

Syllabus for Biology/Psychology 250
Animal Behavior
Spring 2014

Instructor: Dr. Frank T. Kuserk
305 Collier Hall of Science
Office phone: (610) 861-1429
Home phone: (215) 368-2593
Cell phone: (215) 915-0375
e-mail: kuserk@moravian.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM and by appointment

Class Times & Rooms: Lecture: MWF 4a (11:45 AM-12:35 PM)
335 Pricilla Payne Hurd Academic Complex (PPHAC)
Lab A: Wednesday (1:15 PM-4:15 PM)
301 Collier Hall of Science
Lab B: Monday (1:15 PM-4:15 PM)
301 Collier Hall of Science

Course Description: One of science's most absorbing mysteries continues to be the varied behaviors of animals. Ethology, behavioral ecology, and sociobiology are those branches of biology which, by observing and manipulating the behaviors of animals under natural conditions, hope to better understand these processes. Broadly comprehensive in their approach, these disciplines seek to trace the outward manifestations of behaviors back through their requisite anatomical and physiological machinery. Ultimately these behaviors can be understood in light of the genetic and evolutionary mechanisms that have shaped them through time.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course students will be able to demonstrate:

- 1) knowledge of basic concepts in animal behavior, including understanding the dynamic nature of behavioral processes
- 2) ability to make a scientific argument & support it with appropriate examples of specific behaviors and their scientific justification
- 3) knowledge of and ability to apply the scientific process as it applies to the study of animal behavior
- 4) an ability to find, evaluate, & use published scientific information
- 5) an ability to objectively interpret data and to use quantitative methods to analyze these data
- 6) competence in scientific writing and oral communication
- 7) an ability to work together in teams
- 8) an ability to integrate concepts within and among disciplines of science
- 9) understanding of the relevance of the animal behavior to society

2

Text/Materials: Dugatkin, L.A. 2014. *Principles of Animal Behavior* (3rd edition; pbk). Norton & Co., NY. (ISBN: 978-0-393-92045-1).

Grading:	Lecture Exam 1	100 points
	Lecture Exam 2	100 points
	Lecture Final Exam	100 points
	Laboratory Reports	<u>300 points</u>
		600 points

Grading Scale: The grading scale is as follows:

A = 93.0-100%	C = 73.0-76.9%
A- = 90.0-92.9%	C- = 70.0-72.9%
B+ = 87.0-89.9%	D+ = 67.0-69.9%
B = 83.0-86.9%	D = 63.0-66.9%
B- = 80.0-82.9%	D- = 60.0-62.9%
C+ = 77.0-79.9%	F = 59.9% and below

Class Attendance:

It has been my experience that students who do poorly in class generally have numerous absences. While no formal lecture attendance will be taken, I strongly suggest that you attend all sessions unless you have a valid reason not to. I will speak personally with anyone who, in my judgement, shows excessive absences and/or lateness to class. It is in your best interest, therefore, to attend and participate in class. If you are unable to take an exam on the date given you may arrange with me ahead of time to take it on an alternate date and/or time. If you miss an exam you **MUST** provide me with a written excuse from either the Health Center, a physician or the Dean for Academic Affairs Office.

Laboratory sessions, because they involve hands-on experiences that cannot be mastered effectively without performing them, are especially critical if one is to become a successful scientist. Unexcused absences from lab will result in a lowering of your lab grade by 20 points (3.3%) for each absence. Excused absences from lab beyond the first two (2) will result in a lowering of your lab grade by 20 points for each absence. You are still required to complete any assignment associated with a laboratory in order to receive the points associated with that assignment.

Policy on Academic Honesty:

Moravian College expects its students to perform their academic work honestly and fairly. A Moravian student, moreover, should neither hinder nor unfairly assist the

3

efforts of other students to complete their work successfully. This policy of academic Integrity is the foundation on which learning at Moravian is built. The College's expectations and the consequences of failure to meet these expectations are outlined below. If at any point in your academic work at Moravian you are uncertain about your responsibility as a scholar or about the propriety of a particular action, consult your instructor.

