ANTH 375: Primates in Ecological Communities

Spring 2019

University of Oregon

Note: Please print this document for your records.

Course Location: 101 Knight Library (LIB)
Course Time: 2:00-3:20 pm, Tuesday and Thursday
Lab Location and Time: Condon Hall, Rm 204, Tuesdays

Instructor: Dr. Lawrence Ulibarri
Office: 354 Condon Hall
Office Hours/phone: Monday 9-11, Tuesday 3:30-5:00 and by appointment, 541-346-8188
E-mail: larryu@uoregon.edu

GE: Ms. Kylen Gartland, M.S.
Office: 302 Condon Hall
Office Hours: Thursday 4-6pm and by appointment
E-mail: kyleng@uoregon.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores our order, the Primates (strepsirhines, tarsiers, monkeys, apes and humans), in an ecological context. Humans are primates, humans are apes, and we share many adaptive features with nonhuman primates. Among other things, this includes a degree of complex and creative intelligence, complex communication systems, diverse feeding adaptations and diets, and a reliance on social groups. Primate ecology, or ecology in general, are diverse subjects. This encompasses many aspects including anatomy, physiology, morphology, life history, and social behavior. In our course, we will cover some areas in more detail than other areas, but we aim to cover the full range of primate ecology and the many ways in which primates interact with their environments.

Understanding the ecology, behavior, and evolution of non-human primates helps anthropologists to identify and interpret those features that unite us with the Primate Order. Throughout this course, we will look at evolutionary features that have defined and shaped the Order Primates, especially in regards to ecology and communities. We will also learn the taxonomy and evolutionary history of the primates, and evaluate the ways in which anatomy and ecology shape primate behavior. Lectures will include information from studies of primates in their natural habitats, lecture based discussions will encompass evolutionary and ecological perspectives, and lab/discussion sections will
run as a primate ecology field school. You will learn how to collect ecological data on primates and their environments, then we will collect data, and evaluate that data. Our labs are a break from tradition, and will be interactive and hands on from an outdoor and research perspective. We will attempt to recreate the full process of primate ecological research from project design to data reporting. In this way, our labs complement our lectures and discussion. However, they are two separate components of a larger holistic understanding of primates in ecological communities.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After successful completion of this course, students will have an understanding of the following key issues in the study of primate communities and primate ecologies:

- Describe and analyse the ecological components of primate communities. This will be measured throughout the course in our classroom discussions and guest lectures, the exams, and in the lab research exercise.
- Participate in discussions related to primate ecology, including critical analysis questions, and extra-course reading. This will be measured in our Guest Lectures and participation.
- Learn about primate ecology research methods, then conduct research, analyze your results, and write a scientific research paper by applying knowledge of the ecological components discussed in our lecture and the readings. This will be measured by your final project presentation.
- Develop an understanding for how knowledge of primate ecology can allow for critical thinking about primates and primate conservation, and role of anthropology in studying primates (human and non-human primates). This will be partly measured by our classroom activities, in exams, and in your final lab research project.

COURSE FORMAT

The course is designed in a Lecture/Discussion and Lab Format. There will be two lecture meetings per week. Most often, lectures will consist of presenting and discussing information about primates and ecology, or information relevant to labs. During 3 to 4 Lecture classes, there will be a guest lecturer and you will need to come prepared to discuss and ask questions based on the readings provided to you that week, and relevant to the guest lecturer. This will give you a chance to discuss components of the lecture, readings, and labs that are both interesting to you and related to ongoing and recent primate research projects. Our lab/discussion sections overlaps with our lectures and in-lecture discussions. Our labs will be run as a primate ecology field school. You will learn how to collect ecological data on primates and their environments, then we will collect data, and evaluate that data. At the end of the term, all students will submit their final lab project, which will be the culmination of your “primate” ecology research. In total, students should expect to spend **15 to 20 hours** during the term working outside of class time for this course, including the time devoted to reading, studying, developing
and designing questions for guest lecturers, and developing, expanding, revising, and designing your final lab research and research paper.

CANVAS

This course is supported by an online CANVAS site. Our Canvas learning support site will help you to complete academic work and study for exams. As this is an online site, you can access it anywhere. Online articles, relevant links, notes, and other relevant information will be included on the course site. PLEASE GO TO MODULES to find all of this information, which will be uploaded each week. Course notes will not be uploaded until after class, usually by the end of the week. There will be weekly articles that you are required to read in addition to our book chapters. Those articles will be provided to you online.

