Nutritional Anthropology
Spring 2006

Exam 1

This exam is to be written as a take-home exercise. Answer both questions in a single word document, and give it a filename using your last name as: lastnameexam1.doc. Send your document to me as an e-mail attachment at jbindon@tenhoor.as.ua.edu by Wednesday, March 8 at 3:00 p.m. Use your word processor "Word count" function (on the Tools menu in Word) to bring each answer in under 1200 words--text beyond 1200 words per question will NOT be read or counted in your answer. Be sure that your answers are concise, complete, and correct, using specific examples from lecture, class discussions, and readings to illustrate each point in each question. Be sure to provide full references for any refereed source material you bring in from outside our class notes or readings. This class is a writing class so your grade will depend on how well you structure and write your answers as well as how factually correct they are.

1. Using your time expenditure assignment (Assignment 2) for a weekly food budget, discuss how your food choices fit and/or do not fit within the evolutionary background of man and his primate relatives. You will, of course, need to briefly characterize the evolutionary background of our diet before comparing to your records to answer this question.

2. Discuss how biology and culture interact to produce human diet and nutritional status by presenting two specific examples of a nutritionally detrimental cultural practice and two examples of a nutritionally beneficial cultural practice from our readings and lecture. Tell how biology and culture interact to impact your diet.