



## Primate Behavior ANT 4552 section 8009 **FALL 2011**

Meeting Periods: **Thursdays, 10:40-11:30** (periods 4-6)

Classroom: **0010 Matherly**

Instructor: Dr. **Sue Boinski**; Office: **B364 Turlington Hall**; Email: **boinski@ufl.edu**;

Office Hours: **Tuesday 1-3 pm; Wednesday 1-2pm** and by appointment; Phone: 392.2253 x 201

Sakai E-learning Web site: **ANT4552:8009, Fall 2011**

<https://elearning2.courses.ufl.edu/portal/site/fb9c7754-86e4-4ca9-82b9-7e86a3907a05>

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course content is Prosimians, Monkeys and Apes and with emphasis on the behavioral ecology and evolution of individuals, sexes and social groups. And Humans are primates. Current ideas are that the first primates appeared ~ 80 million years ago. For more than 60 million years, humans and nonhuman primates have shared the same primate ancestry. The last common ancestor of humans and African apes lived only about 5-8 million years ago.

Shared ancestry is a major reason why human and nonhuman primates have many characteristics in common -- tool use, long-lasting social relationships and intricate, distinctive communication systems. By learning about nonhuman primates, we may therefore come to learn more about ourselves. In effect, nonhuman primates can be transcendent, showing us both the similarities and differences of between ourselves and nonhuman primates. Exploiting nonhuman primates for novel perspectives on humans, however, requires that the course material for ANT4552 Primate Behavior also encompass behavioral sampling, the comparative method and cost-benefit analyses of behavioral strategies.

A maximum of 25 undergrads can be registered for ANT4552, section 8009, Fall Semester 2011. This course is recommended for upper division students unless a student has exceptional preparation. For ANT4552 strives to be more seminar than lecture; think intro to a full-fledged grad seminar. While a description of intriguing nonhuman primates is fine, we address the structures, mechanisms, functions, ontogeny, and evolutionary history of primate behavior.

**OBJECTIVES OF ANT 4552:**

1. To understand the basic behavioral, social and physical diversity of the Order Primates, as well as basic Primate taxonomy.
2. To understand that the behavioral adaptations of nonhuman primates reflect the interplay of natural and sexual selection, environment and morphology.
3. To understand the fundamental principles taxonomy, phylogeny and comparative biology, particularly as concerns nonhuman primates.

**Textbooks, Required Readings & Other Course Resources**

◆ Strier, K. Primate Behavior and Ecology (**PBE**), **4th** ed. W.H. Freeman & Company. Do *not* purchase either the 2nd or 3rd editions. Your instructor is not responsible for accommodating students purchasing the wrong edition.

◆ Don't panic if Gainesville bookstores do not stock the Strier 3rd edition. Local bookstores seldom stock texts for classes with less than a horde of students. Amazon.com and the many used book outlets linked with Amazon.com provides a fair sample of **Strier 4th** edition prices x condition.

◆ **Optional** pdf readings and are media may be posted on the Sakai class web site (hereafter the **web site**). The instructor will select those posted and encourages students to submit additional educational materials via the website, for possible use in class or posting on the web site. These short texts or other media expand the textbook on issues the instructor deems important as well as underscoring the broader societal and scientific implications of primate behavioral ecology. Those students reading the short articles will profit in multiple ways. (1) The opportunity to harvest of extra credit points in exams and quizzes. (2) Glowing more brightly in class discussions.

◆ Media shown in class and available on web site reinforce formal text and lecture material. These materials also provide specific examples of concepts concerning nonhuman primates, which are required components of many exam questions

PRIMATE BEHAVIORAL  
ECOLOGY  
*Fourth Edition*



*Karen B. Strier*

**GRADING AND EXAMS**

**Quizzes:  $\Sigma=15\%$ :** One scheduled quiz (5%) occurs before Exam1. After Exam1, one other quiz is scheduled (10%). Several unannounced “pop” quizzes are possible if the instructor deems useful in motivating student study. Only the highest two scores will be employed in calculating student scores. A *PRACTICE EXAM* will precede the first quiz by a week. Each student will grade their own practice quiz, which never be examined by the instructor – unless the student requests direct feedback.

**Exams:  $\Sigma=60\%$ :** EXAM1 (26%); EXAM2 (35%) on December 7th, last day of class. Be forewarned that by necessity some information subject to EXAM1 may be addressed again in latter parts of the seminar.

**Participation: 25%:** Individual participation in class, i.e., asking questions and/or providing comments. Also media and reprint submission for class use.

**Attendance:** Reflected in sitting exams and quizzes as scheduled and occasional attendance checks. See make-up work policy below. Students attending class sporadically rarely do well

**Class Participation:**

Students should be prepared to discuss the week's topic by reading the assigned

readings prior to class (See following page for assignments). Participation is expected and encouraged. In addition to the textbook, emphasize to lectures and, especially, the study guide.