When you register for the class, you will automatically be enrolled in our canvas site. All problems concerning the use of Canvas should be handled at the ITC center in the Knight Library. Issues more specifically related to the accessibility of course material should be directed to me. Make sure that you regularly check your e-mail account which will notify you of material and announcements placed on our Canvas site.

EXPECTATIONS AND GRADING

Regular attendance, participation, and maintaining course readings are required to pass this course. Grades are based on a 40/60 split of the lab and lecture, meaning they are both essential for you to pass and do well in this course. For the lecture there are two exams (midterm and final exams). For labs there are weekly lab exercises, and participation/attendance. There is a final project in our course that is based off of the labs and the lecture combined, and this final project counts for a significant portion of your grade. Under no circumstances will make-up assignments or extensions be given without a documented and cleared excuse (see Accommodations). If you miss a scheduled lab you will not be able to make it up, given the amount of time and material required to set-up each lab and practical. You will not receive credit for a late assignment unless you notify your GE in advance. Evaluation of your course grade will be based on the following components:

1) Participation in Guest Lectures and in-class exercises – this includes attending, and bringing questions to ask based on the readings and the guest lecture itself. For guest lectures, those questions will be turned in at the end of class. For in-class exercises such as video documentaries, question sheets will handed out and those need to be turned in at the end of class. These assignments cannot be made up without under any circumstance outside of an AEC or UO approved Student Support Service accommodation.
2) Exams – There will be one midterm and one final exam. These exams are objective, and are meant to test your understanding of the readings and lecture materials. These consist mostly of Multiple Choice and Short Answer/Essay questions. Each exam will only focus on material covered in one half of the course. There is also one lab exam. You will be giving the answers in the previous lab class, and all you need to do is memorize a code for the ethogram.

3) Lab worksheets – each lab has a worksheet that students complete and it will be graded in terms of your participation, completion, and understanding of the materials.

4) Lab attendance – attendance is required for labs.

5) Lab final assignment – At the end of the semester, each student will submit their completed primate ecology research project. You will need to devote out of class time to completing this assignment, and grading will be based on its quality, the effort put into making it a capstone research paper, and your scientific writing ability. Examples of projects will be provided on Canvas. Your research paper will include the following sections:
   a. Introduction section discussing what you studied and why it is important in understanding ecology
   b. Methods section discussing all of your methods in detail, from data design to data collection and data evaluation
   c. Results section presenting the hard data in BOTH written form and in tables, graphs, illustrations, photos, maps, etc.
   d. Discussion section talking about the significance of you data and how it relates to primate ecology, readings, lectures and discussion from our class, etc.
   e. Conclusion section, summarizing your results and your discussion.

GRADING
The weight of each form of evaluation to the total course grade is as follows:

- Participation in Guest lectures and in-class exercises 12% (25 pts)
- Mid-term exam 24% (50 pts)
- Final Exam 24% (50 pts)
- Lab Exam 5% (5 pts)
- In-lab worksheets (6x) 10% (20 pts)
- Lab attendance (10x) 5% (10 pts)
- Final project in Lab section 20% (50 pts)

TOTAL 100% (210 pts)

Grades will be assigned as follows:
A+ = 97% and above.
A = 93-96.9%,
A- = 90-92.9%
B+ = 87-89.9%
B = 83-86.9%,
B- = 80-82.9%

C+ = 77-79.9%
C = 73-76.9%,
C- = 70-72.9%

D+ = 67-69.9%
D = 63-66.9%,
D- = 60-62.9%

F = 59.9% and below

There is no extra credit for this course.

REQUIRED TEXTS

There is only one required textbook for our class. This can be bought at the Duckstore, or it can be bought online through sites like Amazon or Barnes & Noble. Please make sure you have this book as soon as possible so you can appropriately discuss the material.


ACCOMMODATIONS

Appropriate accommodations will be provided for students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet or discuss with me immediately. You will need to provide me with a notification letter from Disability Services outlining your approved accommodations.

I will post my lecture slides online after each lecture, and typically at the end of the week.

