

COMPARATIVE PRIMATE ECOLOGY ANTHROPOLOGY 346M [31455]

FALL 2013



INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Becca Lewis
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Office hours: Wednesdays 1:45-3:45 pm

TEXTBOOKS: Required (1):
Cowlshaw G & Dunbar R (2000) *Primate Conservation Biology*.
University of Chicago: Chicago.

Additional readings will be available through the library e-journals (**online article**) and via Blackboard

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

All primates are a part of a broader ecological system that includes other primates as well as other animal and plant species. This class will cover the basics of ecology (the study of how organisms interact with their environment). We will examine how the basic principles of animal ecology can help us understand primate behavior. We will look at a wide range of primates from a comparative perspective as we explore primate habitats, diets, life histories, and communities, as well as the concept of the niche, environmental influences on reproductive strategies, plant-animal interactions, cognitive ecology, and much more. Because most primate species are threatened, endangered, or even facing extinction, we will also focus on how various aspects of ecology are used in the conservation of primates.

COURSE FORMAT AND REQUIREMENTS:

Prerequisite: ANT 301

This class will follow the general format of lecture on Mondays and Wednesdays and discussion on Fridays. Thus, participation is an important part of your grade. It is difficult to participate if you are not present in class and so attendance is highly recommended and will be recorded.

Grades will also be based upon 3 in-class exams (no comprehensive final exam). Exams may include multiple-choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer questions. Each student in this class will become an “expert” on his/her species of choice. You will be responsible for gathering information about your species and putting it together in a visual format.

Grades will be based upon	%Grade	Due Date
Exam I	20%	Oct 4
Exam II	20%	Oct 30
Exam III	20%	Dec 6
Participation	10%	
Online Assignment	10%	Nov 4
Poster Presentation	20%	Nov 18-20

Grades will be calculated using letter grades. The letters for all of your grades are changed to numbers following the typical 4 point scale:

- A = 4
- A- = 3.7
- B+ = 3.3
- B = 3
- B- = 2.7
- C+ = 2.3
- C = 2
- C- = 1.7
- D+ = 1.3
- D = 1
- D- = 0.7
- F = 0

The numeric test grades will be converted to letter grades. The following guidelines are used to assign test grades:

- A 90-100
- B 80-89
- C 70-79
- D 60-69
- F 59 or less

Plus and minus will be assigned, for example:

- B+ 86.5-89.4
- B 83.5-86.4
- B- 79.5-83.4

RE-GRADING POLICY:

Grade disputes must be turned in to the instructor in writing within 1 week of when the exam is returned. The student must include a 1 page explanation per question of why (s)he thinks that his/her answer is correct. Simple errors in addition can be corrected immediately. Students wishing to appeal a grade for one of the writing assignments, have 1 week to appeal their grade with the professor by turning in a 1 page explanation of why (s)he thinks that his/her paper should be regarded.

CREDIT/NO-CREDIT:

For those of you enrolled on a Pass/Fail basis, a requirement for receiving a passing grade in this course is to show up and take the exams. You may choose not to study and fail the exams, but you must physically turn in the exams and pass to receive credit.

CHEATING POLICY:

During exams, students will not be permitted to wear hats or use electronic devices of any kind (including, but not limited to, cell phones and ipods).

Be advised that on exam days, students will only be allowed to take a pen/pencil to their seat. All backpacks, book bags, purses, phones, etc. must be left at the front of the classroom.

Students are welcome to participate in online forums for discussion and study (e.g., a Facebook page for this course). However, Dr. Lewis must be invited and permitted to join any such forum in order to monitor content. *Please note* that sharing information about an exam with a student who has not yet taken an exam will be considered cheating, regardless of the means by which the information is shared (e.g., verbally, on a web page, via email, via text message, etc.). Students who observe cheating via electronic media are encouraged to inform Dr. Lewis.

Without exception, any student found cheating on an exam will receive a grade of zero for the exam and will be referred to the dean's office for further disciplinary action. Note that any attempt to alter a graded, returned exam in order to improve the score will be considered cheating and will result in a grade of zero for the exam.

ETC.

Be sure to regularly check Blackboard for class materials and information. ***Power Point slides will not be made available on Blackboard. Class handouts will be available on Blackboard.***

Please turn your cell phones off while in class. No cell phone use during class will be tolerated – *this includes texting.*

Hats with rims are not permitted to be worn during exams.

Feel free to take notes on a computer. However, no one is permitted to make audio or video recordings of lectures under any circumstances.

I do not give assignments for extra credit, so please be sure to pay close attention to dates of exams and assignments.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

If you are caught plagiarizing, I will be following the university guidelines for disciplinary actions: (deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/academicintegrity.html), see also (www.academicintegrity.org/).

