



ANSC*3090 Principles of Animal Behaviour

Fall 2023

Section(s): C01

Department of Animal Biosciences

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 1.00 - August 31, 2023

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

This course deals with why vertebrates behave as they do (with particular emphasis on mammals and birds), covering the causation of behaviour (including learning, motivation, affective states, hormones, sensory processing, and neurobiological mechanisms); function (both immediate/proximate and adaptive/ultimate); ontogeny (including socialization and sensitive periods); and phylogeny (especially the influences of taxonomic group and domestication). This framework is then applied to the following aspects of animal behaviour: foraging, anti-predator responses, sleep, sociality, mating, parental behaviour, play, dispersal and territoriality, animal intelligence, and behavioural pathologies.

Pre-Requisites:

ANSC*1210 or ANSC*2210

Restrictions:

ANSC*4090. Restricted to students in BSCH.ABIO, BSAG.ANSC and BBRM.EQM.

1.2 Course Description

Note that the course covers scientific research on animal behaviour (ethology), including how research is conducted.

1.3 Timetable

Class delivery:

All classes will be delivered in person from 4:00 - 5:20 PM Tues/Thurs in RICH 2520. Classes will not be recorded.

See 'Activities' section for the lecture schedule.

COVID-19 Disclaimer: please be aware that the information on course delivery, accessibility

and examinations presented in this outline were developed based on current University guidelines. However, due to the continuously evolving situation and resulting changes in public health recommendations, the format and delivery of this course may be revised with limited notice.

1.4 Final Exam

There will be an online final exam on the 13th of December 2023 (11:30 am-1:30 pm) which will be completed via Courselink. Exam time is subject to change. Please see Web Advisor for the latest information.

2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor: Dr Rosie Whittle (she/her)
Email: ansc3090@uoguelph.ca
Office: ANNU 106
Office Hours: Office hours by appointment only. Please direct all communication to the course email ansc3090@uoguelph.ca

Dr Whittle will be teaching 75% of the course

Instructor: Dr Ana Rentsch (she/her)
Email: ansc3090@uoguelph.ca
Office: ANNU 106
Office Hours: Office hours are by appointment only. Please direct all communications to the course email: ansc3090@uoguelph.ca

Dr Rentsch will be teaching 25% of the course

2.2 Teaching Assistants

Teaching Assistant (GTA): Violet Hipkin
Email: vhipkin@uoguelph.ca

Teaching Assistant (GTA): Rachel Strassburger
Email: rstrassb@uoguelph.ca

Teaching Assistant (GTA): Samantha Hartwig
Email: shartwig@uoguelph.ca

Teaching Assistant (GTA): Scarlett Burrton
Email: sburrton@uoguelph.ca

3 Learning Resources

3.1 Required Resources

Other Resources: (Website)

CourseLink will be used to disseminate all course information including: lecture material prior to class, supplementary readings, grades, and any additional information regarding course content and proceedings (e.g. lecture schedules, due dates, course syllabus, etc.).

In addition, message boards will be set up for students to ask questions to their peers, TAs, and/or course instructors.

3.2 Recommended Resources

Recommended Texts: (Textbook)

For students wanting to learn more about the course content, we recommend the following resources available in the library:

Broom, D.M. and Fraser, A.F. 2008 or more recent. Domestic Animal Behaviour and Welfare (CABI).

Jensen, P. 2009 or more recent. The Ethology of Domesticated Animals (CABI).

Nielsen, B.L. 2020. Asking Animals: An Introduction to Animal Behaviour Testing. (CABI)

Bolhuis et al., 2021. The Behavior of Animals, 2nd Edition: Mechanisms, Function and Evolution. (CABI)

We also recommend avoiding lay books and websites (i.e. anything written for the general public by people without research experience in the study of animal behaviour).

3.3 Additional Resources

Course Technologies and Technical Support (Software)

System and Software Requirements

This course will use two main technologies:

- *CourseLink*

To help ensure you have the best learning experience possible, please review the list of system and software requirements

<https://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/system-and-software-requirements>

CourseLink System Requirements

You are responsible for ensuring that your computer system meets the necessary system requirements. Use the browser check tool to ensure your browser settings are compatible and up to date. (Results will be displayed in a new browser window).

<http://spaces.uoguelph.ca/ed/system-requirements/>
<https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/d2l/systemCheck>

Course Technologies

CourseLink

This course is being offered using CourseLink (powered by D2L's Brightspace), the University of Guelph's online learning management system (LMS). By using this service, you agree to comply with the University of Guelph's Access and Privacy Guidelines. Please visit the D2L website to review the Brightspace privacy statement and Brightspace Learning Environment web accessibility standards.

*<http://www.uoguelph.ca/web/privacy/> <https://www.d2l.com/legal/privacy/>
<https://www.d2l.com/accessibility/standards/>*

Technical Support

If you need any assistance with the software tools or the CourseLink website, contact CourseLink Support.

Email: courselink@uoguelph.ca

Tel: 519-824-4120 ext. 56939 Toll-Free (CAN/USA): 1-866-275-1478

Support Hours (Eastern Time):

Monday thru Friday: 8:30 am–8:30 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am–4:00 pm

Sunday: 12:00 pm–6:00 pm

3.4 Dropbox Submissions

Assignments should be submitted electronically via the online **Dropbox** tool. When submitting your assignments using the **Dropbox** tool, do not leave the page until your assignment has successfully uploaded. To verify that your submission was complete, you can view the submission history immediately after the upload to see which files uploaded successfully. The system will also email you a receipt. Save this email receipt as proof of submission.

