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ANTY 291.01: Primates in Peril

Jennifer L. Foust

The University of Montana, jennifer.foust@umontana.edu

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Recommended Citation

Foust, Jennifer L., "ANTY 291.01: Primates in Peril" (2013). *University of Montana Course Syllabi*. 8719.
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Anthropology (ANTY) 291:
Primates in Peril
Spring 2013



Instructor: Jennifer L. Foust

Email: jennifer1.foust@mso.umt.edu

Required Course Text:

Primate Diversity (2000) by Dean Falk, W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

There will be additional reading online provided to you.

Course Goals and Purpose: This course is designed to provide an introduction to primate behavior and their contemporary ecology. Students will become familiar with the behavior, social structure, diet, habitat issues and conservation efforts of numerous primate species throughout the world today, including prosimians, New World monkeys, Old World monkeys and the Great Apes. Videos, slides and primate vocalization recordings will be used extensively

throughout the course in order to provide as much multimedia presentation of primate behavior as possible. This course will also prepare students to take more advanced primatology courses within physical anthropology.

Upon successful completion of this course, you will

- be more familiar with basic terminology of physical anthropology and its branch primatology
- be more familiar with the scientific method and how it is applied in physical anthropology and primatology
- be familiar with the behavior, social structure, diet, and habitat issues and conservation efforts of most non-human primates
- be able to critically evaluate claims about non-human nature, biology and basic evolution

How Does This Class Work? You can expect to spend about as much time on this class as you would spend on a traditional “in the classroom” class, which I estimate to be in the neighborhood of about 6 hours per week for most students. The material is divided into 11 “Lectures”, of which should be completed most weeks. Each week will consist of a lecture and videos that should be completed, and exam weeks you are only expected to take an online exam. For each Lecture there are two main types of class materials on Moodle: Narrated lecture presentations and un-narrated pdf lecture notes. You should begin by using the narrated presentations, which simulate a classroom lecture experience, that include videos, which gives a visual experience in observing the species discussed that week. Next, read the assigned readings in Falk. Finally, you should look through the un-narrated .pdf lectures to test your knowledge of the subject matter of that lecture to review for the exams. Exams that will be given cover about 1/4 of the class material (lectures, videos, assignments and readings) each.

Class Materials: The class materials are on the Moodle system. You should have been notified by email about how to access this system. Since you are reading this syllabus, I assume that this process worked for you. All materials for successful completion of the class are on the Moodle system.

Attendance and Progress Policy: No class meetings will be held in a classroom, so attendance is irrelevant. However, continuous progress in the class is required. In other words, you cannot

put everything off until the last week and expect to finish the class successfully. If you have considered such a strategy, then online learning is probably not for you and I encourage you to take the traditional classroom-based version of this class, instead of the online version. Normally, we will cover approximately 2 lectures each week.

Academic Integrity: Students will be held to the provisions of the Student Conduct Code, online at <http://www.umt.edu/studentaffairs/CODE.htm> with regards to cheating, plagiarism, abusive language, and other issues. Violations will not be tolerated.

Disabilities: Every effort has been made to make the online materials accessible to students with disabilities. If you have a problem accessing the materials, you should let your instructor know what accommodation you need. I assume that accommodation services and facilities will be provided by the Disability Services for Students office (see <http://www.umt.edu/dss/>). Ultimately, however, online classes may not be suitable for all students and if this is true for you I encourage you to take the traditional classroom-based version of this class.

Grading: 75% of your grade will be based on your three best out of four exams, and the remaining 25% on assignments. The following scale will be used for assigning grades: A: 90-100%, B: 80-89%, C: 60-79%, D: 50-59%, F: under 50%. If appropriate, I may assign + and - modifiers to these grades in special cases.

Exams: The Moodle system requires exams to be made available online for a certain limited time span. Normally the exam will be available between 12:01am Sunday and 11:55pm Saturday of the week in which it appears in the class schedule. Moodle will give you two hours in which to take the exam. Experience has shown that you can't start the exam, go browse somewhere else or walk away for a period of time, then come back and continue the exam. I suggest allocating a block of time to take the exam during which you will be undisturbed. There will be three Midterms and a Final exam. Each Midterm exams will normally consist of about 50 objective questions worth 2 points apiece (each midterm is worth $\frac{1}{4}$ of your total grade). The Final exam is optional, only if you have completed all three midterms. The Final exam can be taken to replace one midterm exam grade, usually the lowest score.

Assignments: There are five assignments each worth 20 points for a total of 100 points (1/4 of your total grade). Each assignment is due Saturday at 11:55 PM of the week in which it is listed in the class syllabus/schedule. Assignments will be submitted using Moodle's uploading file system, and must be named and formatted as described in the instructions for each assignment. In general, I will grade assignments as either completed (full credit) or not completed (no credit), although there may be some assignments with different grading criteria and I will always deduct points for an assignment that is not done and submitted according to its instructions.

