatomical features of the fossil Lucy (*Australopithecus afarensis*)? Discuss in brief how they provide evidence for bipedalism. 7+7=14

8. Discuss in brief the significance of the discovery of the fossil remains of *Homo habilis* in the light of human evolution. 14

UNIT-V

9. What are the primary racial groups identified by Hooton? Briefly discuss each of them. 4+10=14
10. Critically examine the biological validity of the concept of race. Why do modern anthropologists argue that race is a social construct rather than a biological reality? 7+7=14
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