SYLLABUS: PRIMATE COGNITION (FALL 2012)
ANT 310L (31084)
T/Th 11-12:30 (RLM 7.116)

INSTRUCTOR:
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Office Hours: T/Th 10-11

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
One of the most defining characteristics of the primate order is our extraordinary capacity for learning and retention. This course provides an introduction to non-human primate knowledge of the physical world (space & objects, tools & causality, features & categories, quantities), as well as primate social knowledge (cooperative problem-solving, social strategies, forms of communication, social learning, theory of mind). Non-human primate cognition will be examined within an evolutionary and comparative framework, with emphasis placed on comparing and contrasting non-human primate cognition with that of humans and other taxonomic groups (e.g. birds, cetaceans, carnivores, rodents). This is a lower division course open to all students.
Course Format: Lecture & Discussion. Prerequisites: None.

Texts:
Pearce, J. 2008. Animal Learning and Cognition: An Introduction, 3rd Edition. London: Taylor and Francis. ***(Required)***

Tomasello, M and J. Call. 1997. Primate Cognition. Oxford: Oxford University Press. ***(Optional)***

Readings:
Additional readings will be provided periodically throughout the course via blackboard, and will be discussed in-class. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK BLACKBOARD (http://courses.utexas.edu) PRIOR TO EVERY CLASS FOR READINGS & IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Lecture Notes:
Complete lecture notes will NOT be provided online. However, the graphics that will be used during the lecture will be provided ahead of time via blackboard. These will aid note-taking if printed prior to class. Thus, it is essential that you check blackboard regularly!

COURSE PLAN

This course plan is *tentative.* Topics may be added/eliminated and dates may change based upon instructor evaluation of class progress. Readings that form background to lectures are provided. Additional readings will be provided throughout the semester on blackboard to allow discussion of current topics and to accommodate student interests.

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Readings/Notes
1	**8/30**	Course Intro: What is Intelligence?	Pearce (3-20); Kluger 2010
2	**9/4**	Introduction to Primates	Boyd & Silk 2009 (116-121); Strier 2007 (50-68)
	9/6	Introduction to the Brain	Ankel -Simmons 2007 (199-222); Santrock 2000 (80-90)
3	**9/11**	Cognitive Evolution	Milton 1993; Dunbar & Schultz 2007; Strier 2007 (40-43, Box 2.1)
	9/13	Learning Theory	Pearce (22-33, 93-121)
4	**9/18**	Problem Solving: Insight and Causality	
	9/20	Problem Solving: Tool Use	
5	**9/25**	Features and Categories	Pearce (171-189)
	9/27	Features and Categories	
6	**10/2**	**Exam #1: Covering Lectures Through Tool Use**	**30% of Course Grade!**
	10/4	Numbers & Serial Order	Pearce (243-263) ; Dehaene 2000
7	**10/9**	Numbers & Serial Order	
	10/11	Navigation	Pearce (265-295)
8	**10/16**	In Class Video	
	10/18	Spatial and Temporal Memory	Pearce (202-211, 218-228, 233-244)
9	**10/23**	Social Learning	Caldwell & Whiten 2010
	10/25	Culture	Van Schaik et al. 2003; Whiten et al., 1999
10	**10/30**	Social Strategies: Cooperation & Deception	Brosnan et al. 2010; Melis and Semmann 2010
	11/1	**Exam #2: Covering Lectures through Culture**	**30% of Course Grade!**
11	**11/6**	Cognitive& Evolutionary Basis for Cooperation	
	11/8	Theory of Mind	Pearce (312-319); Call & Tomasello (2008)
12	**11/13**	Self-Recognition	Pearce (319-324)
	11/15	Emotion	Dawkins 2000
13	**11/20**	Language	Pearce (327-359)
	11/22	**Thanksgiving**	**No Class**

14	**11/27**	Language II	Kaminski 2004; Bloom 2004
	11/29	Course Synthesis	
15	**12/4**	Review & Student Course Evaluations	
	12/6	**Exam #3: Covering Lectures Through Course Synthesis**	**30% of Course Grade!**

STATEMENT OF POLICIES

GRADING POLICY:

EXAMS (90%): Three exams will be given. Each exam will be worth 30% of the total course grade.

EXAM DATES:

Oct 2, 2012: Exam #1 (30% of Course Grade)

Nov 1, 2012: Exam #2 (30% of Course Grade)

Dec 6, 2012: Exam #3 (30% of Course Grade)

No final exam will be given. The only exams are on the above three dates. Should you have a conflict with an exam date, you must notify the instructor within the first week of class. Make-up exams or rescheduling will only be allowed in extreme circumstances in accordance with university policies (see below).

PARTICIPATION (10%): Students will be evaluated on attendance and contribution to group discussion.

CREDIT/NO-CREDIT: In order to pass you must be present at all exams.

ADD/DROP/WITHDRAWAL:
For appropriate deadlines, please see your academic advisor. Important dates can also be found at http://registrar.utexas.edu/calendars/12-13/.

Q DROP POLICY
The State of Texas has enacted a law that limits the number of course drops for academic reasons to six (6). As stated in Senate Bill 1231: "Beginning with the fall 2007 academic term, an institution of higher education may not permit an undergraduate student a total of more than six dropped courses, including any course a transfer student has dropped at

another institution of higher education, unless the student shows good cause for dropping more than that number."

COURSE EVALUATIONS:
The standard Instructional Assessment and Evaluation form will be used.

RE-GRADING POLICY: You must dispute a grade within one week of receipt. After one week, all grades are final. All disputes must be presented during my office hours, and you must accompany each dispute with a clear and concise explanation in writing of why a re-grade is necessary.

USE OF BLACKBOARD:
In this class I use Blackboard—at http://courses.utexas.edu —to distribute course materials, to communicate and collaborate online, to post grades, to submit assignments, and to give you online quizzes and surveys. You can find support in using Blackboard at the ITS Help Desk at 475-9400, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., so plan accordingly.

CLASS WEB SITES AND STUDENT PRIVACY:
Web-based, password-protected class sites will be associated with all academic courses taught at the University. Syllabi, handouts, assignments and other resources are types of information that may be available within these sites. Site activities could include exchanging e-mail, engaging in class discussions and chats, and exchanging files. In addition, electronic class rosters will be a component of the sites. Students who do not want their names included in these electronic class rosters must restrict their directory information in the Office of the Registrar, Main Building, Room 1. For information on restricting directory information, see the General Information Catalog or go to: http://registrar.utexas.edu/catalogs/ug10-12/.

USE OF E-MAIL FOR OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE:
Email is recognized as an official mode of university correspondence; therefore, you are responsible for reading your email for university and course-related information and announcements. You are responsible to keep the university informed about changes to your e-mail address. You should check your e-mail regularly and frequently to stay current with university-related communications, some of which may be time-critical. You can find UT Austin's policies and instructions for updating your e-mail address at http://www.utexas.edu/its/policies/emailnotify.php.

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.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY & SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:
All students must abide by the University Code of Academic Integrity. For details see: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php. Plagiarism is a serious offense.

Though discussion of course topics is encouraged, copying of work in part or full is not permitted. Talking of any kind during exams is also prohibited. If you are unsure of what constitutes plagiarism please see http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis_avoid.php. Should plagiarism occur, a zero will automatically be given to both the student who copies and the student who provided the work. Penalties can also include failure of the course and disciplinary action at the university level. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty (see: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis.php) are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information, visit the Student Judicial Services web site http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/, and the General Information Catalog

DOCUMENTED DISABILITY STATEMENT:
The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 232-2937 (video phone).

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS:
By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.