

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGY
University of Calgary

ANTHROPOLOGY 311.20: Primate Behaviour
Fall 2017

Class Time: W 6:00-8:50pm
Class Location: CHC 119

Instructor: Dr. Josie Vayro
Email: : jvvayro@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Tuesdays 1-2; by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Luke Larter
Email: luke.larter3@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 430-530; by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will cover the fundamentals of primate behaviour research and theory, including: evolution, social dynamics, socio-biology, socio-ecology, dominance, aggression, kinship, sexual behaviour, reproductive strategies, cognition, and communication. You will learn primate taxonomy and be able to apply these concepts to conceptualize and describe genetic, ecological and behavioural variation exhibited across primate groups.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course/ program, students should be able to

- list the major primate taxonomic groups and describe their characteristics
- explain important concepts like natural selection, sexual selection, kin selection, and group selection
- explain the main types of primate social groups and the dimensions upon which primate social groups vary
- explain how factors such as phylogeny, reproductive strategies, feeding competition, predation, and local demography interact to produce the variation that we see in primate social groups and other aspects of primate behaviour
- critique the strengths and weaknesses of different explanations offered for various aspects of primate behaviour
- debate the validity of assertions made in the media about the behavior and cognitive abilities of nonhuman primates
- defend the importance of primate conservation and preservation of biodiversity

REQUIRED TEXT: *Primate Behavioural Ecology* by Karen Strier, 5th Edition, 2016

CLASSROOM NORMS

Norms will be negotiated on the first day of class and will cover the following areas:

- Attendance and punctuality
- Questions and participation
- Use of technology: laptops and cell phones
- Exam attendance and conduct

ATTENDANCE AND COURSE MATERIALS

Students will need to attend class to do well in this course! The textbook material is related and complementary to lecture material. However, lectures will not be tightly tied to the format of the textbook and both need to be mastered to do well on exams. Students should read the text and pay close attention to areas where it overlaps with the lectures. Please read the text to understand broad ideas, theories, definitions, and to learn which primate groups and species are associated with learned concepts. The text provides different examples than what is covered in class to supplement your learning and to help to clarify concepts.

Lecture notes: will be posted as 1-, 3-, and 6-slide PDF handouts on D2L and can be printed before class to assist in note taking. Some pictures and whole PPT files will not be posted due to copyright of figures and photographs.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

*****Subject to change depending on how quickly material is covered or unforeseeable circumstances (e.g., university closure).*****

| DATE | LECTURE MATERIAL AND TESTS | TEXT CHAPTER |
|----------|---|--------------|
| Sept. 13 | Course overview An introduction to primate studies The primate pattern & theories for the origins of the primates | 1 |
| Sept. 20 | Primate survey: Strepsirhines, Tarsiiformes and New World monkeys Video: <i>Lemurs with John Cleese</i> | 2*, 3 |
| Sept. 27 | Primate survey: Old World monkeys and apes Group living and dispersal patterns | 2*, 3 |
| Oct. 4 | Social and mating systems Video: <i>Life of Mammals – Social Climbers</i> | 3, 4 |
| Oct. 11 | Term Test 1 (Lectures, videos, and chapters 1, 2, and 3 in Strier text) Natural Selection, kin selection and reciprocal altruism | |
| Oct. 18 | Sexual Selection, parental investment and limiting resources Video: <i>Monkey Island – Cayo Santiago Rhesus macaques</i> | 4, 5 |
| Oct. 25 | Male reproductive strategies Video: <i>Gelada Baboons – The Battles of Braveheart</i> | 8 |
| Nov. 1 | Female reproductive strategies, food competition and socio-ecology Video: <i>What females want; What males do</i> | 6, 7 |
| Nov. 8 | Term Test 2 (Lectures, videos, and chapter 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 in Strier text) Video (following test): <i>Gremlins: Faces in the Forest</i> | |
| Nov. 15 | The primate life cycle | 9 |
| Nov. 22 | Communication and cognition Video: <i>Ape Genius</i> | 10 |
| Nov. 29 | Primate community ecology Video: <i>The Three Monkeys</i> | 11, 12 |
| Dec. 6 | Primate conservation Video: <i>Virunga</i> | |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Dec. 11-21 | Final Exam (Cumulative: all lectures, videos since Term Test 2 and the entire textbook) Date TBA, schedule by the Registrar | |
| * PLEASE SEE APPENDIX 1 FOR REVISED PRIMATE TAXONOMIC CHART. It REPLACES the taxonomic chart found in the Strier textbook. DO NOT refer to the chart provided in your text – the chart I’ve provided is more current and widely used. | | |

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Term Test 1 – October 30th, 2017 (30%): This test will be multiple-choice format and will cover all preceding lecture materials, videos and textbook material.

