

ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

History of the Modern World

Spring Term 16

Seminar

**In Search of ‚Missing Links‘
in Europe and the Asian-Pacific World,
1859-1920**



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(Film still from '2001: A Space Odyssey' by Stanley Kubrick, 1968)

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Time THU 10-12

Location LEE D 101

Abstract

Darwin's theory of evolution (1859) triggered a worldwide hunt for humanity's earliest ancestors. While some scientists dug up prehistoric fossils and bones in European soil, others looked for 'savage tribes' in the colonies of the Asian-Pacific world. How did 'the hunt for the missing link' affect and connect people in Europe, Asia, and the Pacific?

Objectives

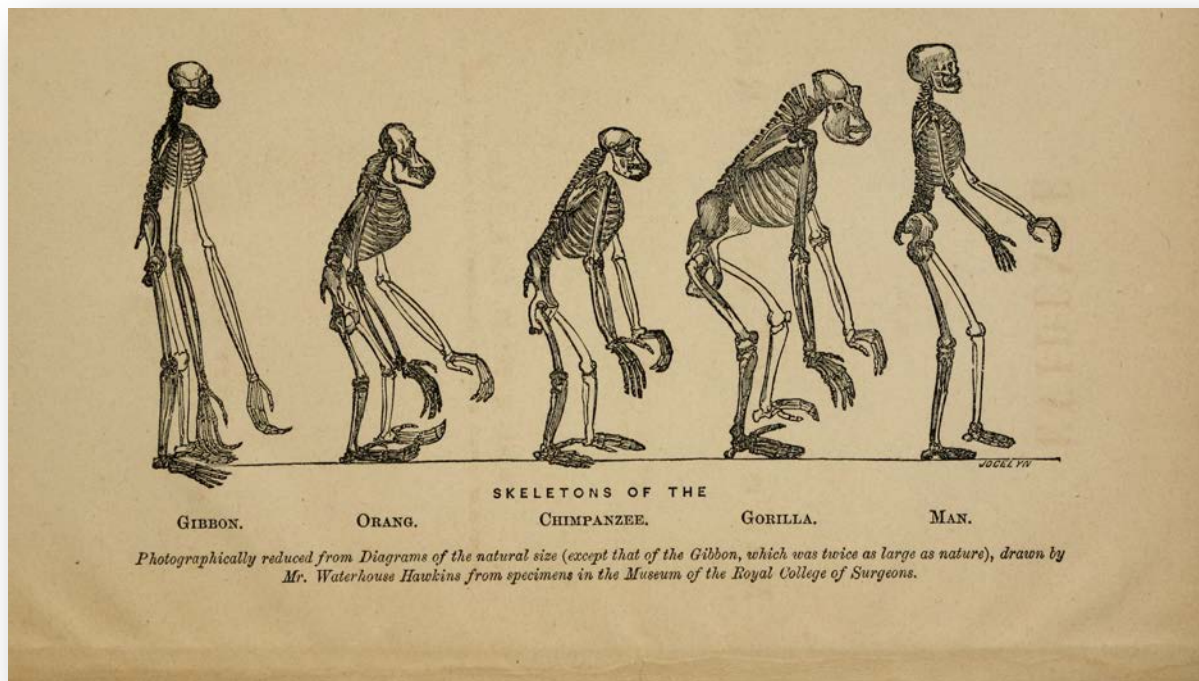
The aim of the seminar is

- a) to introduce students to new approaches in the global history of science
- b) to familiarize students with the history of Darwinian biology, geology, and anthropology
- c) to enable students to examine and interpret historical source material from 'missing link' debates and expeditions' between 1860 and 1920.

