Non-Human Primates

ANT 312 Section 001

Fall 2013, Lecture

Dr. Christopher Lynn

Tues/Thurs 9:30-10:45

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Prerequisites

Prerequisite(s): ANT 100 or ANT 270 or permission of the instructor.

Course Description

This course is an introductory survey of the world's living non-human primates. The focus is on the taxonomy, anatomy, behavior, ecology and cognition of our closest living relatives. It is intended both as a starting point for further coursework in primate behavior and as a survey course for non-science students.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the semester, you should be able to

- Demonstrate familiarity with the diversity of living primates
- Explain the relevance of primate studies to understanding human evolution
- Outline the basic differences between apes and monkeys and between Old World and New World primates
- Take an educated position on primate conservation efforts active in the world
• Communicate with classmates and the public about current primate research
• Collect ethological data and write an organized, coherent ethological report

**Required Texts**

**UA Supply Store Textbook Information**

| SAPOLSKY / PRIMATE'S MEMOIR *(Required)* |
| NYSTROM (RENTAL) / (RENTAL) LIFE OF THE PRIMATES *(RENTAL)* |
| NYSTROM (EBOOK) / LIFE OF THE PRIMATES *(Choose One)* |
| NYSTROM / LIFE OF THE PRIMATES *(Choose One)* |

**Other Course Materials**

Additional readings and other material will be posted on Blackboard, so be sure your Blackboard account is set up correctly so that you received messages relevant to the course in your email inbox.

**Outline of Topics**

**INTRODUCTION**

Class 1 *(Aug. 22)*: Administrative material and discussion in depth about the course objectives
READ: Nystrom chapter 1, Sapolsky chapter 1

Class 2 *(Aug. 27)*: Introduction to primates: "Social Climbers" movie/Primate biography #1
READ: Sapolsky chapters 2-3

Class 3 *(Aug 29)*: Primates in human thought through the ages
READ: "Ethnoprimatology" by Riley, Wolfe, & Fuentes (Blackboard), Sapolsky chap 4

Class 4 *(Sept 3)*: Primates and people
READ: Cormier 2006 (Blackboard), Sapolsky chap 5

**PRIMATE STUDIES**

Class 5 *(Sept 5)*: History of primatology
READ: "A Brief History of Primate Field Studies" (Blackboard), Sapolsky chap 6

Class 6 *(Sept 10)*: Primates in laboratory research/Primate biography #2
READ: "Primates in the Laboratory/Principles of Social Organization" (Blackboard), Sapolsky chap 7
Class 7 (Sept 12): Four seminal primate studies (part 1)
READ: Goodall 1972, Schaller 1972 (Blackboard)

Class 8 (Sept 17): Four seminal primate studies (part 2)
READ: Hall & DeVore 1972, Dolhinow 1972 (Blackboard)

Class 9 (Sept 19): Methods in primatology
READ: "Behavioral Data Collection in Primate Field Studies" (Blackboard), Sap ch 8

Class 10 (Sept 24): EXAM 1

PRIMATE EVOLUTIONARY ECOLOGY

Class 11 (Sept 26): Primate biogeography
READ: Nystrom ch 3, Sap ch 9

Class 12 (Oct 1): Issues in biogeography
READ: Korstjens et al 2010 (Blackboard), Sap ch 10

Class 13 (Oct 3): Primate body
READ: Nys ch 4, Sap ch 11

Oct 4: BIRMINGHAM ZOO FIELD TRIP (Tentative)

Class 14 (Oct 8): Issues in primate morphological ecology
READ: Cuozzo & Sauther 2012 (Blackboard), Sap ch 12

Class 13 (Oct 10): Primate evolution
READ: Nys ch 5, Sap ch 13

Class 14 (Oct 15): Issues in primate evolution
READ: Dunbar 2010 (Blackboard), Sap 14

Class 15 (Oct 17): Primate ecology
READ: Nys ch 6, Sap ch 15

Class 16 (Oct 22): Issues in primate ecology
READ: Marshall et al 2009 (Blackboard), Sap ch 16

Class 17 (Oct 24): EXAM 2

PRIMATE DISTRIBUTION AND SOCIAL BEHAVIOR

Class 18 (Oct 29): Primate social organization
READ: Nys ch 7, Sap ch 18

Oct 31: FALL BREAK

Class 19 (Nov 5): Prosimians: A Lemur’s Tale movie
Class 20 (Nov 7): Primate social relationships
READ: Nys ch 8, Sap ch 21

