ANTHROPOLOGY 346M [31235]
COMPARATIVE PRIMATE ECOLOGY

FALL 2012

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Becca Lewis
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Office hours: Wednesdays 9:30-11 am

TEXTBOOKS: Required (1):
Cowlishaw 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 5
Exam II	20%	Oct 31
Exam III	20%	Dec 7
Participation	15%	
Poster Presentation	25%	Nov 12-14

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.

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.

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.

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

No audio-recording of my lecture is permitted without prior approval.

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 31	Evolutionary Theory Poster Assignment	Strier Ch. 4 (pp. 94-116)
Sept 3	**No class**	
Sept 5-7	Primate Diversity	Fleagle Ch. 1 Cowlishaw & Dunbar Ch. 2
Sept 10	Biomes & Habitats	Richard Ch. 2
Sept 12-14	Food	Richard Ch. 4 Lambert (2007) *Primates in Perspective*
Sept 17-19	Diet	Richard Ch. 5

Sept 21	**Disc**: Diet	**online article**: Powzyk JA and Mowry CB (2003) Dietary and feeding differences between sympatric *Propithecus diadema diadema* and *Indri indri*. *International Journal of Primatology* 24(6):1143-1162.
Sept 24	Activity Budgets	Dunbar Ch. 6
Sept 26	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. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 125:363–368.
Sept 28	**Disc**: Food Seasonality	**online article**: Lewis RJ and Kappeler PM (2005) Seasonality, body condition and the timing of reproduction in *Propithecus verreauxi verreauxi*. *American Journal of Primatology* 67:347–364.
Oct 1	Group Size	Chapman et al. (1995) Ecological constraints on group size: An analysis of spider monkey and chimpanzee subgroups. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 36(1):59-70.
Oct 3	**Disc**: Folivore Paradox	**online article**: Steenbeek R and van Schaik CP (2001) Competition and group size in Thomas' langurs (*Presbytis thomasi*): the folivore paradox. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 49:100-110.
Oct 5	**Exam I**	
Oct 8	Spatial Distribution of Food	**online article**: Pruetz JD and Isbell LA (2000) Correlations of food distribution and patch size with agonistic interactions in female vervets (*Chlorocebus aethiops*) and patas monkeys (*Erythrocebus patas*) living in simple habitats. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 49:38-47.
Oct 10	Dispersal/Philopatry	Pusey A and Packer C (1987) Isbell LA (2004)
Oct 12	**Disc**: Intraspecific Competition	**online article**: Sterck EHM, Watts DP, van Schaik CP (1997). The evolution of female social relationships in nonhuman primates. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 41(5):291-309.
Oct 15	Cognitive Mapping	TBA
Oct 17	Cognitive Ecology	TBA
Oct 19	**Disc**: Brains	Barton (2000)
Oct 22-24	Life History	Dunbar Ch. 4 Leigh & Blomquist (2007) *Primates in Perspective*
Oct 26	**Disc**: Life History	**online article**: Altmann J and Albert SC (2003) Variability in reproductive success viewed from a life-history perspective in baboons. *American Journal of Human Biology* 15(3):401-409

Oct 29	Primate Communities	Janson CH and Chapman CA (1999)
Oct 31	**Exam II**	
Nov 2	**No class**	**Online Assignment**
Nov 5-7	Primate Distribution Assignment	Cowlishaw & Dunbar Ch 5
Nov 9	**Disc**: Primates Eat Primates	**online article**: Stanford CB (1995) To catch a colobus. *Natural History* 104(1):48-54.
Nov 12-14	**Poster**	**Presentations**
Nov 16	Interactions with Other Primates	Waser PM (1987) Enstam & Isbell (2007) *Primates in Perspective*
Nov 19	Interactions with Plants	Chapman & Russo (2007) *Primates in Perspective*
Nov 21-23	**No class**	
Nov 26	Interactions with Other Animals	Richard Ch.11 (pp.440-463) Cowlishaw & Dunbar Ch 4
Nov 28	Conservation	
Nov 30	Conservation	**online article**: Chapman CA and Peres CA (2001) Primate conservation in the new millennium: The role of scientists. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 10:16-33.
Dec 3	Conservation	Cowlishaw & Dunbar Ch 10, 11
Dec 5	**Disc**: Bushmeat	**online article**: TBA **online article**: Milius S (2005) Bushmeat on the menu. *Science News* 167(9):138-140.
Dec 7	**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.