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University Code of Academic Integrity (see attached). Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work. You are encouraged to study together and discuss information and concepts covered in lecture. You can give "consulting" help to or receive "consulting" help from such students. However, this permissible cooperation should never involve one student having possession of a copy of all or part of work done by someone else, in the form of email, email attachment file, disk, or hard copy. Should copying occur, both the student who copied from another student and the student who gave material to be copied will both be automatically receive a zero for the assignment. Penalty for violation of this Code can also be extended to include failure of the course and University disciplinary action.

During examinations, you must do your own work. Talking or discussion is not permitted during the examinations, nor may you compare papers, copy from others, or collaborate in any way. Any collaborative behavior during the exams will result in failure of the exam, and may result in failure of the course and University disciplinary action.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

In compliance with the UT Austin policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that may be required for students with disabilities. Requests for academic accommodations are to be made during the 1st 3 weeks of the semester, except for unusual circumstances, so arrangements can be made. Students are encouraged to register with Student Disability Services to verify their eligibility for appropriate accommodations (see attached).

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to change – please check Blackboard):

Dates	Topic	Work to do at home Readings to be completed before class
Aug 28	Evolutionary Theory Poster Assignment	Strier Ch. 4 (pp. 94-116)
Aug 30- Sept 4	Primate Diversity	Fleagle Ch. 1 Cowlshaw & Dunbar Ch. 2
Sept 6	Biomes & Habitats	Richard Ch. 2
Sept 9-11	Food	Chapman et al. (2012) <i>The Evolution of Primate Societies</i> Lambert (2007) <i>Primates in Perspective</i>
Sept 13	Disc: Food	Glander KE (1977) Poison in a monkey's Garden of Eden. <i>Natural History</i> 86(3):34-41 (on BB)
Sept 16-18	Diet	Richard Ch. 5

Sept 20	Disc: Diet	online article: Powzyk JA and Mowry CB (2003) Dietary and feeding differences between sympatric <i>Propithecus diadema diadema</i> and <i>Indri indri</i> . <i>International Journal of Primatology</i> 24(6):1143-1162.
Sept 23	Activity Budgets	Dunbar Ch. 6
Sept 25	Temporal Distribution of Food	online article: Lambert JE, Chapman CA, Wrangham RW, and Conklin-Brittain NL (2004) Hardness of cercopithecine foods: Implications for the critical function of enamel thickness in exploiting fallback foods. <i>American Journal of Physical Anthropology</i> 125:363–368.
Sept 27	Disc: Food Seasonality	online article: Lewis RJ and Kappeler PM (2005) Seasonality, body condition and the timing of reproduction in <i>Propithecus verreauxi verreauxi</i> . <i>American Journal of Primatology</i> 67:347–364.
Sept 30	Group Size	Chapman et al. (1995) Ecological constraints on group size: An analysis of spider monkey and chimpanzee subgroups. <i>Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology</i> 36(1):59-70.
Oct 2	Disc: Folivore Paradox	online article: Steenbeek R and van Schaik CP (2001) Competition and group size in Thomas' langurs (<i>Presbytis thomasi</i>): the folivore paradox. <i>Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology</i> 49:100-110.
Oct 4	Exam I	
Oct 7	Spatial Distribution of Food	online article: Pruett JD and Isbell LA (2000) Correlations of food distribution and patch size with agonistic interactions in female vervets (<i>Chlorocebus aethiops</i>) and patas monkeys (<i>Erythrocebus patas</i>) living in simple habitats. <i>Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology</i> 49:38-47.
Oct 9	Dispersal/Philopatry	Pusey A and Packer C (1987) Isbell LA (2004)
Oct 11	Disc: Intraspecific Competition	online article: Sterck EHM, Watts DP, van Schaik CP (1997). The evolution of female social relationships in nonhuman primates. <i>Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology</i> 41(5):291-309.
Oct 14	Cognitive Mapping	Garber (2000)
Oct 16	Cognitive Ecology	online article: Di Fiore A, Suarez SA (2009) Route-based travel and shared routes in sympatric spider and woolly monkeys: cognitive and evolutionary implications. <i>Animal Cognition</i> 10(3) 317-329.
Oct 18	Disc: Maps	online article: Normand E, Boesch C (2009) Sophisticated Euclidean maps in forest chimpanzees <i>Animal Behaviour</i> 77(5):1195-1201.
Oct 21-23	Life History	Dunbar Ch. 4 Leigh & Blomquist (2007) <i>Primates in Perspective</i>

