

# IB 329 Animal Behavior

(aka. ANSC 366, ANTH 342, PSYCH 329)  
Spring 2021, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

**Time and Place:** MWF 3:00-3:50 pm, online synchronous lectures (using Zoom)

**Web resources:** IB 329 Moodle site on Learn@Illinois (learn.illinois.edu)

**Instructor:** Prof. Andrew Suarez      **TA:** Lisa Surber  
**Office hours:** by appointment      by appointment  
**Email:** [suarez2@illinois.edu](mailto:suarez2@illinois.edu)      [lsurber2@illinois.edu](mailto:lsurber2@illinois.edu)

**Recommend Text:** Alcock – *Animal Behavior*, 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> Edition  
or Rubenstein and Alcock – *Animal Behavior*, 11<sup>th</sup> edition

**Overview and Learning Objectives:** The main goal of this course is to examine how and why behavior varies within and among species. Specific learning outcomes include:

1. Distinguish between proximate (mechanistic) and ultimate (evolutionary) approaches to study behavior (e.g. Tinbergen's Four Questions).
2. Formulate hypotheses for each approach to explain a specific behavior.
3. Describe how a knowledge of animal behavior can inform conservation goals and be used to understand human behavior.

**Structure:** Animal Behavior will be offered entirely online in Spring 2021 with synchronous 50 min synchronous three times a week. We will make the learning process as active as possible given the constraints of a large, online course. Although full discussions may be difficult, student participation will be encouraged throughout the lecture which will include graded activities. Links to lecture slides and lecture recordings will be made available on the course Moodle site.

**Grading:** Grades will be based on in-class activities on the course Moodle Site (100 pts) and three in-class exams (100 pts each). Exams consist of multiple-choice, matching and short essay questions. If you need to take a conflict exam, let me know as soon as possible to schedule a make-up exam. If you miss an exam due to an emergency, contact me as soon as possible.

Grading Scale:	<u>Letter grade</u>	<u>% points</u>	<u>total points</u> (out of 400 possible)
	A	90%	360
	B	80%	320
	C	70%	280
	D	60%	240

**Extra Credit:** You can receive extra credit by attending a campus seminar on the topic of animal behavior. For specific directions and a list of potential seminars, see the postings on Moodle.

## **Academic Integrity/Plagiarism:**

This course will follow Article 1 Part 4 (1-401 through 1-406) of the *Student Code* (<https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1/part4/1-401/>). This rule defines infractions of academic integrity, which include but are not limited to cheating, fabrication, and plagiarism. You are responsible for being knowledgeable about what the infractions are for not following these guidelines. [www.admin.uiuc.edu/policy/code/index.html](http://www.admin.uiuc.edu/policy/code/index.html)

**Accommodations:** If you have an approved, scheduled absence for a lecture, lab, or exam, please contact your TA or instructor at the beginning of the semester to make arrangements to make-up the material. If you miss an exam due to personal illness or tragedy, please notify your TA or instructor as soon as possible. If you have any questions regarding these policies, please see your instructors.

If you need special assistance because of a disability or a conflict with class during the semester, please see me at the beginning of the semester to discuss what arrangements can be made. If you have serious questions or concerns about your performance in this class due to extenuating circumstances, please talk to me as early as possible. I will always try to accommodate a student with a demonstrated desire and willingness to learn.

To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor and the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES, you may visit 1207 S. Oak St., Champaign, call 333-4603, e-mail [disability@illinois.edu](mailto:disability@illinois.edu) or go to the DRES website. If you are concerned you have a disability-related condition that is impacting your academic progress, there are academic screening appointments available on campus that can help diagnosis a previously undiagnosed disability by visiting the DRES website and selecting “Sign-Up for an Academic Screening” at the bottom of the page.

