

**PHIL 226CS: Other Animals**  
**Spring 2008: Tuesday/Thursday 15.35-16.50, ROBH 101**

**Professor Georgina Montgomery**

2-163 Wilson Hall

Office Hours: Wednesdays 2-4pm and by appointment  
georgina@montana.edu

**GTA: Wendy Zirngibl**

Office hours: 2-3.30pm Tuesdays; and Thursdays by appointment  
Email: wzirngibl@montana.edu

Course Description

This course will explore human relationships with other animals – How have humans studied other animals in history? How have humans related to and/or distanced themselves from other animals? What are the ethical questions raised by contemporary understandings of and interactions with other animals? The course will explore these questions by first focusing on the scientific methodologies that have been used to study animals. We will then turn to the various ways humans love, use and abuse animals in the laboratory, in the wild, in their homes, in the zoo, in our world.

Textbook

Linda Kalof and Amy Fitzgerald, *The Animals Reader: The Essential Classic and Contemporary Writings* (New York, Berg, 2007)

Readings on Reserve

Erica Fudge, *Animal* (Reaktion Books, 2004), Selections

Bernard, “Introduction to the Study of Experimental Medicine”

Skinner, “Why I am not a Cognitive Psychologist”

Griffin, *The Question of Animal Awareness: Evolutionary continuity of mental experience* (New York, Rockefeller University Press, 1976), Selections

Griffin, “Prospects for a Cognitive Ethology,” *Behav. Brain Science* 1 (1978): 527-538

Dawkins, *Selfish Gene*, Selections

Nelkin and Susan Lindee, *DNA Mystique: The gene as cultural icon*, Selections

Brittan, “The Inevitability of Anthropomorphism”

Tom Tyler, "If Horses had Hands" *Society and Animals* 11:3 (2003): 267-281

"A Declaration on Great Apes" and Jane Goodall, "Chimpanzees – Bridging the Gap" in *The Great Ape Project: Equality beyond Humanity* edited by Paula Cavalieri and Peter Singer (St. Martins Griffin, 1994)

Julia Emberley, *The Cultural Politics of Fur* (Ithaca, Cornell University Press, 1998), Selections

Karen Davis, *Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: an inside look at the modern poultry industry* (Summertown, TN: Book Pub Co., 1996), Selections

Cliff Flynn, "Battered Women and their Companions" *Society and Animals* 8:2 (2000)

Assignments: ALL written assignments must be printed out and handed in during class. Electronic submissions will not be accepted

- Outline including thesis for Midterm Paper: 5%
- Human/Animal Relationships Midterm Paper: This paper will incorporate multiple topics from the first 1/2 of the semester (4 pages double spaced): 25%
- Museum of the Rockies Response Paper (1 page double spaced): 15%
- In-Class Pop Quizzes: Drawing on class readings: 25%
- Final Exam: Connecting topics from the second 1/2 of the semester: 30 %

#### Other Information

- This class involves a mandatory trip to Museum of the Rockies
- It is important to hand in assignments on time. Points will be deducted for lateness

#### Academic Honesty

The University's policies on academic honesty and misconduct as described in Montana State University's *Student Academic and Conduct Guidelines* are rigorously enforced in this course.

#### Email

At times, you may receive emails from Prof. Montgomery and/or Wendy. It is your responsibility to check your my-portal email account. If this is not your regular email account, your emails can be forwarded to an alternative email account. Contact ITC with any questions.

## Topics and Schedule

### **Week One: Introduction**

Thursday January 17: Introduction; Syllabus Review; Ice-breaker activity

### **Week Two: Humans, Other Animals, ‘Otherness’ and Post-humanism**

Tuesday January 22: Terms and theoretical perspectives (Fudge, on reserve)

Thursday January 24: What Values and Methods Make-Up Science?

### **Week Three: Animal Experimentation and the Animal Model**

Tuesday January 29: Arguments in favor of animal experimentation (Bernard, “Introduction to the Study of Experimental Medicine,” on reserve) Gordon Brittan Guest Lecturer.

Thursday January 31: Arguments against animal experimentation. Gordon Brittan Guest Lecturer.

