ETHOLOGY WFSC 422/632

Resources

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1. Tutorial
1) If you are feeling a little “rusty” on your biology, or the notes for Unit 1 do not make sense, visit your favorite “Guide” using the links at the bottom of the course home page (TIP: If you are on a teaching career track, click on [Educators] to meet Mike)

2) Each of the Guides speaks to a distinct perspective shared by some but not all the participants in this course. All the guides provide you with a link to the tutorial. In the tutorial, you will find examples that are chosen to appeal to each of these perspectives: [Mike-Educator], [Neomi-Scientist], [Hugo-Practitioner].

3) If you find you relate best to Hugo, for example, you may choose to skip directly to the “Practitioner” examples bypassing the “Educator” and “Scientist” examples. If you are still undecided, or a generalist, you may find it interesting to compare examples written from several of these three perspectives.

4) If you learn more by dialogue than by reading, try blogging with your Guide.

2. Textbooks
You will need:
1) Only one textbook (for quizzes), be sure you don’t get mixed up between the grad and undergrad textbooks, since this course is stacked and this could be confusing


4) If your book does not arrive in time, copies of the first few chapters are on dropbox and course reserve

5) If you are a new grad with little background in behavior, try using the undergrad textbook as a supplement

6) If you are an undergrad headed to grad school, consider the option of using the grad textbook as a supplement

TIPS
You will find links to these GUIDES on the course website (outside eLearning)

Hugo says: Visit my link [Practitioners] to find the tutorial for this course. It will be a life-saver! When you need to vent or swap tips, dialogue on my blog.

Mike says: Learning theory and practice has shown that reading several examples helps learners to generalize a concept (e.g. Tinbergen’s 4 questions: cause, development, evolution, function). What is similar about each of the examples stands out from the specifics. Once the general concept is learned, it is easier to apply to new examples.

Neomi says: If you have not already discovered Web of Science, you owe it to yourself! Great help for efficiently finding the most recent relevant articles. Also, EndNotes is a “must” to keep organized. See [Technical Help] for details to get your free copy of EndNotes.
3. Downloads (working off-line)

   1) Several options are provided for downloads, to accommodate the diversity in hardware and software of our participants. Experiment to see which works best for your computer system.

   2) OPTION A: download from each link on the website

   3) OPTION B: download the binders for each objective

   4) OPTION C: email instructor for access to a shared folder on http://www.dropbox.com

4. Supplemental scientific sources (for BLOG/Inquiry/Exam)

   1) Use your textbook to identify keywords and key authors to search for scientific sources (TIP: also try using www.wikipedia.org/ as a glossary or link to keyword sources)

   2) Web of Science (TIP: see [Technical Help])

   3) Google Scholar: http://scholar.google.com (see Technical Help)

   4) Links to background sources on Nature's Partners website for the Inquiry projects (A2Wolf, A3Deer)

5. Videos

   1) Media Matrix provides access to the Trials of Life series which is the source for many of the video clips used in lectures

   2) The Trials of Life series is also available through Evans Library, your local school, library or video rental service or Teacher's Video Company 1-800-262-8837

   3) The videos for lectures have clips embedded, with appropriate references to the copyrighted sources. These lectures are considered original products created for educational purposes by the instructor. Links to the lectures provide access to http://vimeo.com. We prefer this delivery method because it has fewer advertisements than uTube and can be password protected. This is also where we upload and store the original videos of predator and prey behavior for the Inquiry projects.

TIPS:

This icon represents sources that are NetID accessible only.

Hugo says: Yes, you will need to purchase the textbook. The bookstores sometimes get mixed up on the textbook orders. To cut costs, try using “used-books” at Amazon.com. No need to panic if your textbook arrives too late for the Unit 1 Quiz. There are copies of the first two chapters on [course reserves] and [dropbox]. See [Technical Help] for details.

Neomi says: A lot of students find the whole “BLOG/Inquiry/Exam” thing to be overwhelming. My friends like it because it provides practice researching “cutting edge science”. To streamline, try using a source that you find for the inquiry activity to practice answering exam questions on BLOG (get feedback).

Mike says: The videos are copyrighted so need to be viewed on a password protected educational site like Media Matrix. This is a good source for me to decide which videos I might want to get to use in my classroom. You can find some of these videos locally in your school library, like BBC "Trials of Life". Your local video store also will rent DVD's like the BBC "Life" or "Planet Earth" series. Email the instructor if you would like a list of separate video clips for each lecture.