

SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS

Colorado State University, Academic Partner

Discipline: Botany/Zoology
Course Number and Title: BZ 300 Animal Behavior
Division: Upper
Faculty Name: Deborah Beal
Semester Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: One (1) animal biology laboratory AND one (1) animal biology course OR permission of the instructor

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Animal Behavior is the study of the mechanisms and evolution of animal behavior. Topics include methods for the observation and quantification of behavior, natural selection and evolution of behavior, behavioral genetics, neural and physiological mechanisms of behavior, communication, aggression, sexual reproduction, parental investment, and mating systems. We will also consider human behavior in the context of what we can learn from animal behavior. How are we the same? How are we different from the rest of the animal kingdom? How do we rely on the animal kingdom to meet our needs?

The Semester at Sea voyage will provide a unique opportunity both to view animals in their natural habitats around the world but also to observe human interaction with animals and document the impact of humans on other species.

The course is an upper-level biology elective appropriate for junior and senior biology majors and others interested in zoology, animal science, animal welfare or animal conservation. You should have at least 1 general biology course as a pre-requisite for Animal Behavior (BZ 300).

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Semester at Sea provides the unique opportunity to view animals and animal welfare first hand and to compare the impact of human-animal interaction across various cultures. Students will observe different ethical, religious and cultural attitudes towards animals. Information from the text will be supplemented by case studies and exploration into specific behaviors and human attitudes in different parts of the world. Students will observe the use of animals by different cultures for various activities (for example: food- livestock, pets – companion animals, entertainment, science investigation, etc.).

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

TITLE: Animal Behavior: An Evolutionary Approach
AUTHOR: John Alcock

Commented [SK1]:

PUBLISHER: Oxford University Press (formerly Sinauer)
ISBN: 9780878939664 (paperback)
DATE/EDITION: 2015/10th Edition

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

Depart Ensenada, Mexico — January 5

A1—January 7: Introduction and syllabus. Assign student groups to various ports for post port reviews.

A2—January 9: History and Introduction to Behavior (Chapter 1)

A3—January 11: Altruism and social behavior (Chapter 2) Preparation for Hawaii.

Honolulu, Hawaii — January 12

A4—January 14: Debriefing Hawaii. Evolution of Communication (Chapter 4)

January 16—International Date Line crossing (Lost Day)

A5—January 17: communication (Chapter 4)

No Class — January 19

A6—January 20: Review for exam 1

A7—January 22: Exam 1 (10%). Preparation for Japan Kobe,

Japan — January 24-28

A8—January 29: Debriefing Japan. Finding food (Chapter 5)

Shanghai, China — January 31 - February 1 In-Transit — February 2-3

Hong Kong, SAR — February 4-5

A9—February 6: Debriefing China. Avoiding predation (Chapter 5)

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam — February 8-13

A10—February 14: Debriefing Vietnam. Finding a place to live (Chapter 6)

No Class — February 16

A11—February 17: courtship and mating behavior (chapter 7-8). Preparation for Myanmar.

Yangon, Myanmar — February 19-23

A12—February 24: Debriefing Myanmar. Parental Care (chapter 9)

A13— February 26: Preparation for India Cochin,

India — February 28 - March 5

A14—March 6: Debriefing India. Review Exam 2

No Class - March 7

A15—March 9: Exam 2: Preparation for Mauritius

Port Louis, Mauritius — March 11

A16—March 12: Debriefing Mauritius. Behavioral development (Chapter 11)

A17—March 14: The nervous system and behavior (Chapter 12)

A18—March 16: Preparation for South Africa. Nervous system control of behavior (Chapter 12-13)

Cape Town, South Africa — March 18-23

A19—March 24: Debriefing South Africa. Review for exam 2

A20—March 26: Exam 2 (10%)

A21—March 28: Preparation for Ghana Tema, human behavior (Chapter 14)

Ghana — March 30 - April 1

Takoradi, Ghana — April 2-3

A22—April 4: Debriefing Ghana. Student presentations.

