

Department of Anthropology

University of Florida

ANT4930 and ZOO4926

Primate Ecology

Spring 2021

Class Days and Time:

Tuesdays: 3:00-4:55

Thursdays: 4:05-4:55

Office Location: Turlington Hall, B123

Instructor: Dr. Kim Valenta

Email: kimvalenta@ufl.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

Contacting the Instructor: I will be available to meet online with students for questions about the assigned readings, written or other course assignments, and general discussion about ecology, primates, and field work. *Please do not hesitate to email me*; I will respond to emails received Monday-Friday within 24 hours, and by Monday morning at the latest to emails received on Saturday-Sunday.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will provide an overview of key concepts and fields of research in ecology, using primates as a system.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES: The goal of this course is that students have a comprehensive background in ecology, and a nuanced understanding of current ecological questions as they pertain to the study of primates.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- **Exam One (25%)** - This test will be multiple choice and short answer format and will cover all preceding lecture materials and readings.
- **Exam Two (25%)** - This test will be multiple choice and short answer format (same as Term Test One) and will cover lecture materials and readings since Term Test One.
- **Exam Three (25%)** – This test will be multiple choice and short answer format, and will *cover all materials from the beginning of the course.*

- **Final presentation (25%)** – You will give a 12 minute talk on a research topic of your choice during one of the mini-conferences.

Please note that ALL lecture materials will be covered in exams and this includes discussions, movies, and guest lectures.

Academic Accommodations – It is the students' responsibility to request academic accommodations. Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Missed Exams & Assignments – Missed tests and assignments will automatically receive a score of zero. In the event of an emergency or illness before an exam, please contact the instructor (kimvalenta@ufl.edu) **BEFORE** the exam. Documentation **MUST** be provided before a make-up test will be scheduled.

Returned Exams – Exams will not be returned to the student but can be discussed by appointment. Marks for exams and assignments will be posted on Canvas not more than one week after exams are taken.

No accommodation will be made for poor performance on exams. For instance, additional items cannot be submitted in lieu of exams and grades will not be curved. Be sure that you are well-prepared for exams so that you perform well when you have the opportunity.

Academic Integrity – During this course, students are expected to conduct themselves and to complete all work in accordance with the principles of honesty, accountability, fairness, and respect put forth by the University of Florida.

I provide the following links with detailed information on privacy, and accessibility.

- [Privacy Policy](#)Links to an external site.
- [Accessibility](#)Links to an external site.
- [Links to an external site](#)Links to an external site.

Student on-campus resources

There are several excellent academic and other resources on campus. Please see the link below for a comprehensive list. If you have difficulty identifying which resource you require, please do not hesitate to email the course instructor.

<http://www.ufadvising.ufl.edu/student-resources/> (Links to an external site.)

Student course evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner](#). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their

Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.](#)

Course schedule and readings

Date	Topic	Notes
Tues Jan 12	Introduction to the course	
Thur Jan 14	Strepsirrhines	
Tues Jan 19	Platyrrhines	
Thur Jan 21	Catarrhines	
Tue Jan 26	Apes	
Thur Jan 28	Movie: The Primates	
Tues Feb 2	Evolution 101	
Thur Feb 4	Origin of Species	
Tues Feb 9	Adaptive radiation	
Thur Feb 11	Population processes	
Tues Feb 16	Exam 1	
Thur Feb 18	The rise of mammals	
Tues Feb 23	What is a primate?	
Thur Feb 25	Predation	
Tues March 2	Parasitism	
Thur March 4	Mutualism	
Tues March 9	Competition	
Thur March 11	Microbiomes	
Tues March 16	Movie	
Thur March 18	How to give a scientific talk	Talk title and choice of talk date due.
Tues March 23	Exam 2	
Thur March 25	Sensory ecology	
Tues March 30	Conservation	
Thur April 1	Invasive species	
Tues April 6	Mini conference	
Thur April 8	Mini conference	
Tues April 13	Mini conference	
Thur April 15	Mini conference	
Tues April 20	Exam 3	