Term Test 2 – November 8th 2017 (30%): This test will be multiple-choice format (same as Term Test 1) and will test lecture materials, videos, and textbook material covered **since** Term Test One.

Cumulative Final Exam (40%): TBA - Registrar scheduled - This test will be multiple-choice format and is **CUMULATIVE**. It will test lecture materials, videos, and textbook material covered **since** the beginning of term.

Please note: ALL lecture materials will be covered on exams; this includes videos, lectures, discussions, and guest lectures. Lectures do not exactly follow the text chapters so please read actively and carefully!

GRADE BREAKDOWN

| | | | | | | | |
|----|------------|----|------------|----|-------------|----|----------------|
| A+ | 100-94.9% | B+ | 84.8-79.9% | C+ | 70.8-66.9 % | D+ | 58.8-54.9% |
| A | 94.8-89.9% | B | 79.8-74.9% | C | 66.8-62.9 % | D | 54.8-49.9% |
| A- | 89.8-84.9% | B- | 74.8-70.9% | C- | 62.8-58.9% | F | 49.8% and less |

ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Missed Exams – Missed tests automatically receive a score of zero. In the event of an emergency or illness, you **MUST** notify the instructor as soon as possible. Documentation (i.e. a doctor’s note) may be requested before or at the time of the scheduled make-up test. Make-up tests will be scheduled no later than 1 week after the missed exam.

Returned Exams – Exam marks will be posted on Blackboard but exams will not be handed back. Students will be allowed to view both their own exam and the answer key during scheduled office hours, or by appointment. After reviewing the key and your notes, if you feel that you were marked unfairly or that marks were missed on your exam, you can address the concern with the instructor. You may be asked to prepare a short statement explaining the concern. The entire question will then be re-graded and marks adjusted (up or down, as is warranted) at the instructor’s discretion.

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. Please be sure that you are well-prepared for exams so that you perform well when you have the opportunity!

COMMUNICATION ETIQUETTE (e.g., email)

- Please use your university account when possible. Otherwise, use an account with an appropriate name (Example of an unacceptable email: sexymama@gmail.com).
- Use a clear subject line that includes the course name/section and the topic of the email such as "ANTH 311.60 Question about my schedule"
- Please be respectful (i.e., not too casual) when addressing me in an email. Use an appropriate greeting (acceptable: "Dear Dr. Vayro"; unacceptable: "Hey there"). Please proof-read, spell check and use complete sentences.
- Keep the question(s) short and to the point. Show that you have made an effort to find the answer first in the text and lecture material (or even an outside source). State what you know in relation to what you are having a difficult time understanding.
- Include your full name and student ID in the signature of your email.
- Allow 48 hours for a response, excluding weekends and holidays.

***Please note: I may choose not to respond to emails that do not follow the format outlined above** so please be thorough and respectful when addressing me with a concern and in return, I will try my very best to get back to you as soon as possible to accommodate your needs.

Examples of good and bad email etiquette:

1) Good

Subject: ANTH 311.01 Question about traits

Dear Dr. Vayro,

I'm not sure I fully understand the difference between "derived" and "primitive" traits. Based on my understanding, primitive traits must have occurred as far back as a common ancestor of the species being compared. Derived traits can occur anywhere along the ancestral line after the common ancestor, including humans and modern day primates. So, is the difference that derived traits came about in whichever species in which they occur after the branching from a common ancestor, whereas primitive traits are there because the common ancestor had them and they have not been lost throughout evolution?

Thank you for your time,

Agood Student (SID# 12345678)

2) Bad (yes, this was an actual email my colleague received at 3pm the day of an exam)

Subject:

what up? i dont get it. what is derived and primitive trate? r u gonna test this? can u get back to me fast cuz the test is today and i need to studddy.

(no name)

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the instructor of this course.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Calgary is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievements. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. Non-academic integrity also constitutes an important component of this program.

For detailed information on what constitutes academic and non-academic misconduct, please refer to the following link: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

All suspected cases of academic and non-academic misconduct will be investigated following procedures outlined in the University Calendar. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behavior or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources.

