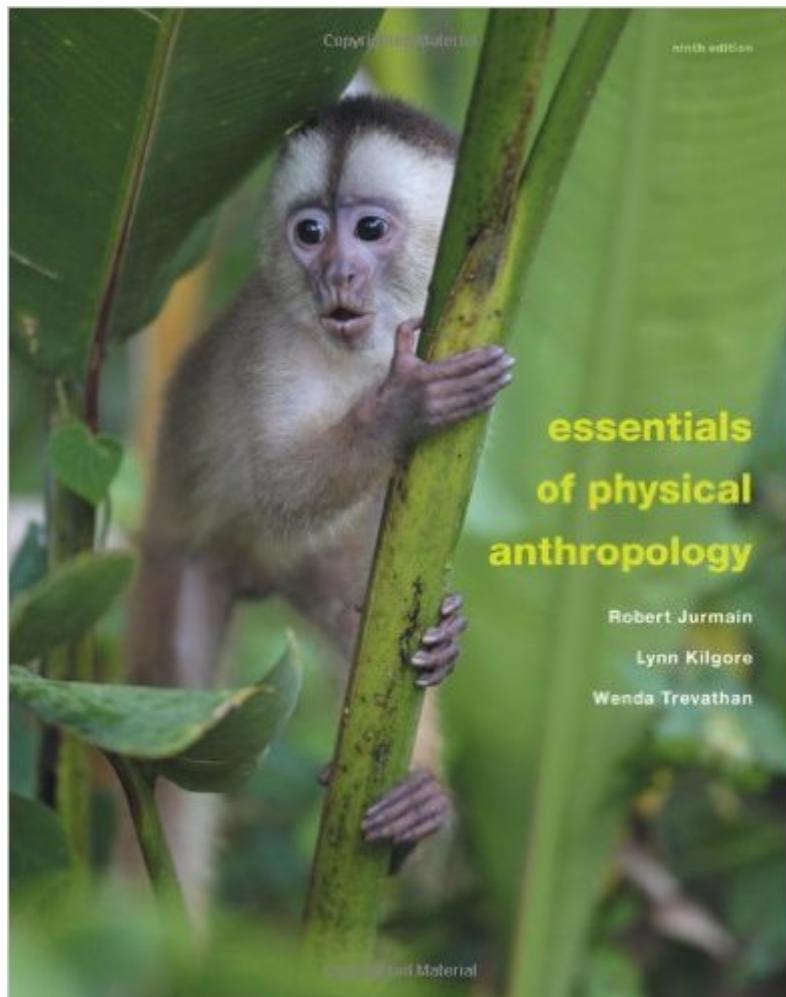


The book was found

Essentials Of Physical Anthropology



Synopsis

Concise, well-balanced, and comprehensive, ESSENTIALS OF PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY, Ninth Edition introduces you to physical anthropology with the goal of helping you understand why it is important to know about human evolution. With a new framework that emphasizes 'connections', the reader is shown how humans are biologically connected to all other life, including our distant ancestors and our contemporary primate cousins, as well as how closely modern human populations are related to each other. Supported by new chapter-opening visual diagrams, a completely new art and map program, outstanding visual photographs and Photo Essays, as well as pedagogy such as "What's Important" boxes that put key chapter concepts into perspective for students, this text continues to help students master basic biological principles of physical anthropology and so be able to better understand human origins and our place in the biological world. Altogether, ESSENTIALS OF PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY, Ninth Edition integrates coverage of the latest fossil finds with relevant technologies to be the most up-to-date text available.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Very extensive and complete book on primate and human evolution, richly illustrated, but like many textbooks on human evolution, it uncritically follows the popular, but illogical and now outdated view that quadrupedal apes evolved into bipedal humans by leaving the African forests for the plains (although primates that go from the forest to the plain typically become less vertical, the so-called "baboon paradox"). It takes for granted a lot of unproven assumptions: that australopithecines are human ancestors to the exclusion of chimps, bonobos and gorillas; that chimps, bonobos and

gorillas could not have had more bipedal ancestors; that Pleistocene human ancestors ran over open African plains (sweating water + salt = scarce on savannas); that our ancestors became bipedal by leaving the African forests for the plains; etc. This book about human evolution does not mention once that not only the forests and the plains, but also the water shaped ape and human evolution: a) Australopithecines and apes: Virtually all australopithecines have been found in wetlands at the time (swamp forests, lagoons, papyrus swamps etc., e.g. Reed 1997), where they - not unlike today's lowland gorillas wading in forest bays for aquatic herbaceous vegetation (AHV, google e.g. Ndoki gorilla) but more frequently - waded upright for sedges, frogbit, floating vegetation and hard-shelled invertebrates, and also climbed arms overhead in the branches above the swamp (google e.g. aquarboREAL). Pan and Gorilla knuckle-walking evolved in parallel during the cooling and drying Pleistocene from such bipedally wading ancestors, and all African apes still regularly or occasionally wade on two legs in forest swamps in search for shallow aquatic and surface foods such as waterlilies or sedges.

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