

BIOLOGY 278L – ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

Fall 2018 Syllabus

Instructor: Catherine Lohmann

TA information:

TA (different for different sections)

Email:

Office:

Office hours:

Dr. Lohmann's contact info:

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Course Website:

<https://biol278lab.web.unc.edu>

UserID & password: use your ONYEN

About this class: In this class we will carry out lab exercises designed to show you the variety of different questions one can study in animal behavior and the variety of different ways to approach those questions. Generally speaking, you should expect to get muddy from crawling on the ground, wet from being splashed with sea water, startled by fiddler crabs, and puzzled because animals don't always behave like the textbooks say they do. Please be prepared to think on your feet and be flexible

Attendance: Because the lab exercises must be completed during the week they are available, we expect perfect attendance. We know that many of you may have other events such as professional school interviews that interfere with attending labs. In such cases, contact your TA ahead of time so that you can arrange to make up the lab in another section.

If you become suddenly ill, please document your illness. If possible, we will ask you to make up the lab in another section; if a make-up is not possible, we will give you an additional assignment related to your Webcam project.

Preparation: Please arrive on time for class! You will be working in teams, so arriving late means you will slow down your classmates (and potentially miss the quiz). In many cases we will leave the lab to work outdoors. If you arrive late you will not know where your team has gone.

Read each lab exercise ahead of time and come to class prepared! Like any lab course, you need to understand what the lab is about before starting.

Grading Breakdown:

Quizzes	20%
Lab Report 1	25%
Lab Report 2	35%
Oral Presentation	15%
Participation and Attendance	5%

Quizzes: Brief quizzes will be given immediately at the start of the lab period to test your understanding of the experiment you will be performing on that day. Read ahead and you will do well on the quiz and in the lab. No quizzes will be dropped or made up. If you are late to lab you might miss the quiz so don't be late.

Lab Reports: The lab reports must be typed, proofread, and written in the format of a scientific paper. We realize many of you have never written a scientific paper and so we will provide you with information on the proper format and organization. We also expect that your writing be clear and follow standard grammatical rules for English. **Only a hard copy will be accepted, your TA cannot accept any report via email** Any late assignment will be penalized **10 points per calendar day!**

Oral Presentation: In the Web Cam exercise, you will work in small groups to form your own hypothesis, collect and interpret data, and present your results and conclusions to your classmates. Your oral presentation should be about 7-10 minutes long and should also include a visual presentation of your data, usually a PowerPoint presentation with graphs/tables that convey the major findings of your study.

Class Behavior and Honor Code: To earn the full respect of your TA, please attend lab, don't be late, work diligently, and help keep the lab neat and clean. We expect you to do your part and cooperate with your labmates. As with any class, we expect you to adhere to the UNC honor code. Because there is so much writing in the class, we remind you that plagiarism will not be tolerated, so if you aren't sure if it's plagiarism then don't do it. (UNC honor code information: <http://honor.unc.edu/honor/code.html>)

Schedule

Week of	Topic	Assignments
Jan 9-11	No lab	
Jan 14-18	Prey Selection	
Jan 21-25	MLK DAY – no labs	<i>Quiz</i>
Jan 28-Feb 1	Costs of sexual ornaments in fiddler crabs	<i>Quiz; Subject of first lab report</i>
Feb 4-8	Releasers for schooling in fish	<i>Quiz;</i>
Feb 11-15	Web Cam I	<i>Quiz</i>
Feb 18-22	Cricket personality (studies of individual variation)	<i>Quiz <u>First Lab Report Due</u></i>
Feb 25-March 1	Paradise fish	<i>Quiz</i>
March 5-9	Web Cam II	<i>Oral Presentations</i>
March 12-16	None – Spring Break	
March 19-23	Isopod Orientation	<i>Quiz; Subject of second lab report</i>
March 26-30	Mockingbirds I	<i>Quiz</i>
April 2-6	Mockingbirds II	<i>Quiz</i>
April 9-13	Prisoner Dilemma/Rain Date for Mockingbirds	<i><u>Second Lab Report Due</u></i>
April 16-20	NO labs Good Friday	
April 23-26	Prisoner's Dilemma/Honeybee Observations	