THE ORDER PRIMATES
Anth 1: Physical Anthropology
PROSIMIANS:
Primate Taxonomy

- Primates
  - Haplorhini
    - Anthropoidea
    - Strepsirhini
      - Prosimii
ORDER

Primates

SUBORDER

Strepsirhini (strepsirhines) (lemurs and lorises)

Haplorhini (haplorhines) (tarsiers, monkeys, apes, and humans)
Skeletal and Cranial Anatomy
of the Order Primates

CRANIUM:

• High brain-to-body ratio
• Forward-facing eyes with post-orbital closure and post-orbital bar
• Reduced prognathism (due to smaller nasal cavity)
• Base of skull is flexed
Skeletal and Cranial Anatomy of the Order Primates

DENTAL FORMULAS:

• **Infraorder Platyrrhini:** 3 premolars (2132 for small-bodied NWM, 2133 for the larger-bodied species w/prehensile tail)

• **Infraorder Catarrhini:** 2123
Skeletal and Cranial Anatomy of the Order Primates

**LOCOMOTION:**

- **Vertical clinging and leaping** (longer hindlimbs)
- **Quadrupedalism** (all 4 limbs roughly = length)
- **Brachiation** (longer forelimbs)
- **Knuckle-walking** (longer forelimbs)
Skeletal and Cranial Anatomy of the Order Primates

MISC. DISTINGUISHING DENTAL FEATURES:

• **Dental comb** (prosimians)
• **Bilophodont molars** (OW monkeys)
• **Y-5 molars** (Hominoids)
• **Large canine teeth with diastema and sectorial premolars** (sexually dimorphic species)
Sexual Dimorphism
Diastema and Sectorial Premolars