Syllabus for Biology/Psychology 250
Animal Behavior
Spring 2015

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Office Hours: MWF 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM and by appointment

Class Times & Rooms: Lecture: TR 10:20 AM-11:30 AM
103 Pricilla Payne Hurd Academic Complex (PPHAC)
Lab: Thursday (1:15 PM-4:15 PM)
303 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

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

Blackboard: This course has a site on Blackboard (http: blackboard.moravian.edu). Register for the course as soon as possible. The site contains information on assignments, serves as a place for data sets, and is where I will post grades.

Grading:

Lecture Exam 1	100 points
Lecture Exam 2	100 points
Lecture Final Exam	100 points
Laboratory Reports	300 points
	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 this course generally have numerous absences. I strongly suggest that you attend and participate in all lecture sessions unless you have a valid reason not to. I will maintain lecture attendance records and if I detect that you have excessive absences or are habitually late to class I will speak with you in private.

An absence on an examination day will require either prior permission or a suitable excuse from a physician, the Health Center or Dean of Students Office before a make-up is given.

Laboratory and fieldwork 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.

Course Guidelines: All assignments are to be handed in according to the due date on the syllabus or announced in class or lab. **Late work will be penalized.**

All students are expected to follow the principles of academic honesty as set out in the policies of Moravian College. See the Student Handbook for details. Any and all written

work must be done in your own words (with the exception of direct quotations which are clearly indicated as such), and written work must include proper citations indicating the sources for any ideas, concepts, facts, or other information derived from others, whether or not you have restated it in your own words. Any cases of suspected cheating or plagiarism will be referred to the Academic Affairs Office. Academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade in the course.

In case of any crisis or emergency, or an extended absence from class, you must inform me directly, through Learning Services or the Academic Dean's Office.

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability must contact Ms.Laurie Roth, director academic and disability support, at the lower level of Monocacy Hall, or by calling 610-861-1401. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

These guidelines are intended for the benefit of the students as far as clarification of my expectations for the course; however, in exceptional circumstances I reserve the right to exercise discretion in the application of these guidelines to individual cases or to refer a particular case to the Academic Dean if necessary.

Extra Credit Policy: It is my policy not to award extra credit to individual students who are doing poorly in the class and just want to raise their grade. From time to time I may offer extra credit to the entire class but only if everyone in the class has an equal opportunity to earn that credit.

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 bookbag during class. Use of cell phones in any way during class may result in dismissal from class and be counted as an absence.

Non-alcoholic drinks and non-odiferous snacks are allowed in class, other "odiferous (smelly) food" is not.

Animal Behavior
Lecture Schedule
Fall 2015
TENTATIVE

Date		Lecture Topic	Dugatkin Chapter*
T	Sept. 01	Principles of Animal Behavior	Chapter 1
R	03	Sexual Selection	Chapter 7
T	08	Sexual Selection	Chapter 7
R	**10**	**Field Trip: Lehigh Valley Zoo**	
		Meet @ 10:20 AM, Collier front entrance; Return by 3:45 PM	
T	15	Sexual Selection	Chapter 7
R	**17**	**Field Trip: Lehigh Gap Nature Center**	
		Meet @ 10:20 AM, Collier front entrance; Return by 3:45 PM	
T	22	Mating Systems	Chapter 8
R	24	Mating Systems	Chapter 8
T	29	Habitat Selection, Territoriality, and Migration	Chapter 14
R	Oct. 01	Habitat Selection, Territoriality, and Migration	Chapter 14
T	**06**	**Exam I**	**Ch. 1, 7, 8, 14**
R	**08**	**Field Trip: Bake Oven Knob**	
		Meet @ 10:20 AM, Collier front entrance; Return by 3:45 PM	
T	**13**	**NO CLASS-FALL BREAK**	
R	15	Foraging	Chapter 11
T	20	Foraging	Chapter 11
R	22	Kinship	Chapter 9
T	27	Kinship	Chapter 9
R	29	Cooperation	Chapter 10
T	Nov. 03	Antipredator Behavior	Chapter 12
R	05	Aggression	Chapter 15
T	10	Aggression	Chapter 15
R	**12**	**Exam II**	**Ch. 9-12, 15**
T	17	Communication	Chapter 13
R	19	Communication	Chapter 13
T	24	Hormones and Neurobiology	Chapter 3
R	26	NO CLASS-THANKSGIVING BREAK	
T	Dec. 01	Hormones and Neurobiology	Chapter 3
R	03	Learning	Chapter 5
T	08	Learning	Chapter 5
R	10	Cultural Transmission	Chapter 6

Final Exam: Thursday, December 17 @ 1:30 PM **Ch. 13, 3-6**

Biology/Psychology 250
Laboratory Schedule
Fall 2015
TENTATIVE

September 03	Analysis of Behavior-Constructing an Ethogram
September 10	Trip to Lehigh Valley Zoo-Constructing an Ethogram
September 17	Trip to Lehigh Gap Nature Center-Turtle Trapping/Monarch Butterfly Tagging
September 19	Trip to Lehigh Gap Nature Center-Turtle Trapping (optional)
September 24	Sexual Selection in Siamese Fighting Fish/Human Mate Choice Project
October 01	Simple Orientation Behaviors
October 08	Trip to Bake Oven Knob-Raptor Migration Behavior
October 15	Raptor Feeding Behavior: An Analysis of Owl Pellets
October 22	Mimicry
October 29	Altruism and the Evolution of Cooperative Behavior
November 05	Behavior Genetics in Mice: Exploratory Behavior
November 12	Predator Avoidance Behavior
November 19	Predator avoidance Behavior
November 26	NO LAB-Thanksgiving Break
December 03	Work on Poster Project
December 10	Poster Presentations