How To Do Well In This Class: The “secret for success” in an online class is strategic time allocation along with continuous engagement. In simple terms, allocate time for the class on a regular basis each week. In a traditional “in the classroom” class you attend lectures 2 or 3 times each week, read the required readings, review, study for exams, and probably do some homework assignments. Online classes are more flexible, in that you don’t need to travel to the classroom at a scheduled time, but they are no less demanding of time or effort. Most authorities on online classes suggest that a student set aside regularly scheduled times each week to accomplish what the class requires that week. Estimating that this class will require about 6 hours of your time each week you may choose to schedule one hour each day Monday through Saturday; or 2 hours each day on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; or 3 hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays; etc. The plan is up to you, but what is important is that you develop some plan of this sort (strategic time allocation) and stick with it. It is easy to let your online class slide until the last minute, and then you are confronted with the difficult task of trying to master all the material in a short time. To avoid this you should stick to your schedule, at least approximately, (continuous engagement) and tackle the material in manageable lecture-sized bites. In online classes it is especially unwise to wait until the last minute to turn in assignments or take online tests, because of the possibility of technology failure. For example, if you wait until one hour before the deadline for taking your online exam and find that Moodle is down, or the Internet is slow that night, you may find that you are unable to complete the test. If this happens your instructor will try to help you, but the responsibility to plan ahead for problems of this sort is yours.

ANTHROPOLOGY 291 –Spring 2012 SCHEDULE AND READINGS

WEEK	TOPICS COVERED	READINGS
1 Jan 28 – Feb 2	Introduction to course Assignment 1	Falk - Introduction pgs 1-13, Chapter 1 pgs. 14-20 (stop at Paleocene Primates) Reading – The Perils of Primates
2 Feb 3 – Feb 9	Primate Reproductive Strategies and Social Systems	Falk - Chapter 2 Reading – Strategies of Reproduction
3 Feb 10 -16	<u>Prosimians:</u> Introduction to Prosimians Lorises Bushbabies (Galagos) Tarsiers	Falk - Chapter 3 Primates in Peril - Rondo Dwarf Galago pg 27-28, Siau Island Tarsier pg 42-43 and Javan Slow Loris pg 44-46 Readings – Calls of the Wild
4 Feb 17-23	<u>Prosimians:</u> Lemurs Assignment 2	Falk - Chapter 4 Primates in Peril - Great Bamboo lemur pg 11-14 and Northern Sportive lemur pg 21-22
5 Feb 24 – March 2	Exam 1	Over: Weeks 1-4 - Introduction, Reproductive Strategies, Social Systems, and Prosimians
6 March 3 - 9	<u>New World Monkeys: Cebidae</u> Introduction to New World Monkeys Marmosets and Tamarins Capuchins and Squirrel Monkeys	Falk - Chapter 5 and Chapter 6 pg 144 - 156 Primates in Peril – Cotton-top Tamarin pg 68-71 Readings – Capuchin Counterpoint and Diet for a Small Primate

WEEK	TOPICS COVERED	READINGS
<p>7 March 10 - 16</p>	<p><u>New World Monkeys: Atelidae</u></p> <p>Titi Monkeys, Sakis and Uakaris, Howler Monkeys and Spider Monkeys (Muriquis and Woolly Monkeys)</p> <p>Assignment 3</p>	<p>Falk - Chapter 6 pg 156 - 171</p> <p>Primates in Peril – Variegated or Brown Spider monkey pg 72-73 and Peruvian Yellow-tailed Woolly monkey pg 74-76</p> <p>Readings – Family Feuds and Monkeys with Inflated Sex Appeal</p>
<p>8 March 17 - 23</p>	<p><u>Old World Monkeys:</u></p> <p>Introduction to Old World Monkeys</p> <p>Colobines: Colobus Langurs Proboscis Monkey</p>	<p>Falk - Chapter 7</p> <p>Primates in Peril – Tana River Red Colobus pg 31-32, Western Purple-faced Languar pg 53-55</p> <p>Readings – Monkey Moves</p>
<p>9 March 24 - 30</p>	<p><u>Old World Monkeys:</u></p> <p>Guenons (Including: Patas Monkeys, Swamp Monkeys and Vervet Monkeys) Mangabeys</p>	<p>Falk - Chapter 8, Chapter 9</p> <p>Readings – The Vervet’s Year of Doom and Teamwork Tactics</p>
<p>10 March 31- April 6</p>	<p><i>No classes, Spring Break</i></p>	
<p>11 April 7 - 13</p>	<p>Exam 2</p>	<p>Over: Weeks 6-9 - New World Monkeys and Old World Monkeys Parts I and II</p>
<p>12 April 14 - 20</p>	<p><u>Old World Monkeys:</u></p> <p>Macaques, Baboons, Drill and Mandrill</p> <p>Assignment 4</p>	<p>Falk - Chapter 8, Chapter 9</p> <p>Readings – What are Friends For?, Mother Baboon and Ms. Monkey</p>

WEEK	TOPICS COVERED	READINGS
13 April 21 – 27	<u>Apes:</u> Introduction to the Apes Gibbons and Siamang Orangutans	Falk - Chapter 10, Chapter 11 Primates in Peril – Eastern Black Crested Gibbon pg 60-61, Sumatran Orangutan pg 65-67
14 April 28 – May 4	<u>Apes:</u> Gorillas Chimpanzee and Bonobo Assignment 5	Falk - Chapter 12, Chapter 13 Primates in Peril – Cross River Gorilla pg 38-41; Readings – The Bonobos’ Peaceable Kingdom and Gorilla Society
15 May 5 – 11	Exam 3	Over: Weeks 12-14 - Part III Old World Monkeys and Apes
16 May 12 - 17	Final Exam	Cumulative