

Animals, Culture, & Society

ENGL 3050-H06 HONORS 3700-H0
MW 3:30-4:45 pm - Fretwell 206



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OFFICE HOURS: MW 10-Noon
& By appt.

Noteworthy Animal Images:



Q.What currencies display animals prominently & what impact might this have?

Animal Links

- [World Wildlife Fund](#)
- [BBC Nature Wildlife](#)
- [NetVet & Electronic Zoo](#)
- [National Geographic](#)
- [Marine Mammal Center](#)
- [IUCN-Nature Conservation](#)

The Code of Student Academic Integrity

governs the responsibility of students to maintain integrity in academic work, defines violations of the standards, describes procedures for handling alleged violations of the standards, and lists applicable penalties. The following conduct is prohibited in that Code as violating those standards:

Course Description:

This course will explore the ways that animals are both conceptualized and utilized in various cultures. The object of the course is to develop a fuller understanding not only of what animals "mean" to humans and how humans respond to animals, but how we address the "post-human condition." Though this is NOT a biology class, we won't shy away from zoology and physiology, as they are central to any approach to animals, whether ecological, historical, or behavioral. The course will draw on the cultural and metaphoric use of animals (in literature, art, and philosophy), the consumption of animals (as food and clothing), the scientific status of animals (in experiments and as objects of study), the recreational use of animals (in hunting, zoos, aquariums, safari parks, and as pets), and, in a broader context, the emblematic use of animals. The overarching issue in this course, however, will be animal cognition, a thorny philosophical and zoological topic that has been the subject of a great deal of discussion in cultural studies, psychology & neurobiology, and philosophy. How do we evaluate the quality of animal thinking or the nature of awareness, sense of self, or experiential process.



- A. Cheating. Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids or other devices in any academic exercise. This definition includes unauthorized communication of information during an academic exercise.
- B. Fabrication and Falsification. Intentional and unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification is a matter of altering information, while fabrication is a matter of inventing or counterfeiting information for use in any academic exercise.
- C. Multiple Submission. The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work (including oral reports) for credit more than once without authorization.
- D. Plagiarism. Intentionally or knowingly presenting the work of another as one's own (i.e., without proper acknowledgment of the source). The sole exception to the requirement of acknowledging sources is when the ideas, information, etc., are common knowledge. (NOTE: For more information regarding plagiarism, see PLAGIARISM Appendix at <http://legal.uncc.edu/policies/ps-105.html#APP>.)
- E. Abuse of Academic Materials. Intentionally or knowingly destroying, stealing, or making inaccessible library or other academic resource material. F. Complicity in Academic Dishonesty. Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty!

Books:

- Franz Kafka. The Metamorphosis. Penguin. ISBN: 0143105248
- Mary Midgley. Animals and Why They Matter. U. of Georgia Pr. ISBN: 0820320412
- Knut Schmidt-Nielsen. How Animals Work. Cambridge Univ. Press. ISBN: 0521096928
- Jenny Diski. What I don't Know About Animals. Yale University Press ISBN-10: 0300176848
- James Serpell, In the Company of Animals : A Study of Human-Animal Relationships. Cambridge U. Press. 0521577799
- Anna Sewell. Black Beauty. Puffin. ISBN: 9780141321035
- Donna Haraway. When Species Meet (Posthumanities). ISBN: 0816650462
- Jay Hosler. Evolution: The Story of Life on Earth. Hill and Wang. ISBN: 0809094762

AND

The "SCIENCE TIMES" section of the NY Times (TUESDAYS)

AND

One book (your choice) from REAKTION PRESS's "Animal Series" (Available on Amazon)



Assignments:

Off-site Paper: Visit an animal oriented "site" (Zoo/Raptor Center/Horse Protection Society/Exterminator/Veterinary Clinic/Pet Store) and develop a brief report on your observations (observation should last at least 5 hours). This brief report will then be developed into a fuller (10+ page) paper that analyses the issues you address in a fuller and more researched manner.

Report: 10%

Paper: 30%

Animal Study & Presentation: Drawing on your reading specifically from the book you ordered from the "Reaktion" series, develop an analytical presentation (10 minutes) and brief accompanying paper (3 pages) on "your" species.

Presentation: 15%

Paper: 5%

Human-Animals Paper: Develop a more philosophical/literary paper on some issue pertaining to human-animal relationships.

Paper: 30%

Participation/Animal News: This is not merely class participation, but includes your efforts to bring animal issues/observations into class for casual discussion.

Particip: 10%



