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**ANTH 552**  
**Field Studies: Topics in Primatology**  
**Spring 2023**  
**GFC Hours 6 Units (72 hours)**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Mary Pavelka Hugh Notman	<b>Lecture Location:</b>	ES 614
<b>Phone:</b>	403-2204174	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b>	MTWRF 8am–4pm
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	MTWRF 4 – 5 pm		

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**Prerequisite(s):** Consent of the Department  
**Corequisite:** Anth 553 and Anth 505

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Intensive training and practice in field methods of observational primate behaviour and ecology research. Most of this course will take place at the Institute for Tropical Ecology and Conservation on Isla Colon in Bocas del Toro Province, Panama. Training from Anth 552 (May 1 – 5 Block Week) will be put into practice with 12 full days spent in the forest collecting assigned behavioral, ecological, and map point data. The focus will be on the mantled howler monkeys however we will opportunistically include observations of white-faced capuchins and owl monkeys.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- have a strong sense of if wildlife research is something you **want or do not want** to pursue further in your life and career
- be experienced in the collection of focal animal, group scan, and all occurrences behaviour
- identify important tree species such as those upon which the howler monkeys feed and rest
- know how to set up vegetation plots and collect the data necessary to determine forest structure and the characteristics of mantled howler monkey food supply
- gain an understanding of the ethical and conservation implications of observational wildlife research
- work as a member of a team and contribute positively to group dynamics in various situations going forward

## READINGS AND TEXTBOOKS:

- Readings from the relevant literature as indicated in the Schedule – links provided on D2L

**REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY and EQUIPMENT:** The following technology is required for accessing materials in D2L, collecting map points in the forest, uploading map points, and writing your field log.

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates
- A current and updated web browser
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled
- Stable internet connection

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

1. Daily data collection 10% daily ITEC

Completion of daily data collection exercises assigned when monkeys are available. Participate in peer assessments of data collected to help identify how you and others are perhaps doing things differently and why. Show improvement over time in the quality of data collected.

2. Engagement in course and fieldwork 20% Inclusive May 1 – 28

The maintenance of positive and energetic engagement in all aspects of the academic and fieldwork components of this course. Being organized and ready to go in the mornings, staying engaged in data collection (or mapping or simply looking for monkeys) until returning for lunch at 12 noon. Participating actively in the daily group meetings where we will discuss all aspects of the fieldwork and its successes and challenges. Evaluation will be based on

- 3 written self-assessments handed in near the beginning of our time at ITEC and again 2/3 of the way through, and again at Cosmic Crab.
- 3 peer assessments conducted around the same time
- Observations of and interactions with the teaching team

3. Contribution to positive group dynamic 20% Inclusive May 1 – 28

It is possible to be an excellent researcher but not a good group member. This requirement focuses on what each person brings to the group and how they make a positive contribution to group dynamic. Tools to help students to have a positive experience and contribute positively to the group are taught during block week and discussed throughout the program. Evaluation will be based on

- 3 written self-assessments handed in near the beginning of our time at ITEC and again 2/3 of the way through, and again at Cosmic Crab.
- 3 peer assessments conducted around the same time
- Observations of and interactions with the teaching team

4. Research Proposal Presentation 10% Last 2 afternoons ITEC

Based on the steps identified and discussed in block week, students are to be thinking through a potential research project that they could conduct with the monkey populations at ITEC. Students are encouraged to talk among themselves about their ideas, as well as to members of the teaching team. During daily group meetings we will ask for volunteers to update what they are thinking about in terms of a research project for which they will have to submit a formal proposal as part of Anth 505. On the last two afternoons at ITEC students will make a short presentation on their research proposal and get helpful feedback from the group.

5. Field log 20% Due upon departure from ITEC

Maintenance of a daily field log is an important aspect of field work. It should be completed daily, not by memory every few days. Evenings after dinner is the best time to commit to your field log. It is your personal log so can be written however you wish to express yourself. It can be hand written in a journal of your choice, or typed into a word doc. The following items must be included and given subheadings:

- Your activity schedule for today
- Weather
- Interesting Unusual Observations
- Struggles and/or insights re: data collection
- Struggles and/or insights re: personal experience
- Plans for tomorrow

6. Final Field exam 20% May 21 ITEC

Circumstances permitting, on the morning of the final day students will individually accompany a member of the instructional team to the forest to identify cues to finding monkey groups, demonstrate age-sex identification and behavioral data collection abilities, identify important howler food trees, provide a phenological score for 2 howler food trees.