If you are interested in obtaining information to improve writing, study skills, time management or organization, the following campus resources are available to all students:

Writer’s Workshop, Undergrad Library, 217-333-8796

<http://www.cws.illinois.edu/workshop>

<http://disability.illinois.edu/strategies>

<http://www.counselingcenter.illinois.edu/self-help-brochures/>

Most college offices and academic deans provide academic skills support and assistance for academically related and personal problems. Links to the appropriate college contact can be found by going to this website and selecting your college or school: [illinois.edu/colleges/colleges.html](http://illinois.edu/colleges/colleges.html)  
If you are experiencing symptoms of anxiety or depression or are feeling overwhelmed, stressed, or in crisis, you can seek help through the following campus resources:

Counseling Center  
206 Fred H. Turner Student Services Building  
7:50 a.m.-5:00 p.m., M-F, Ph: 333-3704

McKinley Mental Health  
313 McKinley Health Center  
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., M-F, Ph: 333-2705

McKinley Health Education offers individual consultations for students interested in learning relaxation and other stress/time management skills, call 333-2714.

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**Lecture Schedule**  
(tentative)

Date	Day	Topic	Alcock Edition: 9	10	11
Jan 25	M	Introduction to the Course			
Jan 27	W	Foundations of Animal Behavior	Ch. 1	1,2	1
Jan 29	F	Methodology for the Study of Behavior			
Feb 1	M	Evolution and Behavior	Ch. 2	10	2
Feb 3	W	Proximate vs Ultimate Explanations	Ch. 2	10	2
Feb 5	F	Genetics of Behavior 1	Ch. 3		3
Feb 8	M	Genetics of Behavior 2	Ch. 3		3
Feb 10	W	Development and Behavior	Ch. 3	11	3
Feb 12	F	Hormones & Behavior	Ch. 5	13	5
Feb 15	M	Neurobiology I: Sensory Systems	Ch. 4	12	4
Feb 17	W	<b>no class – wellness day</b>			
Feb 19	F	Neurobiology II: Neural Basis of Behavior	Ch. 4	12	4
Feb 22	M	Communication			
Feb 24	W	Recognition Systems			
Feb 26	F	Review 1			
Mar 1	M	<b>Exam 1</b>			
Mar 3	W	<b>no class – wellness day</b>			
Mar 5	F	Anti-Predatory Behavior	Ch. 6	5	6
Mar 8	M	Predatory Behavior / Foraging	Ch. 7	5	6
Mar 10	W	Foraging 2	Ch. 7	5	6
Mar 12	F	Habitat Selection / Territoriality	Ch. 8	6	7
Mar 15	M	Communication 2	Ch. 9	4	8
Mar 17	W	Honey Bee Dance Language	Ch. 7	2	
Mar 19	F	Evolution of Sex	Ch. 11	8	
Mar 22	M	Sexual Selection & Male Competition	Ch. 10	7	9
Mar 24	W	<b>no class – wellness day</b>			
Mar 26	F	Sexual Selection & Mate Choice	Ch. 10	7	9
Mar 29	M	Mating Systems 1	Ch. 11	8	10
Mar 31	W	Mating Systems 2	Ch. 11	8	10
Apr 2	F	Review 2			
Apr 5	M	<b>Exam 2</b>			
Apr 7	W	<b>no class – wellness day</b>			
Apr 9	F	Parental Care	Ch. 12	9	11
Apr 12	M	Helpers at the Nest	Ch. 7, 13	3	11
Apr 14	W	Living in Groups / Cooperation	Ch. 7, 13	3	12,13
Apr 16	F	Altruism / Eusociality	Ch. 13	2,3	12,13
Apr 19	M	Division of Labor			
Apr 21	W	Conservation and Behavior 1			
Apr 23	F	Conservation and Behavior 2			
Apr 26	M	Human Behavior	Ch. 14	14	14
Apr 28	W	Personality			
Apr 30	F	Human Personality	Ch. 14	14	14
May 3	M	Review 3			
May 5	W	<b>Exam 3</b>			