

CLASS	Psychology / EEB 450: Animal Behavior Lecture TR 11:10 am– 12:25 pm PHY 304
INSTRUCTOR	Dr. Todd Freeberg 974-3975 tfreeber@utk.edu Austin Peay 211
Office Hours	Tue 1:00 – 2:00 and Thurs 2:00 – 3:30 pm [also virtual] Alternate times for office hours by appointment
TEXT	Nordell & Valone 2017 <i>Animal Behavior: Concepts, Methods, & Applications</i> , 2 nd Ed. Oxford Univ. Press.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In Psychology/EEB 450, we will critically analyze theories and research in the study of animal behavior. Work in this field is aimed at uncovering the mechanisms, development, function, and evolution of behavioral systems in non-human animals (and in our own species). As a student in the class, you will be engaged to think critically about the course material. We want you to do well in the class, and we will work as hard as we can to help you do well in the class. As part of the aims of the course, you will also be working with information from the primary scientific literature to understand material in the class.

COURSE OBJECTIVES By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- use scientific reasoning to interpret behavior [Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking]
- demonstrate literacy in scientific approaches to behavior [Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking]
- engage in integrative thinking and problem-solving [Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking]
- demonstrate effective writing for different purposes [Communication]
- interact effectively with others [Communication]
- describe key concepts and overarching themes in behavior [Knowledge Base in Psychology and Ecology & Evolutionary Biology]

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING We will assess how well course objectives are reached with:

- quizzes and in-class assessments (short quizzes over assigned readings and worksheets)
- tests and final exam (test over assigned reading and material covered in class)
- participation (student-based assays of student involvement in projects, in-class assessments)

DISABILITY SERVICES

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a documented disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 2227 Dunford Hall (telephone/TTY 865-974-6087; e-mail ods@utk.edu). This will ensure that you are properly registered for services.

ACADEMIC CONDUCT

If you have not already done so, you should consult the “Academic Policies” section of your UT 2016-2017 Undergraduate Catalog and the “Academic Affairs” and “Academic Conduct” sections of the HillTopics 2016-2017 Student Handbook. Briefly, by all means work with others in the class to learn the material – a great way to know if you have learned the material is whether you can successfully teach it to someone else. However, when it comes time to work on material that will be graded, do your own work. Understand the consequences if you are caught cheating – at minimum, a 0 on the Section Test; likely an “F” in the class.

CLASSROOM COURTESY

I want this class to be an interesting and enjoyable one for all of you as well as for me. For this to happen, we all need to respect one another. I expect you all to act like mature adults during class. Arrive to class on time – if you must arrive late, please settle into your seat as quickly and quietly as possible. Please do not talk during class (except for the many occasions you hopefully will ask and will answer questions).

On Mobile / Messaging Devices: If you have a cell-phone or any digital messaging device, we do NOT want to see or hear it in class, unless we are working specifically on something that requires their use.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

The schedule and reading assignments contained in this syllabus are subject to change. You are responsible for all announcements concerning changes in the course outline, readings, assignments, exams, and other matters made during class periods, whether or not you are in attendance when those announcements are made. Reading assignments for each class are listed in the course outline below.

-- Note to Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Recipients: If you wish to drop a course that would result in changing your status from full-time (12 or more hours) to part-time (11 hours or fewer), you must receive approval from the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships before doing so (974-3131). See Financial Aid website at: <http://onestop.utk.edu/your-money/financial-aid/>.

-- If you find you are having difficulty in any class you are taking and need assistance, a great resource at the university is the Student Success Center → <http://studentsuccess.utk.edu/>.

-- If on the day of a test the University cancels classes for whatever reason, the test will be held during the next class meeting.

