Instructor: Dr. Kristi Hannam  
Office: 259 ISC  
Phone: 245-5790  
Email: hannam@geneseo.edu  
Office Hours: Mondays 9-10:30; Wednesdays 3:45-5:00, or by appointment

Readings will be assigned in class and available via Canvas

**Learning Outcomes:**  
Upon completion of this course students will:  
1. Produce written and oral reports that describe observations of animal behavior, and hypothesize explanations for the behaviors.  
2. Participate in development and execution of experiments in small groups and with the whole class.  
2. Apply knowledge of theories of animal behavior by developing original tests of assumptions and hypotheses.  
3. Design and carry out an independent investigation of animal behavior by identifying one or more testable hypotheses, carrying out the investigation, analyzing the data, reporting the results and drawing conclusions.  
4. Summarize the results of a published study of animal behavior, judge the study’s merits and guide classmates in a discussion of the study.

The following schedule of lab activities & experiments is not set in stone. The schedule may change depending on the weather, the availability of study animals or the progress of the class in exploring a particular topic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lab Activity</th>
<th>Reading/Assignments</th>
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<tr>
<td>16 Jan</td>
<td>NO LAB – Martin Luther King Jr. Day</td>
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<td>23 Jan</td>
<td>Ethics &amp; Statistics for Animal Behavior Research</td>
<td>Handout on MyCourses</td>
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<td>30 Jan</td>
<td>Zoo Field Trip</td>
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<td>6 Feb</td>
<td>Vigilance Lab</td>
<td>Zoo &amp; Vigilance Discussions (Dr. H)</td>
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<td>Zoo and Stats Assignments Due</td>
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<td>13 Feb</td>
<td>Fish Schooling Behavior</td>
<td>Fish Schooling Discussion (student)</td>
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<td>20 Feb</td>
<td>Cricket Mate Choice</td>
<td>Cricket Discussion (Dr. H)</td>
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<td>Vigilance Assignment Due</td>
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27 Feb
Bird Foraging Lab
Bird Foraging Discussion (student)
Fish Schooling Write-up Due

6 Mar
Bird Foraging Lab & Fiddler Crab Lab
Fiddler Crab Discussion (student)
Cricket Assignment Due

13 Mar
NO LAB - Spring Break

20 Mar
Fiddler Crab Lab

27 Mar
Independent Projects Trials & Proposals
Project Proposal Due

3 Apr
Independent Research Projects
Final Writeup Due

10 Apr
Independent Research Projects

17 Apr
Independent Research Projects
Migration Behavior Discussion (student)

24 Apr
Migration Behavior: BBBO Field Trip (**Important** this fieldtrip runs from 8am-12noon)

1 May
Independent Project Poster Presentations

Grading:
Grades in lab are based on the following assignments:

- Individual Lab Reports: 35%
- Independent Project Proposal & Poster: 25%
- Field Trip/Writing Assignments/Quizzes: 25%
- Participation: 15%
- Total: 100%

Final grades will be assigned according to the following point distribution: >92%, A; 90-92%, A-; 87-89%, B+; 83-86%, B; 80-82%, B-; 77-79%, C+; 73-77%, C; 70-72%, C-; 60-69%, D; <60%, E. Under most circumstances, there will be no adjustment to your grades after the calculation.
Individual Lab Reports

Although most labs will be conducted as a class or in groups, the lab reports are to be written individually unless otherwise assigned by Dr. Hannam. Lab reports should be written in the format of a scientific journal article (specific details will be given in class), and each report will be worth 100 pts. Lab Reports are due in class approx. two weeks after the experiments in class are complete (see schedule on syllabus), as assigned.

Field Trip/Writing Assignments/Quizzes

For some of the lab experiences and field trips a formal lab report is not required, but an alternative written assignment will be completed and turned in. These assignments will typically be due in class one week after the lab experience (see syllabus for dates). In addition, there will be short online quizzes on the reading assignments for each lab due before lab begins.

Independent Project

In the latter part of the semester, students (working in pairs) will design and carry out an independent project. The project will involve the development of a research question, design of methods to address the question, data collection for 6-8 hours of lab time, analysis and presentation of data in a final poster presentation. Additional information will be given in class.

Participation

Active participation in the lab each week – in designing and conducting experiments, in discussion of readings and experimental designs – is worth 15% of your grade. Please review the animals we plan to work with. You will be required to interact closely (in most cases HANDLE) the animals in the lab. Be prepared to have a lowered participation score if you do not overcome any aversions you might have to handling these animals. Participation will be graded by the instructor each week using a rubric provided to the students.