

SYLLABUS Animal Behavior

Instructor: Alan Shanks

My Office is in the Terwilliger Building and my door is always open.
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Class Schedule: Thursday 8:30 AM to 5 PM and Friday 1 hour

Text Book

John Alcock – Animal Behavior

Approximate Class Schedule

Week 1.

- Wed: Lec. 1: Brief History of Animal Behavior, Review of Evolution, The Scientific Method, First Concepts in Animal Behavior. Readings: Chapters 1 and 2.
Lab: Field trip to the intertidal zone.
- Fri.: Organization of Discussion Section

Week 2.

- Wed: Lec. 2: Neurobiology of Behavior. Readings: Chapters 5 and 6.
Lab: Orientation Behavior in beach hoppers.
- Fri.: Readings.

Week 3.

- Wed: Lec. 3: Readings: Chapters 3 and 4. Lab: Escape behavior.
- Fri: Student Presentations

Week 4.

- Wed: Lec. 4: Evolution of Behavior. Readings: Chapters 7, 8 and 9. Lab.: Phylogeny of Limpet Behavior.
- Fri. Review for mid-term.

Week 5

- Wed: Lab. Discussion of lab projects and initiation of studies
- Fri.: Discussion

Week 6.

- Wed: Lecture topic and readings to be announced. Lab.: Class Projects.
- Fri: Student Presentations

Week 7.

- Wed: Lecture topic and readings to be announced. Lab.: Class Projects
- Fri.: Progress reports on class projects and discussion.

Week 8

- Wed: Lec.: Lecture topic and readings to be announced. Lab.: Class Projects.
- Fri: Readings to be Announced or continuation of progress reports.

Week 9.

- Wed: Lec.: Lecture topic and readings to be announced. Lab.: Class Projects.
- Fri: Student Presentations.

Week 10.

- Wed: Lec.: Lecture topic and readings to be announced. Lab.: Oral presentation of class projects.
- Fri: Review for final

Week 11. **Cumulative Final**. Reports on class projects due by 4 PM.

Determination of Grade

Your grade will be determined by the mid-term, final (NOTE THAT THE FINAL IS CUMULATIVE), the write up of your class research project, and two presentations with accompanying short paper. The portion of your grade due to each of these assignments is as follows:

Mid-term	2/8
Final exam	2/8
Class Research Project	2/8
First 15 min. Presentation plus short paper	1/8
Second 15 min. Presentation plus short paper	1/8

The class project will be written up as a scientific manuscript and will be submitted on the afternoon of the day on which the Final exam is taken (see above). You will also present the results of your project to the class as a short presentation. I will describe in detail what I expect and offer suggestions on writing a scientific paper.

On two of the Friday meetings you will give a short presentation (15 min plus questions) on a topic in animal behavior of your choice. Then you will write a short paper (2 to 3 pages double spaced) on this topic and this will be due within two weeks of when you gave your talk. There are three Fridays when you can give two talks. Again I will describe in more detail what I expect.