

HUMAN SCIENCES INTRODUCTORY READING 2025

The following is a selection of reading which represents different subject areas within the first year course of Human Sciences. If you don't know what you have signed up for, now is the time to find out. You are by no means expected to read everything on this list but do select some titles which arouse your curiosity.

Paper 1: Ecology and Evolution

- Esbjorn-Hargens, S. & Zimmerman M.E. (2009) *Integral Ecology: Uniting multiple perspectives on the natural world*. Integral Books.
- Jablonka, E & Lamb, M.J. (2006) *Evolution in four dimensions: Genetic, epigenetic, behavioral and symbolic variation in the history of life*. (Series: Life & Mind: Philosophical Issues in Biology & Psychology). Boston: MIT.
- Lieberman, D. *The Story of the Human Body: Evolution, health and disease*. Penguin Books. 2014
- Mackenzie, F.T. (2010) *Our Changing Planet: An introduction to earth system science and GLOBAL Environmental Change* (3rd ed.) (Paperback) USA: Prentice & Hall.
- Noble, D. (2017) *Dance to the Tune of Life: Biological relativity*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Sheldrake, M. (2020) *Entangled Life: how fungi make our worlds, change our minds and shape our futures*. New York, Random House.

Paper 2: Physiology and Genetics

- Ashcroft, F. (2002) *Life at the Extremes*. Univ California Press.
- Blaser M. (2014) *Missing Microbes: How killing bacteria creates modern plagues*. Oneworld Publications.
- Blaustein, M.P., Kao, J.P.Y. and Matteson, D.R. (eds). (2020) *Cellular Physiology and Neurophysiology*, Elsevier.
- Divan, A. and Royds, J. A. (2016) *Molecular biology: A very short introduction*. Oxford University Press.
- Klenerman, L. (2015) *Human Anatomy: A very short introduction*. Oxford University Press.
- Slack, J. S. (2014) *Genes: A very short Introduction*. Oxford University Press.

Paper 3: Society, Culture and Environment

- Diener, A.C. & Hagen J. (2013) *Borders: A very short introduction*. Oxford University Press.
- Eriksen, T. H. (2023). *Small Places, Large issues: An introduction to social and cultural anthropology*. 5th edn. Pluto Press.
- Fox, K. (2014) *Watching the English: the hidden rules of English behaviour*. Hodder & Stoughton.
- Koser, K. (2007). *International Migration: A very short introduction*, Oxford University Press.

Paper 4: Sociology and Demography

- Billari, F.C. (2002) *Demography: Fast and Slow*. *Population and Development Review*, 48, 9–30.
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/padr.12464>
- Bruce, Steve. (2018) *Sociology: A very short introduction*. Oxford University Press.
- Elster, Jon. (2015) *Explaining Social Behaviour. More nuts and bolts for the social sciences* (2nd ed.), Cambridge University Press.
- Kreager, P., Winney, B., Ulijaszek, S. and Capelli, C. (2015) *Population in the Human Sciences: Concepts, models and evidence*. Oxford University Press.
- Harper, Sarah. (2018) *Demography: A very short introduction*. Oxford University Press.
- Van Tubergen, F. (2020) *Introduction to Sociology*, Routledge. (You can also check out the author's web page for the book which has links to useful resources: <https://www.frankvantubergen.nl/course/>).

Paper 5: Quantitative Methods for the Human Sciences

- Hand, D. J. *Statistics* (2008). *A very short introduction*. Oxford University Press.
- Key preparation for this paper will be familiarising yourself with Python using datacamp.com (see instructions in document from Dr Jill O'Reilly and Dr Lindsay Richards).