Class 21 (Nov 12): New World monkeys: Face in the Forest movie
READ: Sap chaps 22-23

Class 22 (Nov 14): Primate communication
READ: Nys ch 9, Sap ch 24

Class 23 (Nov 19): Old World monkeys: Baboon Tales movie
READ: Sap chaps 25-26

Class 24 (Nov 21): Great apes: Ape Genius movie
READ: Sap chaps 28-29

Class 25 (Nov 26): Primate brains and behavior
READ: Nys ch 10, Sap ch 27

Nov 28: HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

TOPICS IN PRIMATOLOGY

Class 26 (Dec 3): Primate conservation
READ: Nys ch 11

ZOO OBSERVATION ACTIVITY DUE

Class 30 (Dec 5): Evolutionary medicine--Stress movie
READ: Huffman 2011 (Blackboard)

Wed. Dec 11, 8-10:30 AM: FINAL EXAM

Exams and Assignments

Exams: There are two midterms and a final exam. Exams will consist of multiple-choice questions. The first two exams are not cumulative – i.e. each test will cover only the material since the previous exam. However, the final exam is cumulative, in addition to including material covered in the latter part of the course. The exams will cover material presented in lectures, in the assigned readings, and in the films. You must take exams on the scheduled dates. Make-ups will not be possible after the exam has been given unless you have an extraordinarily good excuse for missing the exam. If you know in advance that you will miss an exam, a makeup can be arranged for a time prior to the scheduled in-class exam – but you must give me plenty of notice (i.e. several days, at least).

Quizzes: There will be a quiz every time the class meets. Each quiz will be administered immediately at the beginning of class via Blackboard. This means you MUST BRING A DEVICE TO CLASS THAT CAN ACCESS THE INTERNET (I will bring an iPad for those of you who forget). Quizzes will only be accessible
during class and cannot be made up, whether your absence is unexcused or excused. The quiz will be 1-2 questions and will be based on the assigned readings in the Sapolsky book. DO ASSIGNED READINGS FOR EACH DATE BEFORE THE CLASS MEETS. It's also helpful for testing purposes and long-term memory to reread them again after lectures, but that won't help you on quizzes. This book is a light, fun read about baboons and the logistics of being a primatologist and should be easy to keep up with.

**Blogging:** There will be mandatory blogging about some readings and other material assigned for this course. You will each be given access to the course blog, "The Monkey Speaks His Mind." Further instructions will be provided via the blog pages and Blackboard.

**Presentations:** Everyone will do in-class "Primate Biography" presentations (in addition to blog posts) on specific primate species. Details will be posted in Blackboard and on the blog site here.

**Zoo Report (Due Dec. 1):** You will write a detailed scientific report of the primates at the Birmingham Zoo. The primary criteria for grading zoo reports are the completeness, quality, and detail of your descriptions and observations (can I visualize the animals and activities you are talking about?) and how well you followed the instructions; clarity of writing, use of formal English grammar, and correct spelling are expected. Neatness and appearance count, so that typing the report and organizing the material both help your grade, but photos and other inclusions (whether taken by you or a website) are optional and add very few points. Full, detailed instructions are available on Blackboard.

Following is the rubric that will be used to evaluate your report:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>METRICS</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part I (described all species)</td>
<td>4=good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part II (feeding &amp; locomotion)</td>
<td>3=fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part III (focal studies)</td>
<td>2=poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part IV (scan studies)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coherence (internal logic, organization, grammar, punctuation, spelling, prose style)</td>
<td>1=unacceptable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Policy**
This course uses the A-F grade system. Your final grade is determined by the percentage you earn out of 100%.

Exam 1 = 20%
Exam 2 = 20%
Final Exam = 20%
Participation (quizzes, presentations, blogging) = 20%
Ethology (Zoo) Report = 20%

Policy on Missed Exams & Coursework

Attendance: If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact a classmate to get notes from a particular lecture. Lectures will be recorded and available in a Tegrity folder on Blackboard, but I can neither guarantee the quality of these recordings nor meet with you to clarify a whole lecture because of an absence. It behooves you to use your primate social faculties to clarify material that you may not have understood during class or to help you clarify material you missed in conjunction with classmates’ shared notes. Remember, you will be penalized if you miss more than 2 lectures, so do not rely on this method.

