Time and Place: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00AM to 12:15PM, Rm. 201 Coker Hall
Professor: Dr. J Roger Brothers
    E-mail: brotherj@email.unc.edu
    If I do not reply within 48hrs, then please re-send!
Office: Rm. 129 Wilson Hall
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 12:15PM to 1:30PM and by appointment

Welcome to BIOL 278 – Animal Behavior!
This class discusses the science of animal behavior; we learn about what animals do, how they do it, and why they do it. We also focus on how we as scientists investigate these things. To do this, we will evaluate real world examples as well as data from the scientific literature. You will be challenged to think critically about the experimental procedures, results, and conclusions presented.


Course Website: http://sakai.unc.eu
We will use the website often, and it is your responsibility to check it regularly. This syllabus, lectures, sample exams, additional readings, and other useful materials will be posted throughout the semester.

Grading: Your final grade will be calculated based on total points earned. The grading scale is adjusted each semester for fairness, but generally, grades will be assigned using a ten-point scale. An 'A' typically requires at least 90%, and scores below 60% will likely be failing. Scores below 50% will always be failing.

Homework: 25 points
Quizzes: 50 points
Group Work: 50 points
Exam 1: 100 points
Exam 2: 125 points
Final Exam: 150 points

Total: 500 points
** There will be no extra credit. However, weight is given to improvement over the semester, so that any initial difficulties can be overcome with effort. **

Homework:
Each student will be assigned one lecture and one reading to write 5 study questions for. The questions will be sent to me via Sakai, I will edit them, and then post them anonymously for the class to use. When enrollment settles down, I will announce the details of the assignments.
Quizzes:
Periodically (approximately every other week), we will have brief quizzes that are worth 5 points each. The quizzes are designed as practices for exams, and will focus on material covered since the last quiz. Only your 10 highest scores will count.

Group Work:
In those weeks that we do not have quizzes we will have in class group assignments that are also worth 5 points each. Similarly to quizzes, the questions will be designed to simulate the exams, and only your 10 highest scores count.

Exams:
We will have two midterm exams and one final. All three will be cumulative, but will focus more heavily on content covered since the last exam. Approximately 1/3 of each exam will test old material and 2/3 will cover previously untested material. The two mid-term exams will be 75% multiple-choice and 25% free-response. The final exam will be entirely multiple-choice.

The multiple-choice questions usually require a thoughtful analysis, and only rarely rely on pure memorization. Free-response answers need to be clear, well-organized, and complete.

Honor Code:
As in any course at UNC, you are expected to adhere to the student honor code. You will be asked to sign your exam as an indication that you will do so.
Schedule – Details may change

Week 1 (Aug. 21/23): Introduction, and History
Chapters 1 and 2, Chapter 7 pp. 157-162

Week 2 (Aug. 28/30): Genetics, Evolution, and Behavior
Chapters 3 and 4

Week 3 (Sept. 4/6): Physiology of Behavior – Sensory Systems & Neurobiology
Chapter 5, and Chapter 7 pp. 151-156

Week 4 (Sept. 11/13): Physiology of Behavior – Neurobiology & Hormones
Chapter 11 pp. 286-291, Chapter 14 pp. 385-388

Week 5 (Sept. 18/20): Development of Behavior – Learning & Biological Rhythms
No textbook reading

Week 6 (Sept. 25/27): **Exam 1 on Sept. 25, Tuesday**
Foraging Behavior
Chapter 5 pp. 89-103, Chapter 8

Week 7 (Oct. 2/4): Foraging Behavior & Antipredator Defenses
Chapters 8 and 9

Week 8 (Oct. 9/11): Animal Movements – Dispersal, Orientation, and Migration
Chapter 10

Week 9 (Oct. 16/18): Animal Movements – Natal Homing
**No Class on Oct. 18, Thursday – Fall Break**
TBA, No textbook reading

Chapters 11 and 6

Week 11 (Oct. 30/Nov. 1): Social Behavior – Communication
**Exam 2 on Nov. 1, Thursday**
Chapter 6

Week 12 (Nov. 6/8): Reproductive Behavior – Sexual Selection & Competition
Chapter 12

Week 13 (Nov. 13/15): Reproductive Behavior – Mate Choice and Mating Systems
Chapter 12

Week 14 (Nov. 20/22): Reproductive Behavior – Mating Systems
**No class on Nov. 22, Thursday, Thanksgiving Break**
Chapter 13

Week 15 (Nov. 27/29): Parental Care; Cooperation and Altruism.
Chapter 14

Week 16 (Dec. 4): Cooperation and Altruism
Chapter 15

**Final Exam: Dec. 13, Thursday, 12PM Noon.**