COURSE OUTLINE

Date	Topic	Assigned Readings (Dugatkin 2014)
<u>FOUNDATIONS AND ULTIMATE APPROACHES</u>		
R 01-12	Introduction	Syllabus
T 01-17	Principles	Ch. 1
R 01-19	Methods	Ch. 2
T 01-24	Evolution	Ch. 3
R 01-26	xxxx	
T 01-31	Communication	Ch. 6
R 02-02	xxxx	
T 02-07	<i>Evolution of Animal Communication Video</i>	
R 02-09	TEST ONE	
<u>PROXIMATE APPROACHES</u>		
T 02-14	Behavioral Genetics	Ch. 4
R 02-16	xxxx	
T 02-21	Sensory Systems	Ch. 5
R 02-23	Learning	Ch. 7 [7.1 – 7.3]
T 02-28	Social Learning & Cognition	Ch. 7 [7.4 – end]
R 03-02	xxxx	
T 03-07	TEST TWO	
<u>BEHAVIORAL SYSTEMS I</u>		
R 03-09	Antipredator Behavior	Ch. 9
T 03-14	<i>Spring Break – No Class</i>	
R 03-16	<i>Spring Break – No Class</i>	
T 03-21	Sociality	Ch. 15
R 03-23	xxxx	
T 03-28	Territoriality & Aggression	Ch. 11 [11.2 – end]
R 03-30	xxxx	
<u>BEHAVIORAL SYSTEMS II</u>		
T 04-04	TEST THREE	
R 04-06	Mating Behavior	Ch. 12
T 04-11	Mating Systems	Ch. 13
R 04-13	<i>Dr. Ximena Bernal (Purdue University) readings on BB!</i>	
T 04-18	Parental Care	Ch. 14
R 04-20	xxxx	
T 04-25	TEST FOUR	
R 04-27	Wrapping Up / Review	
CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM FRIDAY 05 MAY 10:15 – 12:15		

xxxx: indicates supplemental readings from the science literature that will be posted to Blackboard at least a week before the class in which they will be discussed

GRADING

READING ASSESSMENTS Throughout the semester there will be unannounced reading assessments we will do. Reading assessments will use a combination of multiple choice, matching, and short answer questions. Reading assessments will be frequent (virtually every other class), and there may be more than one held during a particular class meeting time. These will be worth 10 points each. Your grade here will be based on the percentage of total points you get, for 100 possible points in the final course point breakdown (see below). For example, if we have 80 possible points on reading assessments by the end of the semester, and you obtain 70 of those points, you will earn an 87.5 for this component of the grading (calculation here = $(70/80)*100$). Your lowest reading assessment score will be dropped.

SCIENCE ARTICLE REVIEWS Throughout the semester, we will be discussing articles from the primary scientific literature in animal behavior. On many of these days, there will be an unannounced critical review of one of the science articles for that day. You will need to summarize key points of the science article we read, and tie the information from that article to the broader topics we have discussed in the class. Each science article review will be worth 20 points, and we will post a rubric that will be used for grading these reviews, so you know how points are being allotted. Your grade here will be based on the percentage of total points you get, as calculated above, for 100 possible points in the final course point breakdown. Your lowest science article review score will be dropped.

TESTS There are four tests. Each test will be a combination of multiple-choice and short answer questions, and is worth 100 points. Once the first test is handed in by a student on the day of a test, no additional tests will be handed out. So, make especially sure to arrive to class on time on the days of tests!

If you have a complaint about the grading for any of the essay questions, you will have **one week** from the date the test was handed back to bring that complaint to me for potential re-grading.

Regarding Make-Up Tests – Make-Up tests will be given only in special circumstances, which may include the death of an immediate family member, your hospitalization, or a student athlete or performer being absent from a test due to commitments with the University. To be eligible to take a Make-Up test, you **MUST** have documentation from a doctor, hospital or health clinic or from the University regarding your absence from the test. Finally, Make-Up tests are largely or completely essay format.

FINAL EXAM During finals week, we will have a final exam covering material from the entire semester. The final will be similar in format to the tests you will take, and will be worth 200 points.

EXTRA CREDIT Every test, and some of the reading assessments, will have extra credit points. That's it for extra credit!

<u>POINT BREAKDOWN</u>		reading assessments	100 points
		science article reviews	100 points
		test one	75 points
		test two	75 points
		test three	75 points
		test four	75 points
		final exam	200 points
<u>TOTAL POINTS = 700</u>			
<u>SCALE</u>		A	651 – 700
B+	609 – 629	B	581 – 608
C+	539 – 559	C	511 – 538
D+	469 – 489	D	441 – 468
		F	< 420
		A-	630 – 650
		B-	560 – 580
		C-	490 – 510
		D-	420 – 440