



Department of Anthropology Colloquium Series

"Paleogenomics and the Evolution of Neandertals and Denisovans"

John Hawks, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology
University of Wisconsin



His lab is currently working with genomes of archaic humans to uncover the relationships of these ancient people to recent human populations. Most living people trace a fraction of their ancestry to Neandertals, and a smaller proportion trace their ancestry to a mysterious population called the "Denisovans", represented by a genome from an ancient specimen from the Altai mountains. They are uncovering the interactions among these ancient groups -- when and where did they encounter modern humans and exchange genes with them? They are also investigating the function of those ancient genomes, and what new facts their genes can tell us about Neandertal biology. He will talk about his ongoing work related to pigmentation, immune system, muscle physiology and the brain.

2:30 p.m. Friday, March 2, 2012

North Classroom 1535

Auraria Campus

Light Refreshments will be served