Requirements

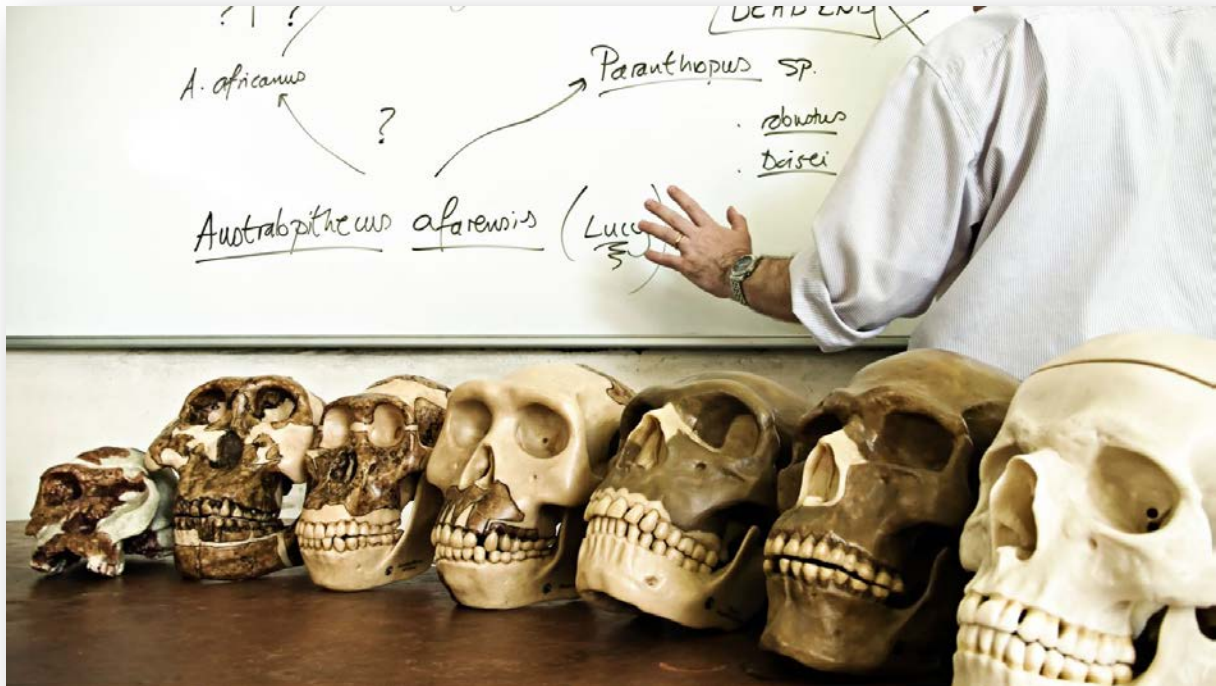
Students are expected to read 20 to 30 pages for every session. They shall work in pairs or small groups (2-4 persons), examining secondary literature and historical source materials. Every pair or group is expected to write 3 short essays (1 to 3 pages) during semester.

Readings will be made available on polybox. Address inquiries to lisa.schurrer@gmw.gess.ethz.ch



From: Thomas Huxley, *Evidence as to man's place in nature*, New York 1863.

Session Outline and Literature



<p>25.2. Introduction</p> <p>Looking for 'Missing Links' and Historical Context</p>	<p>JOHANSON Donald Carl, Kate WONG. <i>Lucy's Legacy: The Quest for Human Origins</i>. New York: Harmony Books, 2009, pp. 3-21 (Chapter 1).</p> <p>SHIPMAN, Pat. <i>The man who found the missing link: the extraordinary life of Eugène Dubois</i>. London: Weidenfels & Nicolson, 2000, pp. 165-171 (Chapter 22).</p> <p><u>Optional</u></p> <p>KUNZ Richard. "Measuring, Collecting, and Doing Research". <i>Expeditions. The world in a suitcase</i>. Exhibition newspaper ed. by the Basel Museum der Kulturen. Basel: Schwabe, 2012, pp. 4–9</p>
<p>03.3. Analytical Approaches</p> <p>The history of a far reaching idea</p>	<p>KJAERGAARD, Peter C. „Hurrah for the Missing Link!': A History of Apes, Ancestors and a Crucial Piece of Evidence". <i>Notes and Records of the Royal Society</i> 65, Nr. 1 (2011): 83–98.</p>
<p>10.3. Analytical Approaches</p> <p>The peculiar history of scientific practice</p>	<p>BARANY, Michael J. „Savage numbers and the evolution of civilization in Victorian prehistory". <i>The British Journal for the History of Science</i> 47, Nr. 02 (Juni 2014): 239–55.</p>
<p>17.3. Analytical Approaches</p> <p>Knowledge and Power</p>	<p>JONES Jeannette Eileen. „Simians, Negroes, and the 'Missing Link': Evolutionary Discourse and Transatlantic Debates on 'The Negro Question'". In <i>Darwin in Atlantic Cultures. Evolutionary Visions of Race, Gender, and Sexuality</i>, ed. By Jeannette Eileen Jones and Patrick B. Sharp, New York: Routledge, 2010, pp. 191–207.</p>