Where there is a criminal act involved in plagiarism, cheating or other academic misconduct, e.g., theft (taking another student's paper from their possession, or from the possession of a faculty member without permission), breaking and entering (forcibly entering an office to gain access to papers, grades or records), forgery, personation and conspiracy (impersonating another student by agreement and writing their paper) and other such offences under the Criminal Code of Canada, the University may take legal advice on the appropriate response and, where appropriate, refer the matter to the police, in addition to or in substitution for any action taken under these regulations by the University

TEACHING EVALUATIONS / USRI (Universal Student Ratings of Instruction)

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. **Your responses make a difference, please participate!** Website: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri/>

Writing Across the Curriculum

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Support, part of the Student Success Centre, can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance

Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points: In the event of an emergency that requires evacuation, please refer to the following link to become familiar with the assembly points for the class:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

The University of Calgary is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who work and study at the University or who otherwise interact with the University in accordance with the standards set out in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Please refer to the following link for detailed information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology's FOIP (Freedom of Information and Privacy) policy requires all reports/examinations to be returned to students during class time or the instructor's office hours. Any term work not picked up will be placed in the Anthropology and Archaeology Office (ES620) for distribution. Any student not wishing to have their work placed in the office must make alternative arrangements with the course instructor early in the term.

Safewalk Information: Campus Security, in partnership with the Students' Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at (403) 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security Officer will accompany you to your campus destination.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources: Have a question, but not sure where to start? Arts Students' Centre

The Faculty of Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance that they require. In addition to housing the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs and the Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning, the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- program advising
- the Faculty's Co-operative Education Program
- the Arts and Science Honours Academy
- the Faculty's Interdisciplinary Programs
- a Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403.220.3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contacts for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

arts2@su.ucalgary.ca

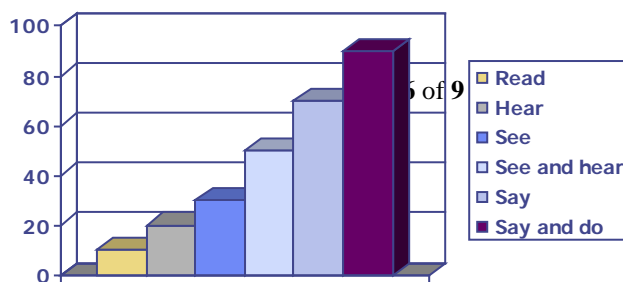
arts3@su.ucalgary.ca

arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Ombudsman's office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/>

FINAL NOTES FOR SUCCESS

- If at any time during the course you do not understand the material, please ask me: a) during class (please raise your hand), b) during lecture breaks, c) before or after class, d) via email, or e) during office hours. I would like to help you succeed!
- I encourage you to get to know some of your fellow students and study together. Studies show that the average person only retains 10% of the material they READ versus 90% of the material they READ, then RECITE, EXPLAIN OR DEMONSTRATE! (See graph from the U of C Teaching and Learning Centre below):

