

ANT3930 The Primates familiarizes students with the basic behavioral and morphological adaptations of nonhuman primates and builds on this knowledge to examine basic comparative biology and evolutionary ecology. Scientific and popular media (e.g., documentaries include ancient Jane Goodall/National Geographic videos; cable programs featuring primates, dolphins and other social animals seen as clever; movie animations with animal protagonists, which are portrayed as morally and intellectually superior to humans.



The Primates ANT 3930

Research Opportunities in
Boinski Lab, including with
course Credit: ANT4905

Flint Hall, Rm 0117
Tuesday 4th period & Thursday 4th & 5th period

Tuesday 4th period is usually allocated to media. Thursday 4th & 5th periods are Lectures.

Instructor: Dr. Sue Boinski; Office: Turlington B364; Lab: Turlington B367

Office hours: Monday 2-3:45 pm; **Thursday** 1-1:50pm & by appt.

Email: boinski@ufl.edu; Course web site: Supported by e-Learning in Sakai, ANT3930:9558 (Boinski), Spring 2011

One Required Paperback Text: Redmond, I. 2008. **The Primate Family Tree (PFT).**

Firefly Books. (Note: the identical text was republished under a different title & cover in 2010).

Optional text: Rowe, Noel. 1995. **Pictorial Guide to the Living Primates (PGLP).**

Pogonias Press.

Course Objectives:

1. To understand the social and physical diversity within Primates.
2. To understand the application of taxonomy and comparative biology.
3. To understand the interplay of natural selection, environment, morphology and behavioral adaptation in nonhuman primates.
4. To use nonhuman primates as an entrée to understand the biological basis of human social behavior and cognitive abilities.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course explores the behavioral biology and evolution of nonhuman primates, with emphasis on concepts and hypothesis testing. Special attention is given to introducing the basic patterns and processes underlying individual, sex and species differences in primate foraging, anti-predator tactics, sociality, reproduction and communication. Students learn basic primate taxonomy and shared and derived traits distinguishing primate families and genera and some species. We compare and contrast PRIMATE PATTERNS (e.g., behavior, morphology and ecology) to assess PRIMATE PROCESSES (e.g., ecology, evolution, individual tactics; influence of environmental and social variables on individuals and species, age, sex and individual strategies). Course structure is combination of lectures, media presentations and discussions, and designed to be interactive. Questions, comments and other discussion are strongly encouraged.

The Primates complements a wide range of undergraduate coursework in Anthropology, Biology, Psychology, and various environmental sciences. The class is an upper division Anthropology course with no prerequisites. Those students completing **The Primates ANT 3930** may take **Primate Behavior ANT 4445 / ANG 6552**, and vice versa.

E-LEARNING with Sakai: Spring 2011 will be the fourth semester ANT 3930 is taught, i.e., many of the kinks are worked out. However, this is the first semester ANT 3930 is integrated with Sakai. Students are to expect kinks expected. The Course URL will be operating soon.

COURSE CONTENT: The required PFT text is popular science, i.e., not intended for a textbook. Therefore, additional required material is presented in pdfs of the lectures, which are posted on the class web site or emailed directly to students if the class web site is dysfunctional. On the other hand, PFT presents multiple figures and tables containing content that students are required to master. These figures and tables will be explicitly listed. The taxonomy on page as 30 & 31 is central to the course.

Study guides list lecture and text vocabulary words, issues and concepts liable to exams. To further explore concepts and taxa beyond lectures & texts, students are encouraged to use Wikipedia, *reviewed* or patently reputable scientific media including -but not limited to -reviewed websites linked to the course site. The emphasis evident in the lecture & text covaries with exam material. Those actually attending class and review sessions harvest beaucoup hints otherwise unavailable. Material is repeated from posted & prior class exams. All other likely test material is explicitly communicated prior to the exam.

Students are required to attend Tuesday classes; media showings are integral to course material. Students are not expected, however, to memorize media content. Instead, the media highlight, illustrate and often introduce themes developed in detail in lecture and the textbook. Students will be liable for the broad themes and issues contained in media on Tuesday as well as flagged media posted on the Sakai class web site. Additionally, exams may ask simple questions to assess whether the student attended and paid attention to media, e.g., the country is the setting for "Rhesus Romeo & Juliet" or the specific landscape prominently featured in "Baboon Tales."

FLASHCARD PROJECT: As an alternative to the term paper, each student prepares a (ideally) thoughtful, informative, expansive and accurate set of Flashcards using the template emailed to each student, which will also be available on the class site. Preparation and frequent use of a thorough set of student-prepared flashcards are a pedagogical tool guaranteed to greatly promote the student's mastery of course content and the likelihood of receiving A as the semester grade.

The file of student flash cards will be assessed twice during the semester: after the first mid term and after the final, i.e., at the conclusion of the semester.