Missed examinations/tests cannot be made up without the approval of the instructor. Exams may only be deferred in the case of illness or medical emergency, religious observance, or domestic affliction (see: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-final-exams>).

**Reappraisal of Graded Term Work:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

**Reappraisal of Final Grade:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

**Department of Anthropology and Archaeology Grading Scheme:**

A+	95 – 100%	B+	80 – 84.9%	C+	67 – 70.9%	D+	55 – 58.9%
A	90 – 94.9%	B	75 – 79.9%	C	63 – 66.9%	D	50 – 54.9%

A- 85 – 89.9%	B- 71 – 74.9%	C- 59 – 62.9%	F < 50%
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**\*\*Please note that no extra credit or ‘make up’ work is available in this class\*\***  
 You do not need to pass each course component to earn a passing grade in the class

### **Land Acknowledgement**

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology acknowledges the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), as well as the Tsuut’ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3.

### **Acknowledgment and Respect for Diversity**

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology views diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion.

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. The University Calendar includes a statement on the principles of conduct expected of all members of the university community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors, and volunteers), whether on or off university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html).

### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary, and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html). Often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are (1) presenting another student's work as your own, (2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For students wishing to know more about what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Geography recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

### **INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing. Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **SUPPORTS FOR STUDENT LEARNING, SUCCESS, AND SAFETY**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre

- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

### **Schedule at ITEC (mostly ANTH 552)**

Arrival on Wednesday May 10 mid afternoon, settle into rooms, orientation presentation from ITEC personnel. Dinner at 6:00 pm.

Thursday May 11 – Monday May 21, Daily schedule and work plan at ITEC

#### **Regular daily schedule:**

- 7:30 breakfast
- 8 am – 12:00 fieldwork
- 12:30 – 1 pm lunch
- 1 – 2:30 pm daily group meeting (see below)
- 2:30 – 5:30 fieldwork
- 6:00 pm dinner
- Evenings – free other than updating field log

**Daily group meeting** to discuss of how data collection is coming for everyone; who saw monkeys and where, what new trails did we flag, what new trails do we need, answer questions about anything; ask for reflections on the experience, talk about proposal ideas if time. Every day it can be a little different depending what is going on. Agree upon who will do what for the rest of that day and the next morning. For example, some days some students might wish to go up the creek in the kayaks looking for monkeys in the afternoon session. Some may wish to swap out afternoon in the forest with after dinner looking for *Aotus*. Once we get going we will try to be flexible to these opportunities.

If any individuals, pairs, or groups are going out on their own or deviating from the regular schedule they need to get pre-approval (basically one of the instructional team must know where they are going, why, and when they will be back

#### **First day or two**

- flagging trails, collecting map points, finding howler food phenology trees, looking for monkeys
- If monkeys are encountered, stop flagging, begin data collection: work as a group to determine the group size and composition

#### **Regular daily plan for the forest after that**

- Walk the trails for up to one hour **looking for monkeys.**

- **When you have monkeys:** alternate 10 minute focal animal sessions with 2 - 5 minute group scans. Focals should rotate through AM, AF, JV if possible. Work independently on focals, as a group on the scans.
- Casey and Broden will keep track of what behavioral data each group/student is getting and take a look at it to see if any systematic errors are being made and provide feedback. We also encourage peer assessments of data collected.
- **When you do not have monkeys** after searching for one hour, work on the following:
  - Phenology data – 3 trees each of 5 howler food species. Sample one of each species each day, therefore 5 trees each day, 3 day rotation. We will try to select these on Day One.
  - Veg plots – set up a total of 10. Each group sets up 2, all groups sample all 10. Group that sets it up and does it first puts blue flags one each tree large enough to be included in the sample. Write the genus (and species if known) of the the tree on the blue flag. 20 X 20 meter plots
  - Flag and collect location points on new trails and food trees