

Biology 278 – Animal Behavior  
Syllabus for SPRING 2019

**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 2-3 PM, Thursdays after class until 1 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. Bookmark it– you’ll be glad you did.

**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.

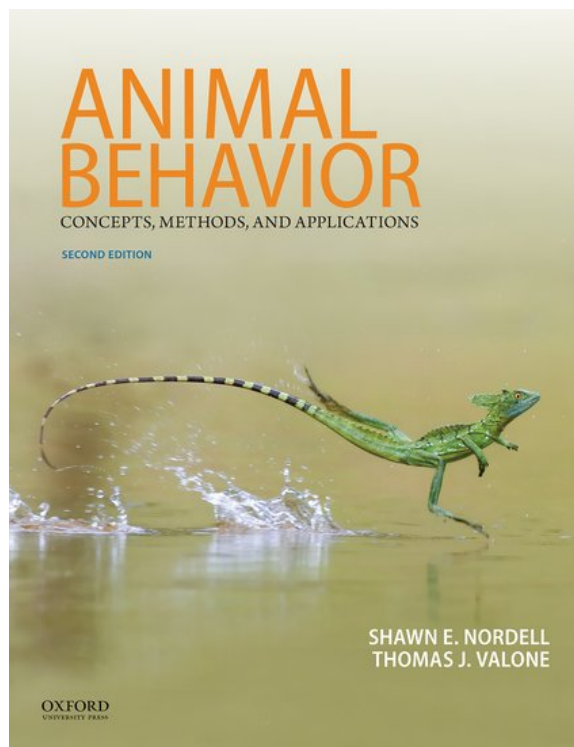
**Grading:**

- ❖ We will have two homework assignments worth 10 points each. Each student will be assigned one lecture and one 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 details of the assignments.
- ❖ 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 test.
- ❖ We will have two midterm exams. Each will be worth 100 pts. On each, approximately 75% of the questions will be multiple choice, and about 25% of the questions will require written answers. The multiple choice questions usually require a thoughtful analysis and only 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, 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.

**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 2018**  
 (this is approximate - details are subject to change)

Date	Lecture	Topic	Readings
January 10, Thursday	Lecture 1	Introduction	Chapter 1 and 2
January 15, Tuesday	Lecture 2	History & Genetics	Chapter 1 and 2; also Chapter 7 pp 157-162
January 17, Thursday	Lecture 3	Genetics/evolution	Ch 3 and 4
January 22, Tuesday	Lecture 4	Natural Selection & Behavior	Ch 3 and 4
January 24, Thursday	Lecture 5	Neurobiology & Behavior	Ch 5 pp 87-89; Ch. 7 pp 151-156
January 29, Tuesday	Lecture 6	Neurobiology & Behavior	Ch 5 pp 87-89; Ch. 7 pp 151-156
January 31, Thursday	Lecture 7	Hormones & Behavior	Ch. 11 pp. 286-291 Ch 14 pp. 385-388
February 5, Tuesday	Lecture 8	Development of Behavior/learning	Ch. 4, pp 71-73 (Birdsong Learning);
February 7, Thursday	Lecture 9	Development of behavior/ Biological Rhythms	Parts of ch 5 not covered elsewhere
February 12, Tuesday	Lecture 10	Biological Rhythms/	None
<b>February 14, Thursday</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>		
February 19, Tuesday	Lecture 11	Foraging Behavior	Ch. 5, pp. 89-103; Ch. 8
February 21, Thursday	Lecture 12	Foraging/Antipredator Defenses	Ch. 8, Ch 9
February 26, Tuesday	Lecture 13	Antipredator Defenses	Ch. 9
February 28, Thursday	Lecture 14	Animal Travels & Sea Turtles	<a href="http://www.unc.edu/depts/oc_eanweb/turtles">www.unc.edu/depts/oc_eanweb/turtles</a>
March 5 Tuesday	Lecture 15	Animal Travels & Sea Turtles	<b>Ch 10</b>
March 7, Thursday	Lecture 16	Migration, Dispersal & Territoriality	Ch. 10
<b>March 12 Tuesday</b>		<b>Spring Break</b>	
<b>March 14 Thursday</b>		<b>Spring Break</b>	
March 19, Tuesday	Lecture 17	Social Behavior: Cost, benefits, conflict resolution	Ch. 11
March 21, Thursday	Lecture 18	Social Behavior: communication	Ch. 6
March 26, Tuesday	Lecture 19	Social Behavior: communication	Ch. 6
<b>March 28, Thursday</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>		
April 2, Tuesday	Lecture 20	Sexual Selection: Mate Competition	Ch. 12
April 4 Thursday	Lecture 21	Mate Competition/Choice	Ch. 12
April 9, Tuesday	Lecture 22	Mate Choice	Ch. 12

April 11, Thursday	Lecture 23	Mating Systems	Ch. 13
April 16, Tuesday	Lecture 24	Mating Systems	Ch. 13
April 18, Thursday	Lecture 25	Parental Care	Ch. 14
April 23, Tuesday	Lecture 26	Cooperation & Altruism	Ch. 15
April 25, Thursday	Lecture 27	Cooperation & Altruism; Human Ethology	Ch. 15
<b>April 29 Monday</b>	<b>12 Noon</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>	