EXAMS: Three exams are scheduled, two mid-terms and comprehensive final exam. No multiple-choice questions are anticipated, but the occasion might arise. Reliance is placed on short answers and essay questions for test material. Exam questions will come from material from lectures, media (including student Flashcard projects) and textbooks. Students may be required to identify primate taxa based. Exemplar exams will be available in abundance.

Participation, Contribution & Preparation: Students are expected to read weekly reading assignments for each week's classes prior to class meetings and study the lectures posted afterward. Students are also expected to initiate or participate in class discussion. Be forewarned that the instructor will bias questioning in class toward persistently reticent students. That is, those reticent that do not redirect their participation to contributions to the course website. To further encourage class preparation and participation, a series of 'pop' quizzes may be initiated. The number and detail of these unannounced quizzes will vary in inverse relation to the general level of student preparation.

ATTENDANCE: Previous semesters demonstrate that course grade points significantly and positively covary measure with class attendance. Each student receives 2 "passes" to media Tuesdays and one pass to a lecture Thursday. Passes do not apply to scheduled exams. Pop quizzes cannot be made up unless an official medical, etc. excuse is provided. Students are requested to inform the instructor in advance of anticipated absences that conflict with exams, e.g., wedding and other family events, conferences. But life has surprises. Please send the instructor an email if family matters, illness or other events arise that prevent class attendance during a scheduled

exam. Students missing exams must also provide the instructor a medical exemption or other verifiable document.

GRADING:

Any reliable student who perseveres, completes assignments and participates in class will do well. The Primates is not a 'weeder' class, i.e., a course designed as a gauntlet such that only a minority of students receives **A** or **B** grades. The goal is for each student to acquire and/or practice diverse critical thinking skills, as well as having fun mastering an intriguing body of empirical data with many as yet unexplored testable hypotheses.

Practice Quiz (0%, not seen by instructor) 27 Jan 2011

Midterm1 Exam (15%) TH, 3 Feb 2011

Midterm2 Exam (20%) TH, 3 Mar 2011

Final Exam (30%) 19 Apr 2011

Flashcard (15%) a) by 17 Mar 2011; b) no later than day of Final Exam

Participation (10%) questions, media, discussion and other contributions to class or website; includes possible pop quizzes

Attendance (10%) Student has 2 passes to a regular Tuesday Media and one pass to a regular lecture Thursday

EXTRA Credit: Students can make a "Primate" calendar, laden with non-human primate related images and accurate information. The idea is that a student uses any of the many freely available calendar templates to produce an educational tool that transmits knowledge and provokes curiosity concerning nonhuman primates. For submission (by the final exam date) student will upload an electronic file format of the calendar onto the class web site. Students obtaining the instructor's permission are welcome to produce alternative extra credit projects. Up to 10 % additional grade points may potentially be obtained with this project. The instructor anticipates, however, that most submitted projects will garner about 5-7% extra points.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH: Students can register for 1-2 credits in ANT 4905 Individual Work and ANT 4907 Research Projects helping process monkey field data. Ideally, students will segue from this introduction to developing an honors thesis. The registration can be downloaded at.

www.anthro.ufl.edu/documents/Independent%20study-research%20form.pdf

Classroom Accommodation

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Week & Date (Tuesday)	Noteworthy events, media (<i>Tuesday, period 4</i>) & lecture (<i>Thursday, period 4 & 5</i>)	Readings in text & Website
1 6Jan2011	Introduction . Only class meeting is 2-hr period on Thursday, 6 Jan 2011.	♣ Read first 2 sections of text
2 11Jan2011	T Media : BBC video series, Cousins, Part I, The First Primates	♣ Read third section of text
3 18Jan2011	T Media : BBC video series, Cousins, Part II, Monkeys	
4 25Jan2011	Prosimians T Media : BBC video series, Cousins, Part III, Apes	
5 1Feb2011	Practice Quiz : Tuesday, 1 February self graded Exam 1 : Thursday, 3 February (~last 45 minutes): <i>Exam will cover all coursework through 27 January.</i>	♣ Read 4 th textbook section
6 15Feb11	Prosimians	♣ Monkeys of Suriname pamphlet. ♣ Reprint #1, Squirrel monkey birth synchrony
7 22Feb11	New World Primates 1st electronic submission of flashcards	♣ Reprint #2, Squirrel monkey habitat use
8 28Feb11	New World Primates	
9 1Mar11	New World Primates Exam 2 : Thursday 3 March (~ last hour)	♣ Reprint #3, Squirrel monkey mating patterns
10 8Mar11	Spring Vacation Monday 7 March thru Friday 11 March	
11 15Mar11	Old World Monkeys	Read text section 5
12 22Mar11	Old World Monkeys	
13 29Mar11	Old World Monkeys	Read text section 6 & 7

13 29Mar11	Old World Monkeys	Read text section 6 & 7
14 5Apr11	Apes	
15 12Apr11	Apes	
16 19Apr11	FINAL Tuesday April 19 th , 4 th period (Date not yet cast in concrete.) Final is cumulative but emphasizes latter part of course. Deadline for 2 nd electronic submission of flashcards	