### Class Performance:

1. **DO NOT:** Text on cell phone, use/answer your phone (please put on silent ring), sleep or have personal conversations unrelated to class room purposes. Although these are natural human behaviors, we would prefer for these activities to remain in the proper habitat ---outside of the classroom. Disengage completely from the web in its various incarnations unless directly salient to the course. Please make valiant efforts to maintain engagement with the class, not a social media account.

2. We are in the class room for an extended period. A limited number of discrete, brief departures from the lectureAt natural breaks in the class content, students will be encouraged to take a brief recess. Discrete consumptions of beverages is allowed. Please refrain from eating during class. Many individuals are unaware of the distractions they can make in the classroom.

### Class Communication:

Use the SAKAI mail system for communications in preference to email. This allows the instructor to compile course material in one location. All links and attachments are best sent via the web site.

### POLICIES ON MAKE-UP WORK:

(A) The website material will provide back up for missed classes.

(B) Missing seminar during exam and quiz dates is costly without an official UF-accepted refusal. All work, including exams and quizzes, should be completed within one week. Important events in a student's personal schedule may conflict with exam and quiz dates, e.g., MCAT exams and weddings. For whatever reason, students having advance notice of missing an exam or quiz are fervently encouraged to take the exam or quiz BEFORE the scheduled date.

(C) Students missing an exam without an official excuse or prior arrangements will be provided an opportunity to make up the exam, but with a deduction in feasible maximum credit. Those missing a quiz under similar circumstances will not have an opportunity to make up the quiz

(D) Not every contingency can be predicted. Life happens. May we all enjoy a wonderfully educational, healthy, productive and tranquil Fall Semester 2011.

**Final Grades.** Final grades are assigned based on the cumulative weighted percentage of earned points.

Quizzes:	= 15%
EXAM1:	= 20%
EXAM2:	= 35%
Participation	= 25%

### Grading scale in Cumulative Earned Percentiles

A = 92-100	C = 72-77.00
A- = 90-91.99	C- = 70-71.99
B+ = 88-89.99	D+ = 68-69.99
B = 82-87.99	D = 62-67.99
B- = 80-81.99	D- = 60-61.99
C+ = 78-79.99	E = <60

C- grade will not count for major, minor, or general education

credit. See link for undergrad regulations

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

**Academic Honesty:** All students are expected to honor their commitment to the University's Honor Code and the student conduct code. Violations will lead to the Department's and the University's procedures for dealing with academic dishonesty.

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** 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. Please make any requests by the second week of class.

### **UF Counseling Services**

Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals that interfere with their academic performance. These resources include: University Counseling and Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 392-1575, personal and career counseling. Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual counseling. Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance and counseling. Reading & Writing Center, Broward Hall, 392-0791, writing assistance, study skills, test preparation

**Practice Quiz 1:** Week 5 September 22

**Quiz 1:** Week 6 September 29

**Exam1:** Week 8 October 13

**Quiz 2:** Week 12 November 10

*'Pop' quizzes may be given between Week 9 (October 20) through Week 14 (November 24). Only the two highest quiz scores will contribute to semester grade.*

**Exam2:** Week 15 December 1



**Schedule of Lecture Topics and Readings from Text** See study guide and class web site. PDFs of lectures will be posted on class web site. Media will be shown as availability, salience and lecture material permit.

<b>WEEK #/ DATE &amp; Exams</b>	<b>Readings from STRIER ; salient class activities; and student notes</b>
<b>Week 1 August 25</b>	Chapter 1 Intro to Primate Studies Video: Cousins, The First Primates ****
<b>Week 2 September 1</b>	Chapter 2 Traits, Trends and Taxonomy Video: Cousins, Monkeys; portion of Apes ***
<b>Week 3 September 8</b>	Chapter 3 Primates Past to Present
<b>Week 4 September 15</b>	Chapter 3 Primates Past to Present Video: to be determined ***
<b>Week 5 September 22</b> <b>PRACTICE QUIZ</b>	Chapter 4 Evolution and Social Behavior ***
<b>Week 6 September 29</b> <b>QUIZ1</b>	Chapter 5 Evolution and Sex ***
<b>Week 7 October 6</b>	Chapter 6 Food, Foraging & Females *****
<b>Week 8 October 13</b> <b>EXAM1</b>	Chapter 7 Female Strategies ***
<b>Week 9 October 20</b>	Chapter 8 Male Strategies ***
<b>Week 10 October 27</b>	Chapter 9 Developmental Stages through the Life Span ***
<b>Week 11 November 3</b>	Chapter 10 Communication & Cognition ***
<b>Week 12 November 10</b> <b>QUIZ2</b>	Chapter 11 Community Ecology ***
<b>Week 13 November 17</b>	Chapter 12 Conservation ***
<b>Week 14 November 24</b>	<b>NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING VACATION</b> Review session to be scheduled. ***
<b>Week 15 December 1</b> <b>EXAM 2</b>	Last Class and Second (LAST) <b>EXAM2</b> Review session first hour followed by two hour exam.