### **Week Four: Behaviorism and Cognitive Ethology**

Tuesday February 5: Skinner and Behaviorism (Skinner, “Why I am not a Cognitive Psychologist,” on reserve)

Thursday February 7: Griffin and Cognitive Ethology (Griffin, *The Question of Animal Awareness*, Selections, and “Prospects for a Cognitive Ethology,” both on reserve)

### **Week Five: Sociobiology and Genes**

Tuesday February 12: Introduction to Sociobiology and its use to understand human and other animal behavior (Dawkins, on reserve)

Thursday February 14: All about the genes..? (Nelkin/Lindee, on reserve)

### **Week Six: Anthropomorphism**

Tuesday February 19: Anthropomorphism in Historical Perspective (Brittan, on reserve)

Thursday February 21: Anthropomorphism and Bridging the Human/Other Animal Divide (Tyler, on reserve)

*Assignment due Thursday February 21: Outline including thesis for midterm paper*

**Week Seven: Other Animals as Subjects**

Tuesday February 26: **How to write a good midterm paper**

Note: Make an appointment with Wendy or Dr. Montgomery with questions/drafts of your midterm

Thursday February 28: Objects or Subjects? (Introduction and Spiegel in Section 1, *Animal Reader*)

**Week Eight: Animal Rights**

Tuesday March 4: Regan and Singer Debates, Gordon Brittan, Guest Speaker (Singer and Regan, Section 1, *Animal Reader*). Gordon Brittan Guest Lecturer.

*Assignment due Tuesday March 4: Midterm Papers (paper copy must be handed in at the start of class)*

Thursday March 6: Jane Goodall and Rights for Other Primates (Declaration on Great Apes and Goodall, *The Great Ape Project*, on reserve). Gordon Brittan Guest Lecturer.

**Week Nine: Spring Break!**

Tuesday March 11: NO CLASS DUE TO SPRING BREAK

Thursday March 13: NO CLASS DUE TO SPRING BREAK

**Week Ten: Focusing on Fur**

Tuesday March 18: Fur, Fashion and Sexuality (Emberley, *Cultural Politics of Fur*, on reserve)

Thursday March 20: Today we will hold class at the Museum of the Rockies for a fur exhibit and discussion tailored specifically for you and this class. Guest lecturers: Jodi Rasker, Assistant Registrar, and Michael Fox, Museum of the Rockies

**Week Eleven: Animal Mind**

Tuesday March 25: Machines to Beings (Introduction, Descartes and Sanders/Arluke, Section 2, *Animal Reader*)

*Assignment Due Tuesday March 25: Museum of the Rockies Response Paper*

Thursday March 27: Looking to the Wild: Animal cognition and emotion (Bekoff, Masson/McCarthy, van Schaik et al., Section 2, *Animal Reader*). Wendy Guest lecturer.

**Week Twelve: Animals as Pets, Animals as Food**

Tuesday April 1: Companion Animals (Introduction, Ritvo and Tuan, Section 3, *Animal Reader*).

Thursday April 3: Animals as Food (Mason/Finelli, Adams and Nilbert, Section 3, *Animal Reader* and Davis, *Prisoned Chickens*, on reserve) Becky Weed, 13Mile Lamb and Wool Farm Guest Lecturer

**Week Thirteen: Animals and Sport**

Tuesday April 8: Hunting and Identity (Introduction and Cartmill, Section 4, *Animal Reader*). Wendy Guest Lecturer.

Thursday April 10: Animals, Sport, Culture and Masculinity (Pliny, Martin and Evans et al., Section 4, *Animal Reader*)

**Week Fourteen: Animals as Symbols**

Tuesday April 15: Focus on the works of John Berger (Introduction and Berger, Section 5, *Animals Reader*)

Thursday April 17: Postmodern Art and Other Recent Concepts of Animal Symbolism (Sax and Burt, Section 5, *Animal Reader*). Carla Nappi Guest Lecturer.

**Week Fifteen: Animals in Science, Animals in Our Culture**

Tuesday April 22: Animals in the Laboratory (Introduction, Lansbury and Birke, Section 6, *Animal Reader*)

Thursday April 24: How do contemporary realities such as Dolly and the transgenic species impact our views of the world? (Franklin, Haraway, Section 6, *Animals Reader*)

**Week Sixteen: Animal Abuse, Human Abuse and Connecting Oppressions**

Tuesday April 29: Violence and Connecting Oppressions (Flynn, on reserve)

Thursday May 1: FINAL REVIEW

ANNOUNCEMENT: April 28: Go See Jane Goodall Speak Here at MSU!

**Final Exam: Noon – 1.50pm Tuesday May 6**