

University of Florida, Department of Anthropology

Invites you to attend a lecture by

Dr. Kim Valenta

Visiting Assistant Research Professor
Department of Evolutionary Anthropology, Duke University



Plant signals and primate senses: Evolutionary and ecological outcomes of primate-plant interactions

L136 Marston Science Library, Thursday, Jan. 10 at 3 pm

Bio: Kim Valenta is a primate evolutionary ecologist researching the interactions between wild plants and primates (monkeys and lemurs) and how these can be affected by human activities. Her research is integrative and multi-disciplinary and combines field observations of animal foraging behavior in the tropics with diverse analytical techniques - including chemistry and spectroscopy - to quantify plant attractants and deterrents.

Kim's current research is focused on how fruits attract (and leaves deter) mutualists and antagonists in Kibale National Park, Uganda, and on the role of particular odorants in attracting seed dispersing animals in Uganda and Madagascar. Kim is also the co-founder and co-director of the Mad Dog Initiative (www.maddoginitiative.com), an applied conservation non-profit organization in Madagascar.