

YORK UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 3280 3.0 N: ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR
WINTER 2020

WEDNESDAYS 19:00 – 22:00

ACE 001

Course Director: Dr. Agnieszka Kopinska
Office Hours: by appointment / Room: BSB 251
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Text: Rubenstein, Dustin R. & Alcock, John (2019).
Animal Behavior (11thEd.), Sinauer Associates.

Moodle: <https://moodle.yorku.ca/>

	DATE	TOPIC	CHAPTER
Jan.	8	Orientation, Introduction to Animal Behaviour, Evolution	1
	15	The proximate and ultimate causes of behaviour	2
	22	The development of behaviour	3
	29	The neural control of behaviour	4
Feb.	5	The physiological basis of behaviours	5
	12	The evolution of altruism and sociality	12 & 13
	19	<i>Reading Week</i>	
	26	EXAM I (36%)	
Mar.	4	Survival and feeding behaviour	6
	11	Territoriality and migration	7
	13	<i>last date to drop courses without receiving a grade</i>	
	18	Principles of communication	8
	25	Reproductive behaviour	9
	27	<i>Assignment due at 11:59pm</i>	
Apr.	1	Mating systems and parental care	10 & 11
	7-25	EXAM II (36%): check www.yorku.ca for schedule Trips are not a valid excuse for missing the exams	

General Description:

Research and theory with animals are considered. Perspectives in evolution, ethology, sociobiology and psychology are covered. Topics include animal communication, habit selection, feeding behaviour and reproduction.

Learning Objectives:

1. To demonstrate in-depth knowledge of animal behaviour.
2. To articulate trends in the psychology of animal behaviour.
3. To express psychological knowledge of animal behaviour in written form.
4. To describe and explain limits to generalizability of research findings on animal behaviour.
5. To demonstrate ability to relate information on the psychology of animal behaviour to real life situations.

Prerequisites:

HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology), with a minimum grade of C. Completed at least 54 earned credits. Course credit exclusions: GL/PSYC/NATS 3680 3.00.

Evaluation:

As indicated on the schedule, there will be two equally weighted exams and an optional assignment worth 14% of the final grade. 14% of the final grade will be based on Moodle forum participation. Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.).

Attendance:

To encourage (and reward) perfect attendance, I will take roll every class. It is students' responsibility to ensure that their name is signed on the class attendance sheet. Students with *perfect* class attendance (i.e., NO absences for any reason whatsoever) will receive 3% on top of their final grade. Please note that 2 instances of being late (or absent when the list is distributed) are equivalent to one absence. The student is responsible to know the material presented in class.

Grading as per Senate Policy:

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

(For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar -

<http://calendars.students.yorku.ca/2016-2017/academic-and-financial-information/academic-services/grades-and-grading-schemes>)

Information on Plagiarism Detection:

Turnitin will be used to detect plagiarism.

Electronic Device Policy:

Unless there are documented needs, there will be no personal electronic device usage during the class time (computers, mobile devices, etc.).

Assignment Submission: Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. You will be asked to submit your assignment to www.turnitin.com by a specified date.

Lateness Penalty: Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized 5% per day. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., an attending physician's statement—see "documentation" below).

Test Banks: The use of test banks is not permitted in this course and may be considered a potential breach of academic honesty. This includes but is not limited to; buying or selling test banks.

Policy on Missed Examinations/Assignments:

1. **Within 48 hours** of the missed test/examination or assignment deadline, students **MUST** complete [the online form](#) and contact the instructors by e-mail. Be sure to clearly state your name, student number, course and a number/time at which you can be reached. In the case of a missed test the student will be required to write a MAKE-UP TEST. Only **ONE** make-up test is allowed in the course, any other missed tests will stand at the value of zero. Failure to complete the form **within 48 hours** of the original deadline will result in a grade of zero for the missed tests, midterm exam or late assignment.
2. Appropriate documentation verifying the circumstances for the missed test or examination must be provided prior to or at the time specified by the instructor. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of 0 on the missed test.
 - A. Tests or examinations missed on the grounds of medical circumstances must be supported by the [Attending Physician Statement](#). This is the **ONLY** form of medical documentation acceptable in this course. A "doctor's note" is NOT enough.
 - B. Tests or examinations missed on grounds of non-medical circumstances must be supported by appropriate documentation, i.e., death certificates, obituary notice, automobile accident reports, airline/train/bus tickets/receipt for emergency travel, etc.

Academic Integrity for Students:

York University takes academic integrity very seriously; please familiarize yourself with [Information about the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

It is recommended that you review Academic Integrity information [SPARK Academic Integrity modules](#). These modules explain principles of academic honesty.

Add/Drop Deadlines:

For a list of all important dates please refer to: [Important Dates](#)

Important dates	Fall (F)	Year (Y)	Winter (W)
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sep 17	Sep 17	Jan 19
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct 1	Oct 22	Feb 3
Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov 8	Feb 3	March 13
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a "W" on the transcript)	Nov 9 - Dec 3	Feb 4 - Apr 5	Mar 14 - Apr 5

*Note: You may withdraw from a course using the registration and enrolment system after the drop deadline until the last day of class for the term associated with the course. When you withdraw from a course, the course remains on your transcript without a grade and is notated as "W". The withdrawal will not affect your grade point average or count towards the credits required for your degree.

Electronic Devices During a Test/Examination:

Electronic mobile devices of any kind are not allowed during a test or examination. Students are required to turn off and secure any electronic mobile device in their bag which is to be placed under the chair while a test/exam is in progress. Any student observed with an electronic device during a test/exam may be reported to the Undergraduate Office for a potential breach of Academic Honesty.

Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

While all individuals are expected to satisfy the requirements of their program of study and to aspire to do so at a level of excellence, the university recognizes that persons with disabilities may require reasonable accommodation to enable them to do so. The [York University Accessibility Hub](#) is your online stop for accessibility on campus. It provides tools, assistance and resources.

Policy Statement: York University shall make reasonable and appropriate accommodations and adaptations in order to promote the ability of students with disabilities to fulfill the academic requirements of their programs. The nature and extent of accommodations shall be consistent with and supportive of the integrity of the curriculum and of the academic standards of programs or courses.

Provided that students have given sufficient notice about their accommodation needs, instructors shall take reasonable steps to accommodate these needs in a manner consistent with the guidelines established hereunder. For further information please refer to: [York university academic accommodation for students with disabilities policy](#)

Course Materials Copyright Information:

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