
ANTH 311
Primate Behaviour
GFC Hours 3-0
Summer 2023

Instructor:	Dr. Eve Cooper	Location:	Virtual
Email:	eve.cooper@ucalgary.ca	Days:	Mon., Wed.
Office:	Zoom	Time:	12:00 – 2:45
Office Hours:	Mon. & Wed.: 2:45 – 3:45		
Teaching Assistant:	Lily Hou (houl@ucalgary.ca)		

Prerequisite(s): None.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will cover the diversity of behaviours observed across the order of primates, as it's understood through the lens of evolutionary ecology. Topics will include: primate cladistics, the roles of diet and ecology in shaping behavior, social organization and mating systems, life history variation, the evolution of sociality, cognition, communication, cultural evolution, and primate conservation. Throughout this course students will learn how to apply concepts in evolution and ecology to explain and understand genetic, ecological and behavioural variation exhibited across primate groups.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology is committed to student knowledge and skill development.

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Classify primate taxonomic groups through their identifying phenotypic traits.
- Describe the evolutionary history of primates, as well as the features that make current extant primates a unique mammalian order
- Apply theories of socio-ecology, sexual selection, and life history to explain the diversity in social organization and mating systems observed across the primate order.

- Describe the role of sociality in primates and understand both potential evolutionary causes as well as downstream consequences of social behavior on individual life history
- Explain how primates share information with each other and contextualize their cognitive abilities relative to other animal groups
- Identify threats to primate populations and describe the traits that make primates uniquely vulnerable to extinction risk

READINGS AND TEXTBOOKS:

Readings for this course are required and include relevant peer-reviewed journal articles as well as other peer-reviewed education resources (e.g. Scitable Nature Education Articles). The required readings for each lecture are listed in the course outline and available on D2L. There is no textbook for this course.

QUESTIONS ABOUT COURSE MATERIAL:

All questions about course material must be posted to the designated D2L page, and not via email to the professor or TA. This allows all students to review questions and answers. Questions must start with the Topic. Students are encouraged to answer classmates' questions and the professor/TA will check this page every 1-2 days, M-F and add to these answers as needed. Students providing answers must provide their names to be eligible for bonus marks (below). Office hours (directly after each class) are also a great time to ask questions.

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY and EQUIPMENT:

- A reliable internet connection, Zoom, a word processor, a presentation software (i.e. powerpoint or keynote), TopHat

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

Class Participation (9%):

- For every class that a student attends and completes the in-class quizzes in real-time, they will receive 1% for participation. Quizzes will be conducted in TopHat, and students will need to register for TopHat with their university email before the first class. Quizzes are not graded for accuracy, only completeness. These quizzes and associated participation marks are included in every lecture, with the exception of the Primate Spotlight group presentation lectures (July 24 and July 26).
- Note that there will be no make-up assignments for this participation marks if a student is absent from class! If a student wishes to make-up marks from a missed class (for any reason), they should work on completing the bonus assignment (see below).

Midterm Exam (21%):

- **To be completed on D2L on July 14th by 11:59 pm**
- This exam will be online and open book (i.e. your own notes are allowed, however searching online for answers is not allowed).

- This exam will cover all topics covered in lectures and readings up to and including July 12th.
- The exam will include a mix of multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions. Details will be provided closer to the examination.

Primate Spotlight Presentation (35%):

- **Annotated Bibliography due: July 23rd; In-class presentations July 24th & July 26th**
- In assigned groups of 3-5, students will research the behavioral ecology of their assigned primate species using peer-reviewed literature. Student grades will be based on both the annotated bibliography and a 10-minute presentation, which will be delivered to the rest of the class.
- Details of this project, including the grading rubric, are available on D2L.

Cumulative Final Exam (35%):

- **Date TBD (registrar scheduled)**
- The exam will be online (D2L) and open book (i.e. notes allowed, however searching online for answers is not allowed).
- This exam is cumulative, meaning questions related to all lectures, student-led primate presentations, guest lectures, and readings will have the potential to be included. 80% of the exam will be on topics covered after July 12th.
- The exam will include multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions. Details will be provided closer to the examination.

Bonus Assignment (up to 3% final grade):

- **Due date: 2 days after the final exam**
- This is an optional assignment for bonus marks. Students may earn an additional 1%, 2% or 3% towards their overall course grade by submitting a transcript of their answers to student questions posted on D2L. Grades will be assigned based on both quality (correctness, thoroughness) and quantity of questions answered.
- See "QUESTIONS ABOUT COURSE MATERIAL" above for the class policy on asking questions related to course material outside of class/office hours.

You do not need to pass each course component to earn a passing grade in the class

Missed Exams – In the case of serious illness or medical emergency, religious observance, or domestic affliction, a student may contact the instructor by email to request a deferral. If the student knows they will be unable to attend the exam for a compelling reason ahead of time (e.g. for a religious reason), they must contact the instructor at the start of the course, or as soon as it can conceivably be known by the student that they will miss the exam. Otherwise, the student must email the instructor within 48 hours of the exam with a description of their request to defer. The student may provide any relevant supporting documentation through email. If a deferral is granted, the make-up assessment will differ significantly in form and content from the original exam, and will consist of primarily long-form questions. Deferral of the registrar scheduled final exam additionally requires Registrar approval (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-final-exams>).

