

**Department of Anthropology and Archaeology**  
**ANTHROPOLOGY 451**  
**Primate Ecology & Conservation**  
**Winter 2018**

Lecture: Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:30-13:45  
Location: Science Theatres 128

Instructor: Steig Johnson  
Office: ES 848  
Tel: 220-6070  
E-mail: steig.johnson@ucalgary.ca  
Office Hours: Wed 10:00-12:00

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Office Hours: TBD

**Pre-requisites: Anthropology 311**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Many nonhuman primate species worldwide are currently facing the risk of extinction due to human-induced processes. In this course, we will consider this problem by first understanding how primates interact with their natural environments. We will then discuss the primary causes for the decline in primate populations, including habitat loss and hunting. Finally, we will critically examine the solutions and tactics proposed to reduce or eliminate these threats to their survival.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Identify and describe characteristics of nonhuman primate behaviour and anatomy related to ecology, community ecology, population size and distribution, demography and population genetics.
2. Recall and explain factors that place nonhuman primate species at risk of population decline and extinction, and strategies and tactics used to mitigate these risks.
3. Carry out bibliographic research on topics related to written assignments.
4. Apply standard practices in scientific writing, including proper attribution of cited works.
5. Create a written report describing characteristics of a global biodiversity hotspot and comparing among priority regions.
6. Produce a written report that evaluates and critiques conservation practice or generate a research proposal in NSERC PGS-M format.

**REQUIRED TEXT**

Cowlshaw, G., & Dunbar, R. (2000). *Primate Conservation Biology*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Supplemental optional readings will also be offered. These provide further context for course materials covered in lecture and may be helpful in preparing final papers.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- Students are expected to attend lectures and to participate in class discussion.

- There are two in-class tests based on material covered in lectures and in assigned readings. Tests are non-cumulative and in multiple choice and short answer format. Make-up tests will not be given unless you have written proof of medical or other dire emergency. You should inform the instructor or teaching assistant of your absence *prior* to the test.
- There is an exercise adapted from material created by the Network of Conservation Educators and Practitioners (NCEP). NCEP is a collaborative project of the American Museum of Natural History's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation (CBC) and a number of partners around the world, working to create and foster the implementation of a comprehensive set of teaching and learning modules in support of biodiversity conservation.
- Finally, there is a final paper. Students are offered two choices for this assignment: (1) grant proposal for a primate conservation biology field project or (2) critical report on an organization active in the conservation of primates.

### IMPORTANT DATES

January 8	First day of class
February 19-25	Reading Week
April 12	Last day of lecture

### GRADING GUIDELINES

Assignment	(Due) Date	% Final Grade
Test 1	February 16	30%
Hotspots exercise	March 9	10%
Test 2	March 30	30%
Final paper	April 12	30%

- Students are responsible for materials covered in the texts and lectures.
- Classroom materials missed due to absenteeism are the sole responsibility of the student.
- Assignments submitted late will have 5% per day deducted from their mark.
- Grading of writing (style, grammar, organization, etc.) is a factor in the evaluation of students' written assignments.
- A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not essential for the student to pass the course as a whole.
- There is no final examination.
- Calculators and electronic devices are not allowed during tests.
- Letter grades are assigned according to the following:

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

### LECTURE SCHEDULE

(Topics subject to change)

#### Part I. Intrinsic Processes: Primate Ecology & Population Biology

Jan 9	Introduction to the Course
	Film

Jan 11	Film (cont.) What is Biodiversity? <i>Reading:</i> Chapters 1, 2
Jan 16-18	What is Biodiversity? (cont.)
Jan 23-25	Primate Ecology <i>Reading:</i> Chapters 3, 4
Jan 30-Feb 1	Distribution and Abundance Population Biology <i>Reading:</i> Chapters 5, 6
Feb 6-8	Population Biology (cont.) Review Part I
Feb 13	<b>Test 1</b>
<b>Part II. Extrinsic Factors: Anthropogenic Disturbance &amp; Conservation Approaches</b>	
Feb 15	Extinction Processes <i>Reading:</i> Chapter 7
<b>Feb 20-22</b>	<b>Reading Week</b>
Feb 27-Mar 1	Extinction Processes (cont.) Habitat Disturbance <i>Reading:</i> Chapter 8
Mar 6-8	Habitat Disturbance (cont.) Hunting <i>Reading:</i> Chapter 9
<b>Mar 8</b>	<b>Hotspots assignment due</b>
Mar 13-15	Hunting (cont.) Film
Mar 20-22	Film (cont.) Conservation Strategies & Tactics <i>Reading:</i> Chapters 10, 11, 12
Mar 27	Conservation Strategies & Tactics (cont.) Review Part II
<b>Mar 29</b>	<b>Test 2</b>
Apr 3-5	Final paper workshops
Apr 10	Final paper workshops (cont.)
<b>Apr 12</b>	<b>Final paper due</b>

## **PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING**

Plagiarism: “to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one’s own” (Webster’s). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing will also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology’s policy on intellectual honesty

## **DEFERRED EXAMS:**

A student who is absent from a test for legitimate reasons must discuss an alternative course of action with the instructor. The instructor at their discretion may transfer the percentage weight for the test to the final examination, if there is a final examination in the course, set another test, etc. An instructor will normally make this decision on the basis of verbal information provided by the student. In the event that an instructor feels that they cannot judge the veracity of the information provided, Students must be aware that they are responsible for payment of any charge associated with the medical assessment and documentation as this service falls outside the realm of services provided by the Provincial Health Care Plan. Deferral of the registrar scheduled final exam requires Registrar approval.

## **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:**

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](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: [arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/](http://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](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

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