Guidelines for Honesty

All work that you submit or present as part of course assignments or requirements must be your original work unless otherwise expressly permitted by the instructor. This includes any work presented, be it in written, oral, or electronic form or in any other technical medium. When you use the specific thoughts, ideas, writings, or expressions of another person, you must accompany each instance of use with some form of attribution to the source. Direct quotes from any source (including the Internet) must be placed in quotation and accompanied by proper citation, following the preferred bibliographic conventions of your department or instructor. I will make clear the preferred or required citation style for student work. Student ignorance of bibliographic convention and citation procedures is not a valid excuse for having committed plagiarism. When you use the specific thoughts, ideas, writing, or expressions of another person, you must accompany each instance of use with some form of attribution to the source.

You may not collaborate during an in-class examination, test, or quiz. **You may not work with others on out-of-class assignments, exams, or projects unless expressly allowed or instructed to do so by the course instructor.** If you have any reservations about your role in working on any out-of-class assignments, you must consult with your course instructor. Although no students in your class or in the Writing Center should ever be allowed to write your paper for you, they are encouraged to read your work and to offer suggestions for improving it. Such collaboration is a natural part of a community of scholars.

You may not use writing or research that is obtained from a "paper service" or that is purchased from any person or entity, unless you fully disclose such activity to the instructor and are given express permission. You may not use writing or research obtained from any other student previously or currently enrolled at Moravian or elsewhere or from the files of any student organization, such as fraternity or sorority files, unless you are expressly permitted to do so by the instructor.

You must keep all notes, drafts, and materials used in preparing assignments until a final course grade is given. In the case of work in electronic form, you may be asked to maintain all intermediate drafts and notes electronically or in hard copy until final grades are given. All these materials must be available for inspection by the instructor at any time.

A student may appeal either a charge of academic dishonesty or a penalty as follows:

1. First, to the course instructor.
2. Next, in the case of First-Year Seminar, to the Chair, First Year Seminar Committee.
3. Next, to the Academic Standards Committee, chaired by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Disability Accommodations:

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, assistant director of learning services for academic and disability support at 1307 Main Street, or by calling 610-861-1510. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center. Do this as soon as possible to enhance the likelihood that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. Any student who wishes to disclose a disability and request accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for this course first **MUST** meet with either Mrs. Laurie Roth in the Office of Learning Services (for learning disabilities and/or ADD/ADHD) or Dr. Ronald Kline in the Counseling Center (for all other disabilities).

Classroom Expectations:

Respect for others' answers and views.

Disruptive behavior during class will result in your dismissal from the class the first time, after that, disciplinary action will be taken.

Cell phones need to be turned to OFF and put away in a purse or book bag during class. Use of cell phones in any way during class will result in dismissal from class and be counted as an absence.

Non-alcoholic drinks and non-odiferous snacks are allowed in class, **other odiferous food is not.**

If you arrive late, be respectful by not disrupting a class already in progress.

5

**Animal Behavior
Lecture Schedule
Spring 2014**

Date	Lecture Topic	Dugatkin Chapter*
M Jan. 13	Principles of Animal Behavior	Chapter 1
W 15	Principles of Animal Behavior	Chapter 1
F 17	The Evolution of Behavior	Chapter 2
M 20	No Class-MLK Day	
W 22	The Evolution of Behavior	Chapter 2
F 24	The Evolution of Behavior	Chapter 2
M 27	Sexual Selection	Chapter 7
W 29	No Class-Dr. Kuserk @ NCSE/CEDD Conference <i>Watch Birds of the Gods</i>	
F 31	No Class-Dr. Kuserk @ NCSE/CEDD Conference <i>Watch What Females Want...and Males Will Do</i>	
M Feb. 03	Sexual Selection	Chapter 7
W 05	Mating Systems	Chapter 8
F 07	Mating Systems	Chapter 8
M 10	Mating Systems	Chapter 8
W 12	Habitat Selection, Territoriality, and Migration Charles Darwin's 205th Birthday!	Chapter 14
F 14	Habitat Selection, Territoriality, and Migration	Chapter 14
M 17	No Class-Lab A <i>Watch The Incredible Journey of the Butterflies</i> Lab B Field Trip to Middle Creek Leave from Collier Front Entrance @ 11:30 AM	
W 19	No Class-Lab A Field Trip to Middle Creek Leave from Collier Front Entrance @ 11:30 AM	
F 21	Exam 1	Ch. 1, 2, 7, 8, 14
M 24	Kinship	Chapter 9
W 26	Kinship	Chapter 9
F 28	Cooperation	Chapter 10
M Mar. 03	No Class-Spring Break	
W 05	No Class-Spring Break	
F 07	No Class-Spring Break	
M 10	Cooperation	Chapter 10
W 12	Foraging	Chapter 11
F 14	Foraging	Chapter 11
M 17	Antipredator Behavior	Chapter 12
W 19	Antipredator Behavior	Chapter 12
F 21	Aggression	Chapter 15
M 24	Aggression	Chapter 15