Exams: If you miss an exam due to legitimate circumstances beyond your control, you may make it up if arrangements are made with me in a timely fashion (i.e., you should be able to get notice to me by the next day or within 3 under extreme circumstances). Legitimate circumstances may include illness sufficient to merit a visit to the Student Health Center (in which case, be prepared to provide proof of visit) or death or illness in the family. Under the latter circumstances, I expect you will be notifying other instructors of your absence in their classes too, which I may elect to verify.

Quizzes: Quizzes cannot be made up, whether you missed it because you were late to class or because you were absent (excused or unexcused).

Zoo Report: You must conduct the zoo report. You have all semester to find the time to do this project. Lack of transportation is not a suitable excuse. A good idea would be to carpool with classmates. If you cannot coordinate this, you can rent a Zipcar (http://www.zipcar.com/ualabama/). As a last resort, there is a Greyhound bus route between Tuscaloosa and Birmingham that leaves five times a day, but there is only bus service within Birmingham to the zoo during the week, so either plan your trip accordingly or use a taxi on the weekend. Alternatively, if you find yourself on vacation in another city with a good primate exhibit, you may conduct your zoo report there with prior approval. There are good primate facilities at zoos in Atlanta, Nashville, Memphis, and many other nearby cities (even Montgomery has a decent one) that may interest you.

Attendance Policy
ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY: Attendance is required and will be monitored. Quizzes are used to determine who is in attendance. IF YOU ARE LATE TO CLASS AND MISS THE QUIZ, YOU MUST PROVIDE ME A SHEET OF PAPER WITH YOUR NAME AND DATE ON IT OR YOU WILL BE MARKED AS ABSENT. More than two unexcused absences will result in your course grade being lowered by FIVE course points. It will be lowered by 5 additional courses points for every additional absence thereafter. That means 4 absences will cost you a whole letter grade; 10 absences will result in a failing grade for the course. However, you will receive 3 bonus course points if you have no absences. Classroom participation will not be directly graded but is likely to enhance your performance in the course.

Social Media

There is a closed Facebook group for this course at https://www.facebook.com/groups/ANT312/. Please join us. It is an ongoing forum for exchanging information about items in the news, pop culture, and other events (or your dirty little secrets, if you choose to expose them, I suppose). This is not required, but I have found it works better than Blackboard forums designed for the same purpose.

Also, "like" the UA Department of Anthropology (www.facebook.com/UAAAnthroDept) and the ALLELE series (www.facebook.com/ALLELEseries) on Facebook so that we can keep in touch with you and you can stay informed about our events and activities.

I also use Twitter as a way to share information during and between classes. We use hashtag #ant312. You can follow me @Chris_Ly and the department @BamaAnthro (Hint: During in-class films and other events, I am partial to tweeting notes for material I may include on exams).

**HOWEVER, it is extremely rude to be constantly texting or using your smartphone if you are not doing it for class. Therefore, if I see you on your device during class, I will be looking for course-relevant tweets. If you need to use your devices for anything but course work, take it into the hallway or I will ask you to do so.**

Extra Credit

You can receive extra credit by attending ALLELE events. I will award 2 points per event. Stay tuned for dates and instructions for receiving this credit.

Other opportunities may be announced.

Anthropology Major and Evolutionary Studies

This course fulfills an elective requirement in both the Anthropology major and Evolutionary Studies (EvoS) minor (http://www.as.ua.edu/evolutionarystudies/). If you are not an Anthropology major or minor and have not already decided to declare as such, we hope this course leads you to consider doing so. EvoS is an interdisciplinary minor, housed in the Department of Anthropology and is designed to introduce students to the fundamental importance of evolutionary theory as an explanatory model for life and behavior. This course fulfills an elective requirement in the EvoS minor. Other requirements of
the minor include two capstone courses (including ANT 150 and ANT 450, offered every Spring), a 200-level course in the biological principles of evolution, and a foundational course in one of three disciplines. Minors are required to complete six elective hours in two separate disciplines.

