

This concise introduction to biological anthropology discusses the core areas of the discipline within a unique framework modeled on the scientific method. Each chapter poses questions that get at the heart of the field, answers them, and then reexamines them in the same way that scientists generate and test hypotheses. Unlike all other brief biological anthropology texts, this is not an abridged version of a longer text. Well-paced explanations, an inviting tone, and examples of the everyday uses of biological anthropology make the text a pleasure to read.

What instructors are saying about
Biological Anthropology:

All of the chapters in this book are good. . . . In all chapters the writing style is clear and concise, without unnecessary jargon and without being condescending.

—Carol Hayman,

Austin Community College

[Park's] personal experiences and opinions truly give the subject matter a real-life quality . . . much more engaging to most students than a dry listing of scientific facts.

—Katherine C. MacKinnon,

Saint Louis University

ABOUT THE COVER: The leader of a group of gorillas at the Lefini Faunal Reserve in Republic of the Congo gives rehabilitator Despina Chronopoulos a gentle bite on the arm, meaning he is ready to be left alone, as his group is reintroduced into the wild. Although they are heading back to a natural habitat after requiring care by humans, Chronopoulos knows these gorillas face an uncertain future as hunting, warfare, and disease threaten the very existence of their species. For more information, see the Contemporary Reflections box in Chapter 7.

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FEATURES OF THE FIFTH EDITION

- This edition is updated throughout, emphasizing the latest research and information on the human genome and new hominin fossil discoveries, including *Homo floresiensis* discussed in Chapter 11.
- This edition accepts a cladistic taxonomy for the hominoids, redefining "hominid," as explained in Chapter 7, and using "hominin" for humans and our upright ancestors throughout.
- Chapter 10 includes a revised section on "Putting It All Together" that suggests the possibilities of a more complex interpretation of the fossil record and evolution of bipedalism.
- Other changes include a reordering of topics in Chapter 13 for a more logical sequence and a new discussion of "evolutionary development biology (evo-devo)" in Chapter 5.

Visit the *Biological Anthropology* Online Learning Center Web site at www.mhhe.com/parkba5

