

**PRIMATE SOCIAL BEHAVIOR**  
**ANTHROPOLOGY 346L [31380], WGS 323 [47625]**  
SPRING 2011

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**TA:** TBA

**TEXTBOOKS:** Required (1):  
*Alcock Animal Behavior*, 9<sup>th</sup> edition print or etext

Additional readings will be available on Blackboard

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE:**

This course focuses on the study of primate behavior and why primates do what they do. It is essentially a course on animal behavior with a focus on primates. Thus, this class will explore the basic theoretical principles that guide primatologists and other zoologists. As we examine some of the models used to explain primate behavior, we will explore the behavior of the four radiations of primates in detail.

The objective of this course is for students to understand the major theoretical concepts of primate behavior.

**COURSE FORMAT AND REQUIREMENTS:**

*Prerequisite:* ANT 301

This class will generally follow a lecture format. There will be projects assigned for outside of the classroom to be “presented” either on Blackboard or in the classroom. *Project assignments presented/posted after the deadline will not be accepted.* Discussion will be encouraged during lectures and we will be discussing the outside projects in class. It is difficult to participate if you are not present in class and so attendance is highly recommended. Plus, the majority (but not all) of the test questions will come from lectures.

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.

<b>Assignments</b>	<b>%Grade</b>	<b>Date</b>
Exam I	30%	Mar 1
Exam II	30%	Mar 31
Exam III	30%	May 5
5 Projects (2 points each)	10%	TBA

Final grade calculation = (Exam I \*0.3) + (Exam II \*0.3) + (Exam III \*0.3) + Total # project points

**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 re-graded.

**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 to receive credit.

The following guidelines are used to assign final 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

**ETC.**

After you turn in a project assignment, I have the right to use that information in future classes or publications unless you submit in writing a request otherwise.

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. If class is missed with an excused absence, it is up to the student to secure the notes from other students.

Please turn your cell phones off while in class. No cell phone use during class will be tolerated.

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

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

If you are caught plagiarizing, I will be following the university guidelines for disciplinary actions: ([deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/academicintegrity.html](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/academicintegrity.html)), see also ([www.academicintegrity.org/](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> 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).

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE – PLEASE CHECK BLACKBOARD FOR CHANGES)

**TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Work to do at home Readings to be completed before class</b>
Jan 20	Intro to Primate Behavior	
Jan 25-27	Primate Diversity	<b>Dixson Ch 2</b> Dixson AF (1998) <i>Primate Sexuality: Comparative Studies of the Prosimians, Monkeys, Apes, and Human Beings</i> . Oxford: Oxford University.
Feb 1	Evolutionary Theory	<b>Alcock Ch 1</b>  <b>Strier Ch 4 (p.94-113)</b> Strier KB (2003) <i>Primate Behavioral Ecology, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition</i> . Boston: Allyn and Bacon.
Feb 3	Methods	<b>Ray 2007</b> <i>Primates in Perspective</i>
Feb 8	Group Living	<b>Dunbar Ch 7</b> Dunbar RIM (1988) <i>Primate Social Systems</i> . Ithaca, NY: Cornell University.
Feb 10-15	Social & Mating Systems	<b>Alcock Ch 11</b> <b>Fuentes 2007</b> <i>Primates in Perspective</i>

Feb 17- 22	Sexual Selection	<b>Alcock Ch 10</b> <b>Dixson Ch 7 (p.170-213)</b>
Feb 24	Ethograms & Review for Exam I	
<b>Mar 1</b>	<b>Exam I</b>	
Mar 3-8	Sex & Reproduction	<b>Alcock Ch 5</b> <b>Dixson Ch 4</b> <b>Anestis 2010</b> Hormones and Social Behavior in Primates <i>Evolutionary Anthropology</i> 19(2):66-78
Mar 10-22	Development, & Life History	<b>Alcock Ch 3, 12</b> <b>Dunbar Ch 4</b> <b>Hrdy SB (1987)</b> Sex-biased parental investment among primates and other mammals: A critical evaluation of the Trivers-Willard hypothesis. RJ Gelles, JB Lancaster (eds) <i>Child Abuse and Neglect: Biosocial Dimensions</i> . New York: Aldine de Gruyter. pp 97-147.
Mar 24-29	Cooperation	<b>Alcock Ch13 (p.457-488)</b> <b>Strier Ch4 (p117-134, Box 4.2)</b> <b>Noë R (1992)</b> Alliance formation among male baboons: shopping for profitable partners. Harcourt AH and de Waal FBM (eds) <i>Coalitions and Alliances in Humans and Other Animals</i> . Oxford University: Oxford. pp. 282-321.
<b>Mar 31</b>	<b>Exam II</b>	
Mar 31-Apr 5	Competition	<b>van Hooff JARAM, van Schaik CP (1991)</b> Cooperation in competition: The ecology of primate bonds. Harcourt AH, de Waal FBM (eds) <i>Coalitions and Alliances in Humans and Other Animals</i> . Oxford: Oxford University. pp 357-389. <b>Lewis RJ (2002)</b> Beyond dominance: the importance of leverage. <i>Quarterly Review of Biology</i> 77:149-164.
Apr 7-19	Intelligence	<b>Panger 2007</b> <i>Primates in Perspective</i> <b>Whiten A (1997)</b> The Machiavellian mindreader. Whiten A & Byrne RW (eds) <i>Machiavellian Intelligence II</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University. pp 144-173. <b>Burkart et al. (2009)</b> Cooperative Breeding and

		Human Cognitive Evolution. <i>Evolutionary Anthropology</i> 18(5):175-186.
Apr 21-26	Communication, Language & Culture	<p><b>Alcock Ch 9</b></p> <p><b>Gouzoules &amp; Gouzoules 2007</b> <i>Primate in Perspective</i></p> <p><b>Cheney DL &amp; Seyfarth RM (2010)</b> Primate Communication and Human Language: Continuities and Discontinuities. Kappeler PM &amp; Silk JB (eds) <i>Mind the Gap: Tracing the Origins of Human Universals</i>. Berlin: Springer pp283-298.</p> <p><b>Zuberbuler K (2003)</b> Natural semanticity in wild primates. de Waal FBM &amp; Tyack PL (eds) <i>Animal Social Complexity</i>. Cambridge: Harvard University. pp 362-367.</p>
Apr 28-May 3	Human Behavior	<p><b>Alcock Ch 14</b></p> <p><b>Pawlowski B, Dunbar RIM (1999)</b> Impact of market value on human mate choice decisions. <i>Proc. Roy. Soc. B.</i> 266:281-285.</p>
<b>May 5</b>	<b>Exam III</b>	

## 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.