DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES SCIENCES
Hall, College Station, TX USA 77843-2258
http://wfsc.tamu.edu/jpackard/behavior/wfsc422/

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 are not making sense, visit your favorite "Guide" using the links above the active icons 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
2) **Undergrad**: WFSC 422 -Animal Behavior. 1994. (Tim Halliday, editor) University of Oklahoma Press

TIPS:

Hugo says: I'm the character running away from the bear on the course webpage. Visit my link [Practitioners] to find the tutorial. It will be a life-saver! When you need to vent or swap survival tips, lets dialogue on my blog. It's the blue button on the right of my page.

Neomi says: If you have not already discovered Web of Science, you owe it to yourself! Great help for finding the most relevant articles in the most efficient way. Also, Endnotes is a "must" to keep organized, see [Technical Help] for details.

Mike says: Learning theory and practice has shown that reading several examples helps learners to generalize a concept. What is similar about each of the examples stands out from the specifics. Once the general concept it learned, it is easier to apply it to new examples.

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3) **Grad:** WFSC 632 -Principles of Animal Behavior. 2009. (by Lee. A. Dugatkin) Norton Press, NY
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

3. Downloads

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 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 www.**wikipedia**.org/ or Scholar.google.com)
2) Web of Science (TIP: see [Technical Help])
3) See comments on the [Archive for the '422-BLOG' Category] to locate sources that other students found interesting. Add your own: http://blogs.tamu.edu/jmpackard/category/courses/422-blog/
4) Links to background information on Natures Partners: http://wfsc.tamu.edu/jpackard/scienceinaction/pred1.html

5. Videos

1) Media Matrix plays clips linked to [visuals] for each unit (TIP: on the [comprehend] page, open each part)
2) The source videos from which clips were taken are available at Instructional Media Services, Evans Library, your local school, library or video rental service or Teacher's Video Company 1-800-262-8837

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 video clips for each unit have to be on media matrix, because they are copyrighted. It's a bother because they are only available to TAMU students registered for a WFSC class. I think of the clips as sort of a guide to "pick and choose" video resources that I might want to use in my classroom as fillers and motivators. 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.