
Robert B. Eckhardt wastes no time in setting a daunting challenge for himself in Human paleobiology: the 'reconstruction of earlier humans as living members of populations, adapted to particular ecological niches, as real in every respect as the various animal species that are our contemporaries, or as real as ourselves'. Whereas he does not quite achieve that lofty goal in this seminal text, he certainly succeeds in establishing the framework by which biological anthropologists, and particularly palaeoanthropologists, can gain more useful insights from our fossilized past. Thus Eckhardt's true challenge is set for his peers to synthesize the 'palaeo' with more from what we know of contemporary biology.

A science of palaeobiology is the perfect antidote to palaeoanthropology's inordinate focus on naming...


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adaptability, comparative primatology, and molecular genetics to document consistent measures of genetic distance between subspecies, species and other taxonomic groupings. This book will be a challenging and stimulating read for students and researchers interested in human paleobiology or evolutionary anthropology. First published in 2000. Contents. Other titles in Cambridge Studies in Biological and Evolutionary Anthropology. Evolution, Ecology and Conservation of Lorises and Pottos. £74.99. Biological anthropology, also known as physical anthropology, is a scientific discipline concerned with the biological and behavioral aspects of human beings, their extinct hominin ancestors, and related non-human primates, particularly from an evolutionary perspective. This subfield of anthropology systematically studies human beings from a biological perspective.