Once approved by the instructor a makeup test/exam must be written within one week of the missed test/exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor.

Group Presentation Grade – All students within a group will provide an assessment of their fellow group members contribution to the Primate Spotlight project. For each student, group member assessments of their effort and contribution will constitute 10% of their final grade for the group project. Consequently, under-contributing to the group project will directly influence your grade. In the case where all the group members unanimously assess one group member’s contribution to a group project as “*Very Poor*” or “*Entirely Absent*”, the student may receive a lower overall assignment grade, in addition to the effect it has on the 10% group contribution portion of their grade, at the discretion of the instructor.

Late assignments: Late submissions of written assignments (e.g. the annotated bibliography), will be penalized 20% per day (including weekends) that they are late.

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Reappraisal of Final Grade: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Deferral of Registrar-Scheduled Exam: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-final-exams>).

Department of Anthropology and Archaeology Grading Scheme:

A+	95 – 100%	B+	80 – 84.9%	C+	67 – 70.9%	D+	55 – 58.9%
A	90 – 94.9%	B	75 – 79.9%	C	63 – 66.9%	D	50 – 54.9%
A-	85 – 89.9%	B-	71 – 74.9%	C-	59 – 62.9%	F	< 50%

Land Acknowledgement

The University of Calgary, located in the heart of Southern Alberta, both acknowledges and pays tribute to the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7, which include the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprised of the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut’ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta Region 3.

Acknowledgment and Respect for Diversity

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology views diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. The University Calendar includes a statement on the principles of conduct expected of all members of the university community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors, and volunteers), whether on or off university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary, and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html. Often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are (1) presenting another student's work as your own, (2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For students wishing to know more about what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Geography recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing. Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

SUPPORTS FOR STUDENT LEARNING, SUCCESS, AND SAFETY

Please visit the Registrar's website at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

The themes and associated readings for each lecture are listed below. Some lectures are subdivided into two rows (A & B), to indicate that two separate themes will be covered within lecture. Guest lectures are color coded in blue, course assessment due dates are coded

in red, and in-class exam preparation time is coded in green. This schedule is tentative and subject to change.

Date	Theme	Associated Readings (Available on D2L)
M Jun 26	What the heck is a primate (and why should we care)?	Martin (2001), Kirk (2003), Forbes & Krimmel (2010), Sesink & Gonder (2012)
W Jun 28	You are what you eat: Diet & ecology drive behaviour	Hager (2010), Chapman (2012), Silk (2001)
M Jul 3	Observance Day for Jul 1 (university closed)	
W Jul 5	The birds & the bees: Sexual selection shapes behavior	Brennan (2010), Gagneux (2001)
M Jul 10 A	Allegra DePasquale guest lecture:	
M Jul 10 B	Live slow & die old: The primate lifestyle	Zimmermann & Radespiel (2014)
W Jul 12 A	Lily Hou guest lecture: Morphology & Behavior	Gebo (2013), Williams (2016)
W Jul 12 B	Midterm overview & exam prep.	
F Jul 14	Midterm Exam due 11:59 pm	
M Jul 17	Friendship is magic: The evolution of sociality	McGlynn (2010), Swedell (2012)
W Jul 19 A	Talking & thinking about thinking & talking: Cognition & communication	Gillan (2011), Hopper & Bronsan (2012), Dunbar & Shultz (2007)
W Jul 19 B	Jess Gunson guest lecture: What's the drill with drills	
S Jul 23	Annotated Bibliography due 11:59 pm	
M Jul 24	Primate Spotlight pt. 1 (group presentations)	
W Jul 26	Primate Spotlight pt. 2 (group presentations)	
M Jul 31 A	Memes & cultural evolution	Blackmore & Dugatkin (2000)
M Jul 31 B	Sam Patterson guest lecture: Are the kids alright?: The importance of early life	
W Aug 2 A	Primates in Crisis	Chapman & Peres (2021)
W Aug 2 B	Course overview & exam prep.	
M Aug 7	Alberta Heritage Day (university closed)	
T Aug 8	Last Day of Classes	
Aug 10-14	Summer Final Exam Period	

IMPORTANT DATES

M Jun 26	First day of Summer Term lectures.
F Jun 30	Last day to drop a class without a financial penalty.
F Jun 30	Last day to add or swap a course.
W Jul 5	Fee payment deadline for Summer Term full and half courses.
S Jul 1	Canada Day, Observed M Jul 3 University closed. No classes.

M Aug 7	Alberta Heritage Day University closed. No classes.
T Aug 8	Summer Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Summer Term courses.
Aug 10-14	Summer Final Exam Period.