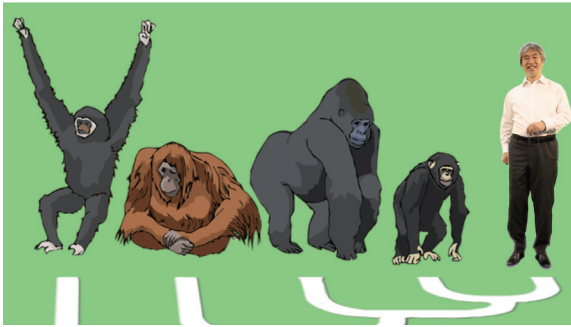


“Evolution of the Human Sociality: A Quest for the Origin of Our Social Behavior”

Learn about the origins of human beings and primatology, the scientific study of primates.



October 1, 2019– August 4, 2020

Length: **Self-Paced (6 weeks)**

Instructor: **Juichi Yamagiwa, Ph.D.**

President, Kyoto University

Through the process of evolution, animals have developed their biological features and their cultures based on their surrounding environments. How we live our lives today is a direct result of features developed from our primate ancestors as they adapted to new environments.

In primatology, it is essential to think about how cultural development and biological natures are inseparable.

This course will help you rediscover the process of evolution and will introduce primatological studies conducted by researchers at Kyoto University, Japan. Based on carefully conducted research on primate species, we will explore the origins of human beings and provide you with examples of common similarities between human beings and non-human primates.

We will analyze basic features, such as foraging, mating, aggression, and communication from the primatological viewpoint. Furthermore, cultural and social aspects of human society, from the formation of family groups to community activities, will be considered thoroughly, in comparison to those of monkeys and apes.

Our goal is to broaden your view of humans to a wider extent and think dynamically about your biology in terms of human evolution. Through acquiring knowledge of basic primatology in this course, you will establish a viewpoint to think and discuss the evolutionary process of human, and human society, in conjunction with those of our close relatives.



Week 1 History & Concept of Japanese Primatology

Week 2 What Primatologists Found on Japanese Macaques

Week 3 The Places Where Humans and Primates Evolved

Week 4 Food and Sex Shape Primate Sociality

Week 5 Aggression and Society

Week 6 Evolution of Life History Strategy



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