6

W	26	Play	Chapter 16
F	28	Play	Chapter 16
M	31	Exam 2	Ch. 9-12, 15, 16
W	Apr. 02	No Class-Dr. Kuserk @ Washington College for MSCHE Review <i>Watch Bees: Tales from the Hive & A Conversation with Koko</i>	
F	04	Communication	Chapter 13
M	07	Communication	Chapter 13
W	09	Hormones and Neurobiology	Chapter 3
F	11	Hormones and Neurobiology	Chapter 3
M	14	Molecular Genetics and Development	Chapter 4
W	16	Molecular Genetics and Development	Chapter 4
F	18	No Class-Easter Break	
M	21	No Class-Easter Break	
W	23	Learning	Chapter 5
F	25	Cultural Transmission	Chapter 6

Final Exam: Tuesday, April 29 at 1:30PM

Chapters 13, 3-6

**Biology/Psychology 250
Laboratory Schedule
Spring 2014**

Lab A (Wednesday Lab)

January 15	Lab 1: Constructing an Ethogram
January 22	Lab 2: Isopod Behaviors
January 29	No Lab-Dr. Kuserk at NCSE Conference
February 05	Lab 3: Schooling Behavior in Fish & Agonistic Behavior in Simaese Fighting Fish
February 12	Lab 4: Pheromones and Human Mating Behaviors
February 19	Lab 5: Field trip to Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area: Snow Gesse & Tundra Swan Migration
February 26	Lab 6: Raptor Feeding Behavior: An Analysis of Owl Pellets
March 05	No Lab-Spring Break
March 12	Lab 7: Constructing an Ethogram-Mallard Duck Courtship Behaviors
March 19	Lab 8: Altruism and the Evolution of Cooperative Behavior
March 26	Lab 9: Behavior Genetics in Mice: Exploratory Behavior
April 02	No Lab-Dr. Kuserk at Middle States Review @ Washington College
April 09	Lab 10: Behavior Genetics in Mice: Agonistic Behavior
April 16	Lab 11: Constructing an Ethogram: Lehigh Valley Zoo
April 23	TBD

**Biology/Psychology 250
Laboratory Schedule
Fall 2011**

Lab B (Monday Lab)

January 13	Lab 1: Constructing an Ethogram
January 20	No Lab-MLK Day
January 27	Lab 2: Isopod Behaviors
February 03	Lab 3: Schooling Behavior in Fish & Agonistic Behavior in Simaese Fighting Fish
February 10	Lab 4: Pheromones and Human Mating Behaviors
February 17	Lab 5: Field trip to Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area: Snow Gesse & Tundra Swan Migration
February 24	Lab 6: Raptor Feeding Behavior: An Analysis of Owl Pellets
March 03	No Lab-Spring Break
March 10	Lab 7: Constructing an Ethogram-Mallard Duck Courtship Behaviors
March 17	Lab 8: Altruism and the Evolution of Cooperative Behavior
March 24	Lab 9: Behavior Genetics in Mice: Exploratory Behavior
March 31	No Lab-Dr. Kuserk at Middle States Review @ Washington College
April 07	Lab 10: Behavior Genetics in Mice: Agonistic Behavior Behavior
April 14	Lab 11: Field Trip to Lehigh Valley Zoo-Constructing an Ethogram
April 21	TBD