This program is integrated with UA's Evolution Working Group (EVOWOG) and its Alabama Lectures on Life's Evolution (ALLELE) speaker series ("Like" us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/ALLELEseries] to stay informed!). You are strongly encouraged to attend the ALLELE lectures presented this semester. This minor is part of a larger EvoS Consortium, which includes approximately 42 other institutions worldwide, though we are only one of four full-fledged minors. We take pride in this fact, given that Alabama recently scored at the very bottom of the 50 states in teaching evolution at the k-12 levels (even worse than Mississippi!).

As part of the EvoS program, the students have started an EvoS club that hosts an annual Darwin Day Colloquium. You are welcome to become part of this club whether you declare yourself an EvoS minor or simply maintain an abiding interest in evolutionary theory and its myriad applications and implications.

If you are interested in the EvoS minor (either to declare or for more information), contact either Dr. Lynn (cdlynn@ua.edu) or Dr. Rissler (rissler@as.ua.edu), who are co-directors of the program.

Severe Weather Guidelines

The guiding principle at The University of Alabama is to promote the personal safety of our students, faculty and staff during severe weather events. It is impossible to develop policies which anticipate every weather-related emergency. These guidelines are intended to provide additional assistance for responding to severe weather on campus.

UA is a residential campus with many students living on or near campus. In general classes will remain in session until the National Weather Service issues safety warnings for the city of Tuscaloosa. Clearly, some students and faculty commute from adjacent counties. These counties may experience weather related problems not encountered in Tuscaloosa. Individuals should follow the advice of the National Weather Service for that area taking the necessary precautions to ensure personal safety. Whenever the National Weather Service and the Emergency Management Agency issue a warning, people in the path of the storm (tornado or severe thunderstorm) should take immediate life saving actions.

When West Alabama is under a severe weather advisory, conditions can change rapidly. It is imperative to get to where you can receive information from the National Weather Service and to follow the instructions provided. Personal safety should dictate the actions that faculty, staff and students take.

The Office of University Relations will disseminate the latest information regarding conditions on campus in the following ways:

- Weather advisory posted on the UA homepage
- Weather advisory sent out through UA Alerts to faculty, staff and students
- Weather advisory broadcast over WVUA at 90.7 FM
- Weather advisory broadcast over Alabama Public Radio (WUAL) at 91.5 FM
• Weather advisory broadcast over WVUA-TV/WUOA-TV, and on the website at [http://wvuatv.com/content/weather](http://wvuatv.com/content/weather). WVUA-TV Home Team Weather provides a free service you can subscribe to which allows you to receive weather warnings for Tuscaloosa via e-mail or cell phone. Check [http://wvuatv.com/content/free-email-weather-alerts](http://wvuatv.com/content/free-email-weather-alerts) for more details and to sign up for weather alerts.

In the case of a tornado warning (tornado has been sighted or detected by radar; sirens activated), all university activities are automatically suspended, including all classes and laboratories. If you are in a building, please move immediately to the lowest level and toward the center of the building away from windows (interior classrooms, offices, or corridors) and remain there until the tornado warning has expired. Classes in session when the tornado warning is issued can resume immediately after the warning has expired at the discretion of the instructor. Classes that have not yet begun will resume 30 minutes after the tornado warning has expired provided at least half of the class period remains.

**Disability Statement**

If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss any course accommodations that may be necessary.

If you have a disability, but have not contacted the Office of Disability Services, please call (205) 348-4285 (Voice) or (205) 348-3081 (TTY) or visit 133-B Martha Parham Hall East to register for services. Students who may need course adaptations because of a disability are welcome to make an appointment to see me during office hours. Students with disabilities must be registered with the Office of Disability Services, 133-B Martha Parham Hall East, before receiving academic adjustments.

**Policy on Academic Misconduct**

All students in attendance at The University of Alabama are expected to be honorable and to observe standards of conduct appropriate to a community of scholars. The University of Alabama expects from its students a higher standard of conduct than the minimum required to avoid discipline. At the beginning of each semester and on examinations and projects, the professor, department, or division may require that each student sign the following Academic Honor Pledge: “I promise or affirm that I will not at any time be involved with cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, or misrepresentation while enrolled as a student at The University of Alabama. I have read the Academic Honor Code, which explains disciplinary procedure resulting from the aforementioned. I understand that violation of this code will result in penalties as severe as indefinite suspension from the University.”

See the [Code of Student Conduct](#) for more information.