24.3.	Analysing similarities and differences between the approaches	HOCHADEL, Oliver. „A chimpanzee skull in the devil’s cave“. <i>Endeavour</i> 37, Nr. 1 (2013): 57–60.
Self-study.. Write a short summary (c. 300- 500 words)		
31.3. EASTER BREAK HOLIDAY		
07.4.	Finding Questions	DARWIN, Charles. <i>On the Origin of Species by means of natural selection, or the preservation of favoured races in the struggle for life</i> . London: John Murray, 1859, pp. 480-490 (Begins with “I have now...”).
Recap and preparing for Darwin et al.		http://darwin-online.org.uk/content/frameset?itemID=F373&viewtype=text&pageseq=1
14.4.	Historical Debates (19th, 20th c.)	WALLACE, Alfred Russel. <i>Darwinism. An Exposition of the Theory of Natural Selection, with Some of Its Applications</i> . London New York: Macmillan & Co, 1889, <u>Chapter XV</u> (Darwinism applied to man). http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/14558
Pick one or two 'classic' texts. Look for sections that address one of our questions. Examine these sections.		HUXLEY, Thomas Henry. <i>Evidence as to man’s place in nature</i> . New York: Appleton & Company, 1863, <u>chapter II & III</u> , URL: http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/2931
Prepare a 300-500 word paper to submit by 25th of April		LYELL, Charles. <i>Geological evidences of the antiquity of man : with remarks on theories of the origin of species by variation</i> . London: Murray, 1863, URL: http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/6335 = Fulltext search for key-words: “savage”, “Australians”, “Bushmen” etc..
		HAECKEL, Ernst. <i>Ueber unsere gegenwärtige Kenntiss vom Ursprung des Menschen: Vortrag gehalten auf dem vierten Internationalen Zoologen-Congress in Cambridge, am 26. August 1898</i> . Bonn: E. Strauss, 1899. (Text on Polybox)
		SCHWALBE, Gustav Albert. <i>Studien zur Vorgeschichte des Menschen</i> . Stuttgart, E. Nägele, 1906. http://archive.org/details/studienzurvorges00schw
21.4.	Historical Debates (19th, 20th c.) (Continuation)	LUBBBOCK, John. „On the Ancient Lake Habitations of Switzerland“. <i>Natural History Review</i> , Nr. 2 (1862): 26–52, URL: http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/17667
Continue examining 1-2 of these classic texts, prepare your short paper.		KELLER, Ferdinand. „Die keltischen Pfahlbauten in den Schweizerseen“. <i>Mitteilungen der Antiquarischen Gesellschaft Zürich</i> 9 (1853-1856): 65–100, URL: http://retro.seals.ch/cntmng?pid=mag-001:1853-1856:9::230 .

28.4.	Putting the 'Missing Link' into context	Read your colleagues short papers in preparation for this meeting.
		Discussing your findings.
05.5.	„ASCENSION OF CHRIST'	HOLIDAY
12.5.	Engaging ‚Colonial Knowledge'	ROQUE, Ricardo, and Kim A. WAGNER, eds. <i>Engaging Colonial Knowledge: Reading European Archives in World History</i> . London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012, pp. 1-31. (Introduction)
	Addressing a core epistemological problem in the global history of science	
19.5.	Expeditions	Earl, George Windsor. <i>The Native Races of the Indian Archipelago: Papuans</i> . London: H. Bailliere, 1853. http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/181477#page/1/mode/1up
	Prepare a 300-500 word paper to submit by 26 th of may	Emil Schmidt. <i>Die Rassenverwandschaft der Völker-stämme Südindiens und Ceylons</i> . D. Reimer, 1896. http://archive.org/details/dierassenverwan00schmgoog .
		Haeckel, Ernst. <i>Die Urbewohner von Ceylon</i> . Berlin: Paetel, 1893.
		Le Mesurier, C.J.R. 'The Vedda's of Ceylon'. <i>Journal of the Ceylon Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society</i> 9, no. 32 (1886): 336–47. http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/150356
		Skeat, Walter William, and Charles Otto Blagden. <i>Pagan Races of the Malay Peninsula ... With numerous illustrations specially taken for the work</i> . London: Macmillan & Co, 1906. https://archive.org/details/paganracesofmala02skea
26.5.	Expeditions	Hagen, Bernhard. <i>Die Orang Kubu Auf Sumatra</i> . Frankfurt a.M: Joseph Baer, 1908. https://archive.org/details/dieorangkubuauf00hagegoog
		Kleiweg de Zwaan, Johannes Pieter. <i>Die Insel Nias bei Sumatra : Untersuchungen</i> . Haag: Nijhoff, 1913. (<u>Consult in library</u>)
		Nieuwenhuis, Anton Willem, and M. Nieuwenhuis-von Uexküll-Güldenbandt. <i>Quer durch Borneo : Ergebnisse seiner Reisen in den Jahren 1894, 1896-97 und 1898-1900</i> . Leiden: Brill, 1904. http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/17379
		Meyer, Adolf Bernhard, and Alexander Schadenberg. <i>Die Philippinen</i> . Vol. 8–9. Publicationen aus dem Königlichen Ethnographischen Museum zu Dresden. Dresden: Stengel & Market, 1890. (Bd. 2 'Negritos') (<u>Consult in Library</u>)
02.6.	Wrapping Up	What did we learn?