A23—April 6: Study Day — April 8

A24— April 9: Preparation for Morocco. Student presentations. Review for the Final

Casablanca, Morocco – April 11-14

A25–April 15: Final Exam (20%) Arrive Bremerhaven, Germany – April 19

FIELD WORK

Semester at Sea field experiences allow for an unparalleled opportunity to compare, contrast, and synthesize the different cultures and countries encountered over the course of the voyage. In addition to the one field class, students will complete independent field assignments that span multiple countries.

Field Class attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field class. Field Classes constitute at least 20% of the contact hours for each course.

Field Class and Assignment

The Field Class for this course will take place on **Tuesday, February 20, in Yangon, Myanmar.**

[The field class information below is not finalized.]

Field Class Title: Green Valley Elephant refuge

Description: Green Valley is a farm for retired work animals. Students will have the opportunity to help feed, bathe and interact with the resident elephant herd. Students will also help plant trees and learn about conservation principles which will create elephant habitat.

INDEPENDENT FIELD ASSIGNMENTS

On ship experiments: Students will make 5 observations of human behavior during the voyage while at sea and will analyze using techniques applied to animals. Each observation will consist of a 20 minute observation of group behavior (feeding, playing, flirting, etc). Each observation will follow a format given in class (1 page summary).

Ports-of-call reports: Students in groups will be assigned two ports-of-calls countries. In the port and in the country, students should note anything they find relevant to our course, which could for example include work animals, pets, animals used for entertainment (dolphin shows, etc), animal food consumption and food offered in stores and markets; aquaculture; farms, fishing practices etc. Each group will prepare a 5-10 minute power point presentation for the two different ports, and turn in an essay (1-2 pages of text).

Animal Photo log: Students will maintain a photo log documenting type of behavior, animal shown, country, date and your thoughts about the way the animal in the photo was behaving and what use humans found for it.

Term Paper: Students will write a 7-8 page summary of their view of how humans interact with animals. This will include the student's opinion about how the interaction affects both the animal and humans from different cultures. Care should be taken to explain how treatment of animals varies globally.

METHODS OF EVALUATION / GRADING SCALE GRADING SCALE

The following Grading Scale is utilized for student evaluation. Pass/Fail is not an option for Semester at Sea coursework. Note that C-, D+ and D- grades are also not assigned on Semester at Sea in accordance with the grading system at Colorado State University (the SAS partner institution).

<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Satisfactory/Poor</u>	<u>Failing</u>
97-100%: A+	87-89%: B+	77-79%: C+	Less than 60%: F
93-96%: A	83-86%: B	70-76%: C	
90-92%: A-	80-82%: B-	60-69%: D	

Evaluation

2 exams 20%

Human activity reports 10%

Photographic record 10%

Group presentations & papers 10%

How humans use animal paper 10%

Final Exam 20%

Field Class 20%

ATTENDANCE/ENGAGEMENT IN THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Attendance in all Semester at Sea classes, including the Field Class, is mandatory. Students must inform their instructors prior to any unanticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion. Instructors must make reasonable efforts to enable students to make up work which must be accomplished under the instructor's supervision (e.g., examinations, laboratories). In the event of a conflict in regard to this policy, individuals may appeal using established CSU procedures.

LEARNING ACCOMMODATIONS

Semester at Sea provides academic accommodations for students with diagnosed learning disabilities, in accordance with ADA guidelines. Students who will need accommodations in a class, should contact ISE to discuss their individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner prior to implementation. A letter from the student's home institution verifying the accommodations received on their home campus (dated within the last three years) is required before any accommodation is provided on the ship. Students

must submit this verification of accommodations to academic@isevoyages.org as soon as possible, but no later than two months prior to the voyage.

STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

The foundation of a university is truth and knowledge, each of which relies in a fundamental manner upon academic integrity and is diminished significantly by academic misconduct. Academic integrity is conceptualized as doing and taking credit for one's own work. A pervasive attitude promoting academic integrity enhances the sense of community and adds value to the educational process. All within the University are affected by the cooperative commitment to academic integrity. All Semester at Sea courses adhere to this Academic Integrity Policy and Student Conduct Code. Depending on the nature of the assignment or exam, the faculty member may require a written declaration of the following honor pledge: "I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance on this exam/assignment."

RESERVE BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY

None

FILM REQUEST

None

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

None but class lectures will be made available

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

None