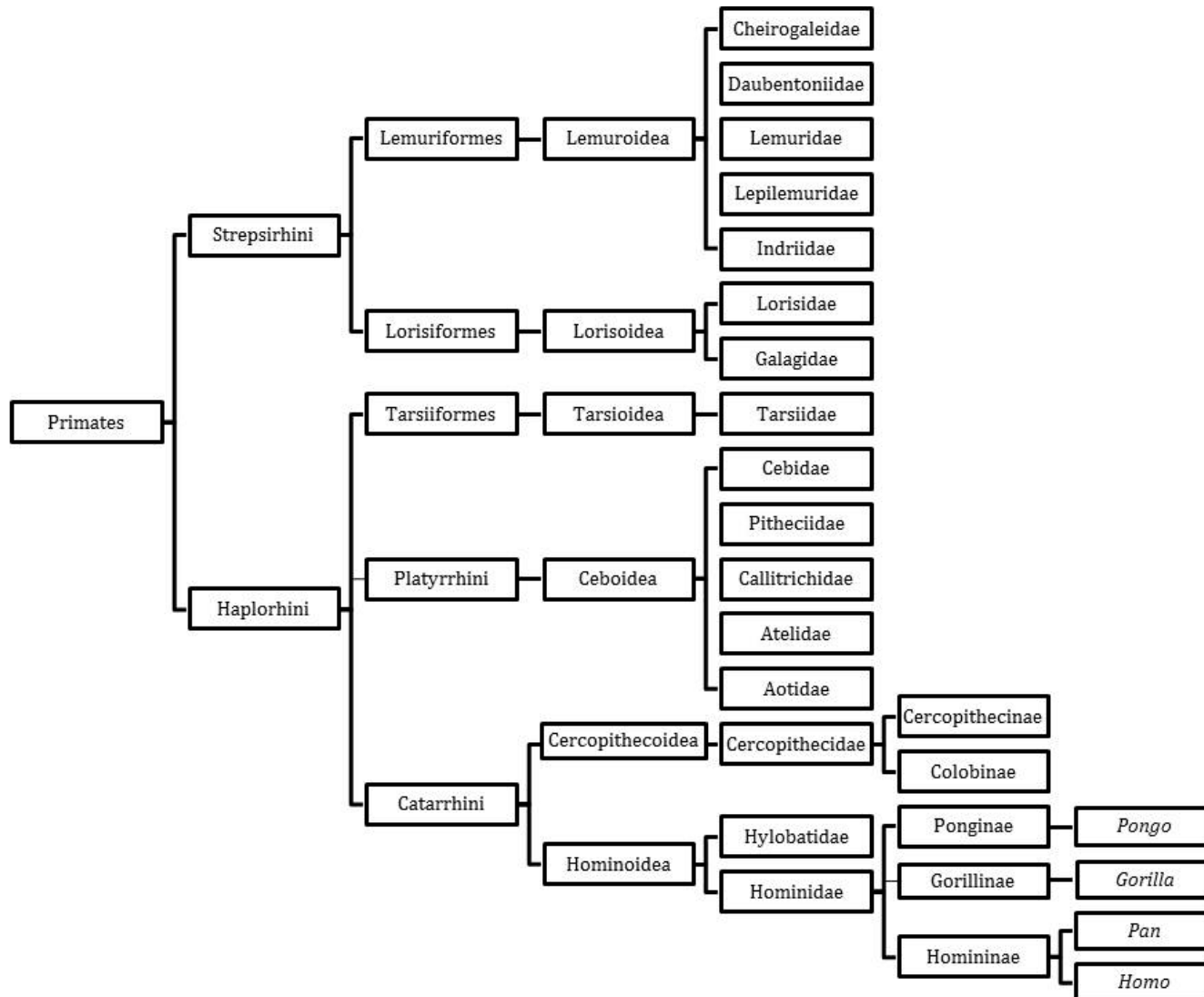


Thank you for your attention. I am looking forward to a great semester! 😊

APPENDIX 1: PRIMATE TAXONOMIC CHART

This chart must be memorized for Term Test 1 (and retained for the final). It **REPLACES** the taxonomic chart found in the Strier textbook. **DO NOT** refer to the chart provided in your text – the chart below is more current and widely used.

| Order | Suborder | Infraorder | Superfamily | Family | Subfamily | Genus |
|-------|----------|------------|-------------|--------|-----------|-------|
|-------|----------|------------|-------------|--------|-----------|-------|



APPENDIX 2: ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED AT THE U OF C

Because this is a night class, I would like to highlight the contact information for the U of C campus Safewalk program, as well as the contact information for Campus Security.

Safewalk

Phone: 403.220.4750

Email: safewalk@ucalgary.ca

Website: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

Available 24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days per year

“Safewalk volunteers walk people safely to their destination on campus. This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors. Safewalks are done in male/female pairs. The volunteers walk anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station).”

Campus Security

Phone: 403.220.5333

Email: Campuse.security@ucalgary.ca

Website: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/>

“Campus Security works closely with the university community, Calgary Police Service and other agencies to maintain the University of Calgary as a pleasant place to live, work and study. If you have a safety concern or a question about the services Campus Security offers please contact us.” Not only does Campus Security provide for on campus emergency service, but also routinely posts campus wide security alerts/bulletins. Campus Security also offers a Working Alone Program that enhances student safety while working alone on campus outside of regular work hours, such as evenings and weekends.

Wellness Centre

370, MacEwan Student Centre,

Phone: 403.210.9355

Open: Monday to Friday 0900-1630 hrs. (Walk-ins stop at 15:30, but subject to demand)

Website: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/uhs/>

“University Health Services provides quality health care and education in a reassuring friendly manner. Its primary focus is centered on students.”