Exams and assignments must be taken/turned in at the scheduled time—under no circumstances will make-up exams or assignment extensions be given without a documented excuse (see Personal issues). If you will not be able to take an exam or turn in an assignment, you must notify us in advance (preferably by e-mail).
PERSONAL ISSUES

If there is a serious issue related to your ability to participate in our course, you need to contact me immediately. Delay in asking for help right away will cause you to fall seriously behind in the course, and make-up work will not be accepted unless prior accommodations have been made. Examples of serious issues include you are ill or there is a family death, and can provide a doctor’s note explaining that it is not advisable for you to participate in our class. Additionally, a conference participation, participation in or travel associated with other events related to campus organizations, clubs, or groups so long as you can provide verification from student services.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The University of Oregon and I consider academic honesty to be essential for each student’s intellectual development. As an institution fundamentally concerned with the free exchange of ideas, our University depends on the academic integrity of each of its members. In the spirit of this free exchange, students and teachers of our University recognize the necessity, and accept the responsibility, for academic honesty. As a student who enrolls in this course, you agree to respect and acknowledge the research and ideas of others in your work and to abide by those rules in both lecture and lab classes.

Plagiarism:
Plagiarism is defined as the use of intellectual material produced by another person without acknowledging its source. For example:
- Wholesale copying of passages from works of others into an discussion or presentation
- Using the views, opinions, or insights of another without acknowledgment
- Paraphrasing another person’s characteristic or original phraseology, metaphor, or other literary device without acknowledgment
For further information about the UO policy on plagiarism and matters of social conduct, please refer to your student handbook. Also, the UO provides excellent resources to help you avoid plagiarism. Check out http://library.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students/index.html. Please, for your protection and development, cite you sources properly and do not plagiarize. You can find proper use and examples of the APA citation method at the University of Oregon library website: http://researchguides.uoregon.edu/citing-plagiarism/styleguides
NOTE: Class schedule is subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, or otherwise modified as appropriate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates (m/d)</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Required Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>04/02</td>
<td>Introduction to primate ecology</td>
<td>Ch. 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>04/04</td>
<td>Primate Ecology cont.</td>
<td>Ch. 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Labs – Reading a compass</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>04/09</td>
<td>Strepsirhines and Tarsiers</td>
<td>Ch. 4, 5, 6</td>
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<td></td>
<td>04/11</td>
<td>New World Monkeys</td>
<td>Ch. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Labs – Reading a Map (and a compass, together)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>04/16</td>
<td>Old World Monkeys</td>
<td>Ch. 12, 13, 14, 15, 16</td>
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<td>04/18</td>
<td>Apes</td>
<td>Ch. 17, 18, 19, 20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Lab – GPS</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>04/23</td>
<td>Video</td>
<td>Articles online</td>
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<td></td>
<td>04/25</td>
<td>Methods in primatology</td>
<td>Ch. 21, 22, 23, 24</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Labs – Transects and Phenology</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>04/30</td>
<td>Discussing methods and your lab project</td>
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<td></td>
<td>05/02</td>
<td>Guest Lecture, Professor Frances White, bonobos and lemurs</td>
<td>Articles online</td>
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<td>Tue</td>
<td>Labs – Ethogram EXAM and behavioral data collection tutorial (come dressed for the weather, this is going to happen outside, rain or sun)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>05/07</td>
<td>Midterm – in class</td>
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<td>05/09</td>
<td>Primate life history</td>
<td>Ch. 25, 26, 27, 28</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Labs – More data collection</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>05/14</td>
<td>Primate reproduction</td>
<td>Ch. 29, 30</td>
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<td>05/16</td>
<td>Guest Lecture, Dr. Ulrike Streicher DMV, lorises and conservation</td>
<td>Articles online</td>
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<td>Tue</td>
<td>Labs – More data collection, start entering your data into excel for analysis</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>05/21</td>
<td>Primate predation</td>
<td>Chapter 35</td>
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<td>05/23</td>
<td>Social systems</td>
<td>Ch. 32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Labs – Evaluating you data – Statistics, correlations. Are there relationships between your data and ecological variables?</td>
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| 9 | 05/28 | Guest Lecture, Dr. Ulibarri, doucs in Vietnam | Articles online |
| 05/30 | Primate feeding ecology, nutritional ecology, and locomotion Discussion research projects | Ch. 33, 34, 36 |
| Tue | Labs – making graphs, making maps, composing the final paper |

| 10 | 06/04 | Guest Lecture #4 TBA | Articles online |
| 06/06 | Primate Conservation (or Video) | Ch. 45, 46, 47 |
| Wed | Labs – finishing touches on your final project, lab evaluation and discussion. Final research papers are due to by Friday June 07th to the GE by 5:00pm. |

| 11 | 06/13 | Thursday: Final Exam, same room (101 LIB) Time – 12:30 – 2:30 pm |
| finals week | | | |