BIOLOGY 478 – ANIMAL BEHAVIOR
SPRING 2013

I Instructor: Erin Clancey

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III Office Hours: Tues. 10:00-11:00, Wed. 11:30-12:30, or by appointment. Office: 343 Life Science South (Animal Behavior Lab)

IV Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

Behavior is defined broadly as the observable output of an animal's nervous system. Animal behaviorists want to know: 1) the mechanisms that produce behavior, and 2) how behavior evolves. The goal of this course is to show you the answers, as they are currently understood, to these questions. In addition, this course offers some of the training needed to read and critically evaluate the behavior literature, and to conduct research in behavior.

V Course Prerequisites:

The prerequisites for this course are Biology 115 and 116. Topics from these courses that are especially important in animal behavior are: animal taxonomy, the endocrine and nervous system, reproduction, and evolution. Knowledge of simple algebra is assumed. Some background in statistics is useful, but not required.

VI There is an assigned textbook that can be purchased in the Biology Department Office ($40.00, exact change required). I will also assign additional papers to read and will put PDF copies on the course Blackboard page.

VII Term Paper:

The goal of this term paper is to allow you to explore an area in animal behavior in more detail than we cover in this class. The form of this term paper will be a review of the literature. Further instructions will be discussed in class and posted on the course webpage.

VIII Grades:

	% of final grade	
Test 1	25 %	
Test 2	25 %	
Test 3	25 %	
Term Paper	25 %	(Outline is worth 10 % of term paper grade)

90 % to 100 %	- A
80 % to 89 %	- B
70 % to 79%	- C
60 % to 69 %	- D
Below 60 %	- F

IX Academic Honesty:

I will not tolerate plagiarism or any other forms of academic dishonesty. The consequence of any offense will be a F in the course, letters to your Department Chair and College Dean, and a formal complaint lodged with the Dean of Students.

Biology 478 – Animal Behavior Spring 2013 Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	FILMS	TEST TOPICS/ ASSIGNMENTS	ASSIGNED READING
JAN 9	Introduction			
JAN 11	The Biology of Behavior			Chapter 1
JAN 14	Tinbergen's 4 Questions	Sexual Stimuli in Domestic Turkeys		Davila-Ross et al. 2009 - Laughing in Great Apes and Humans
JAN 16	Natural and Sexual Selection			
JAN 18	Levels of Selection			
JAN 21	**NO CLASS**			
JAN 23	Multiple Realities			Chapter 2
JAN 25	Adjusting Priorities			Chapter 3
JAN 28	Adjusting Priorities			
JAN 30	Brains and Glands			Chapter 4/Lim et al 2004 - Vasopressin
FEB 1	Brains and Glands			
FEB 4	Hormones and Behavior		**Paper Topics Due**	
FEB 6	Instinct			Chapter 5
FEB 8	Instinct			
FEB 11	**Test 1**		Biology of Behavior to Hormones and Behavior	
FEB 13	Learning			Chapter 6
FEB 15	Learning			
FEB 18	**NO CLASS**			
FEB 20	Learning	The Bonobo People		
FEB 22	Moving Through Space			Chapter 7
FEB 25	Moving Through Space	Dances of Bees		
FEB 27	Genetics			Chapter 8/Trut et al. 2009 - Animal evolution during domestication
MAR 1	Genetics			

MAR 4	Evolution			
MAR 6	Evolution			Pfenning et al. 1999- Kin recognition and cannibalism
MAR 8	Evolution	Food Handling in Kangaroo Rats, A Waterproof Arboreal Frog	**Outline Due**	
MAR 11	**SPRING BREAK**			
MAR 13	**SPRING BREAK**			
MAR 15	**SPRING BREAK**			
MAR 18	Living in Groups			Chapter 9
MAR 20	Living in Groups			
MAR 22	**Test 2**		Instinct to Evolution	
MAR 25	Social Interactions			
MAR 27	Social Interactions			
MAR 29	Communication			Chapter 10
APR 1	Communication			
APR 3	Communication	Signals for Survival		
APR 5	Sexual Behavior			Chapter 11/Byers & Waits 2006 - Good genes sexual selection
APR 8	Sexual Behavior			
APR 10	Sexual Behavior	Attenborough in Paradise		
APR 12	Humans			Chapter 12
APR 15	Humans			
APR 17	Humans			Daly & Wilson - Is the "Cinderella effect" controversial
APR 19				
APR 22	GUEST LECTURE			
APR 24	GUEST LECTURE			
APR 26	GUEST LECTURE			
APR 29	**NO CLASS**			
MAY 1	Turn in Papers		**Papers Due**	
MAY 3	**NO CLASS**			
MAY 7	**Test 3** 10am – 12pm		Living in Groups to Humans	