Oct 25	Disc: Life History	online article: Altmann J and Albert SC (2003) Variability in reproductive success viewed from a life-history perspective in baboons. <i>American Journal of Human Biology</i> 15(3):401-409
Oct 28	Primate Communities	Janson CH and Chapman CA (1999)
Oct 30	Exam II	
Nov 1-4	No class Online Assignment	Cowlshaw & Dunbar Ch 4 online article: Kamilar & Beaudrot (2013) Understanding primate communities: Recent developments and future directions. <i>Evolutionary Anthropology</i> 22:174–185
Nov 6	Primate Distribution Assignment	Cowlshaw & Dunbar Ch 5
Nov 8	Disc: Primates Eat Primates	online article: Stanford CB (1995) To catch a colobus. <i>Natural History</i> 104(1):48-54. online article: Lwanga JS et al. (2011) Primate population dynamics over 32.9 years at Ngogo, Kibale National Park, Uganda. <i>American Journal of Primatology</i> 73:997-1011.
Nov 11	Interactions with Other Animals	Waser PM (1987) Enstam & Isbell (2007) <i>Primates in Perspective</i>
Nov 13	Interactions with Plants	Chapman & Russo (2007) <i>Primates in Perspective</i>
Nov 15	Disc: Interactions with Plants	online article: McConkey et al. (2012) Seed dispersal in changing landscapes. <i>Biological Conservation</i> 146:1-13.
Nov 18-20	Poster	Presentations
Nov 22	Disc: Conservation	online article: Axel AC and Maurer BA (2011) Lemurs in a complex landscape: Mapping species density in subtropical forests in southwestern Madagascar using data at multiple levels. <i>American Journal of Primatology</i> 73:38-52.
Nov 25	Conservation	online article: Chapman CA and Peres CA (2001) Primate conservation in the new millennium: The role of scientists. <i>Evolutionary Anthropology</i> 10:16-33.
Nov 27-29	No class	
Dec 2	Conservation	Cowlshaw & Dunbar Ch 10, 11
Dec 4	Disc: Bushmeat	online article: Effiom et al. (2013) Bushmeat hunting changes regeneration of African rainforests. <i>Proc Roy Soc B</i> 280:2013.0246 online article: Milius S (2005) Bushmeat on the menu. <i>Science News</i> 167(9):138-140.
Dec 6	Exam III	

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HONOR CODE

The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the University is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

NOTICE ABOUT STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic adjustments for qualified students with disabilities. For more information contact the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities at (512) 471-6259. Students who require special accommodations need to get a letter that documents the disability from the Services for Students with Disabilities area of the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6529; 471-4641 TTY. This letter should be presented to the instructor in each course at the beginning of the semester and accommodations needed should be discussed at that time. Five business days before an exam the student should remind the instructor of any testing accommodations that will be needed. For more information: <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/ssd/providing.php>

NOTICE ABOUT MISSED WORK DUE TO RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS

Religious holy days sometimes conflict with class and examination schedules. If you miss an examination, work assignment, or other project due to the observance of a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the work missed within a reasonable time **after** the absence. It is the policy of The University of Texas at Austin that **you must notify each of your instructors at least fourteen (14) days prior to the classes scheduled on dates you will be absent** to observe a religious holy days.

USE OF BLACKBOARD IN CLASSES

This course uses Blackboard, a web-based course management system in which a password-protected site is created for each course. Blackboard will be used to distribute course materials, to communicate and collaborate online, to post grades, to submit assignments, and to take online quizzes and surveys. You will be responsible for checking the Blackboard course site regularly for class work and announcements. As with all computer systems, there are occasional scheduled downtimes as well as unanticipated disruptions. Notification of these disruptions will be posted on the Blackboard login page. Scheduled downtimes are NOT an excuse for late work. However, if there is an unscheduled downtime for a significant period of time, I will make an adjustment if it occurs close to the due date. Blackboard is available at <http://courses.utexas.edu>.

UNIVERSITY E-MAIL NOTIFICATION POLICY

All students should become familiar with the University's official e-mail student notification policy. It is the student's responsibility to keep the University informed as to changes in his or her e-mail address. Students are expected to check e-mail on a frequent and regular basis in order to stay current with University-related communications, recognizing that certain

communications may be time-critical. It is recommended that e-mail be checked daily, but at a minimum, twice per week. The complete text of this policy and instructions for updating your e-mail address are available at <http://www.utexas.edu/its/policies/emailnotify.html>.

In this course e-mail will be used as a means of communication with students. You will be responsible for checking your e-mail regularly for class work and announcements. Note: if you are an employee of the University, your e-mail address in Blackboard is your employee address.