

Biology 278 – Animal Behavior
Syllabus for Spring 2020

Time and Place: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00-12:15, Rm. 201 Coker Hall

Professor: Dr. Catherine M.F. Lohmann

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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:30 PM and by appointment

Class Website: A website for Biol 278 –section 001 is available through <http://sakai.unc.edu> This syllabus itself, old exams, and various other items will be posted throughout the semester for your reading pleasure.

Course Goals: The course teaches the science of animal behavior. We will focus on what animals do, how they do it, why they do it, and perhaps most importantly, how WE as scientists can be sure of our information. That means we will spend a great deal of time discussing experimental procedures and results. You will be challenged to understand the experiments and conclusions and to think about them analytically.

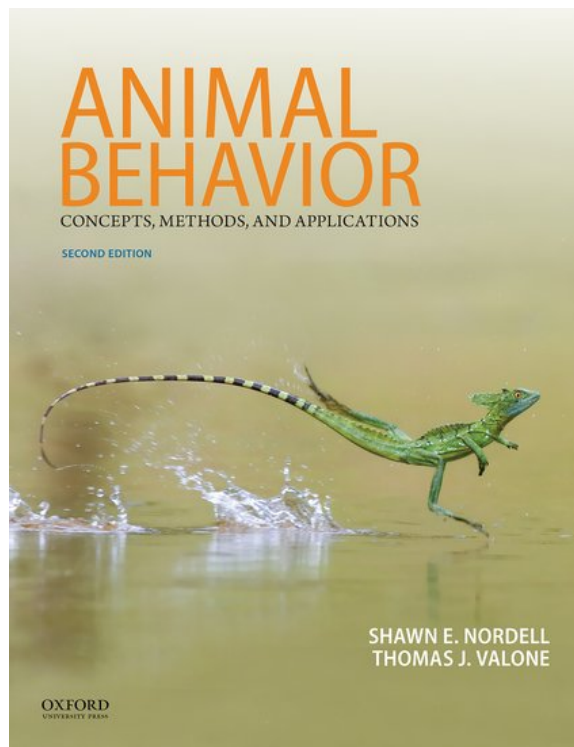
Grading:

- ❖ We will have two homework assignments worth 10 points each. Each student will be assigned one lecture and one textbook chapter 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.
- ❖ We will have a brief quiz each Thursday that covers material from the previous week. Each quiz will be worth 6 pts. You will be allowed to drop your lowest two quiz grades. The quizzes are designed as practices for the exams.
- ❖ We will have two midterm exams. Each will be worth 100 pts. On each, approximately 75% of the points will be multiple choice, and about 25% of the points will require written answers. The multiple choice questions usually require a thoughtful analysis and rarely rely on pure memorization. The written answers need to be clear, well-organized, and complete.
- ❖ The final exam will be cumulative, worth 150 pts, and will be all multiple choice. Approximately 100 pts will cover new material since the second midterm, and 50 pts will cover old material.

- ❖ The final grade will be calculated based on total points. Grades will be assigned using a 10-point scale. The scale will be adjusted each semester for fairness (always in the students' favor), although an 'A' typically requires at least 90%. Scores below 50% will always be failing grades. Scores below 60% will likely be failing.
- ❖ Additional notes: There will be no extra credit. However, weight is given to improvement over the course of the semester, so that any initial difficulties can be overcome with effort. In addition, participation as seen via UNC Check-in and Poll Everywhere will be considered as well.

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

Text: Nordell SE and Valone, TJ. 2017. *Animal Behavior: Concepts, Methods, and Application*. Second edition. Oxford University Press: New York.



Lecture, Reading, and Exam Schedule Spring 2020

(this is approximate - details are subject to change)

Date	Lecture	Topic	Readings
January 9, Thursday	Lecture 1	Introduction	Chapter 1 and 2
January 14, Tuesday	Lecture 2	Science of Behavior: History and Principles	Chapter 1 and 2; also Chapter 7 pp 157-162
January 16, Thursday	Lecture 3 Quiz 1	Genetics of Behavior HOMEWORK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	Ch 3 and 4
January 21, Tuesday	Lecture 4	Evolution & Behavior	Ch 3 and 4
January 23, Thursday	Lecture 5 Quiz 2	Neural Basis of Behavior	Ch 5 pp 87-89; Ch. 7 pp 151-156
January 28, Tuesday	Lecture 6	Neural Basis of Behavior	Ch 5 pp 87-89; Ch. 7 pp 151-156
January 30, Thursday	Lecture 7 Quiz 3	Hormones & Behavior	Ch. 11 pp. 286-291 Ch 14 pp. 385-388
February 4, Tuesday	Lecture 8	Development of Behavior	Ch. 4, pp 71-73 (Birdsong Learning); Ch.7.163-177
February 6, Thursday	Lecture 9 Quiz 4	Development of Behavior/ Biological Rhythms	Parts of Ch 5 not covered elsewhere
February 11, Tuesday	Lecture 10	Biological Rhythms	None
February 13, Thursday	Exam 1		None
February 18, Tuesday	Lecture 11	Foraging Behavior	Ch. 5, pp. 89-103; Ch. 7 and 8
February 20, Thursday	Lecture 12 Quiz 5	Foraging/Antipredator Defenses	Ch. 8, Ch 9
February 25, Tuesday	Lecture 13	Antipredator Defenses	Ch. 9
February 27, Thursday	Lecture 14 Quiz 6	Animal Travels & Sea Turtles	Ch. 10
March 3, Tuesday	Lecture 15	Animal Travels & Sea Turtles	Ch. 10

Date	Lecture	Topic	Readings
March 5 Thursday	Lecture 16 Quiz 7	Dispersal & Migration	Ch. 10
March 10 and 12,		Spring Break	
March 17, Tuesday	Lecture 17	Habitat Selection	Ch. 11
March 19, Thursday	Lecture 18 Quiz 8	Territoriality and Conflict	Ch. 11
March 24, Tuesday	Lecture 19	Communication I	Ch. 6
March 26, Thursday		Exam 2	
March 31, Tuesday	Lecture 20	Communication II	Ch. 6
April 2, Thursday	Lecture 21 Quiz 9	Sexual Selection: Mate Competition	Ch. 12
April 7, Tuesday	Lecture 22	Mate Competition/Choice	Ch. 12
April 9, Thursday	Lecture 23 Quiz 10	Mate Choice	Ch. 12
April 14, Tuesday	Lecture 24	Mating Systems	Ch. 13
April 16, Thursday	Lecture 25 Quiz 11	Parental Care	Ch. 13
April 21, Tuesday	Lecture 26	Costs and Benefits of Social Behavior	Ch. 14
April 23, Thursday	Lecture 27 Quiz 12	Cooperation & Altruism	
April 27 Monday	12 Noon	Final Exam	