Be sure to keep a back-up copy of all of your assignments in the event that they are lost in transition. In order to avoid any last-minute computer problems, your instructor strongly recommend you save your assignments to a cloud-based file storage (e.g., OneDrive), or send to your email account, so that should something happen to your computer, the assignment could still be submitted on time or re-submitted.

It is your responsibility to submit your assignments on time as specified on the Schedule. Be sure to check the technical requirements and make sure you have the proper computer, that you have a supported browser, and that you have reliable Internet access. Remember that **technical difficulty is not an excuse not to turn in your assignment on time**. Don't wait until the last minute as you may get behind in your work.

If, for some reason, you have a technical difficulty when submitting your assignment electronically, please contact CourseLink Support.

<http://spaces.uoguelph.ca/ed/contact-us/>

3.4 Library Access

As a student, you have access to the University of Guelph's library collection, including both physical and electronic materials. For information on checking out or couriering physical library items, accessing electronic journals and returning items to the library, visit the library's website.

If you are studying off campus and would like to access the library's electronic resources, use the Off Campus Login and login using your Single Sign On credentials or using your last name and library barcode.

<https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/>

<https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/campus-login>

4 Learning Outcomes

Students taking this course will learn how to:

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. **Use new ethological vocabulary appropriately, and identify appropriate ethological methods for collecting different types of behavioural data (including analyzing and interpreting data).**
 2. **Distinguish between causal, developmental, functional and phylogenetic explanations of behaviour and demonstrate how these complement each other.**
 3. **Explain how physiology, genetics, nutrition, and management influence behaviour.**
 4. **Explain concepts of motivation and learning and their roles in the control of behaviour.**
 5. **Explain different types of behaviours (i.e., social, maternal, play, foraging) and how evolution and ecology influence species-specific behaviour.**
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5 Teaching and Learning Activities

Class delivery:

All classes will be delivered in person in RICH 2520 starting at 4pm Tues/Thurs.

NOTE: The instructors reserve the right to modify the class schedule and assignments if necessary; however, students will be informed of minor modifications via Courselink announcements.

5.1 Lecture

Thu, Sep 7, 4:00 PM - 5:20 PM

Topics: Lecture 1: Introduction to ANSC*3090

Tue, Sep 12

Topics: Lecture 2: Intro to behaviour I

Thu, Sep 14

Topics: Lecture 3: Intro to behaviour II

Tue, Sep 19

Topics: Lecture 4: Intro to behaviour III

Thu, Sep 21

Topics: Lecture 5: Introduction to behaviour IV

Tue, Sep 26

Topics: Lecture 6: Evolution and behaviour

Thu, Sep 28

Topics: Lecture 7: Behaviour and physiology

Tue, Oct 3

Topics:	Lecture 8: Foraging strategies
Thu, Oct 5	
Topics:	Lecture 9: Development of behaviour I
Tue, Oct 10	
Topics:	NO CLASS
Thu, Oct 12	
Topics:	Lecture 10: MIDTERM
	Covering lectures 1-8
Tue, Oct 17	
Topics:	Lecture 11: Development of behaviour II
Thu, Oct 19	
Topics:	Lecture 12: Motivation
Tue, Oct 24	
Topics:	Lecture 13: Learning
Thu, Oct 26	
Topics:	Lecture 14: Social behaviour I
Tue, Oct 31	
Topics:	Lecture 15: Social behaviour II
Thu, Nov 2	
Topics:	Lecture 16: Scientific writing
Tue, Nov 7	
Topics:	Lecture 17: Assignment 2 work session

Thu, Nov 9

Topics: Lecture 18: Affective states

Tue, Nov 14

Topics: Lecture 19: Behaviour backfires

Thu, Nov 16

Topics: Lecture 20: Diversity of behaviour I

Tue, Nov 21

Topics: Lecture 21: Diversity of behaviour II

Thu, Nov 23

Topics: Lecture 22: Diversity of behaviour III

Tue, Nov 28

Topics: Lecture 23: Diversity of behaviour IV

Thu, Nov 30

Topics: Lecture 24: Recap, wrap up and QA for final

6 Assessments

Course Assignments and Exams:

6.1 Marking Schemes & Distributions

Name	Scheme A (%)
Assignment: Individual Assignment on Tinbergen's 4 questions	20
Midterm Exam (Online)	25
Group Project: Research Proposal	20
Final Exam (Online)	35
Total	100

6.2 Assessment Details

Assignment: Individual Assignment on Tinbergen's 4 questions (20%)

Date: Wed, Oct 4

Learning Outcome: 1, 3

Midterm Exam (Online) (25%)

Date: Thu, Oct 12, Online

Learning Outcome: 1, 2, 3, 4

Group Project: Research Proposal (20%)

Date: Fri, Nov 24

Learning Outcome: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Final Exam (Online) (35%)

Date: Wed, Dec 13, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM, Online

Learning Outcome: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

7 Course Statements

7.1 Grading Policies for ANSC*3090:

Late assignments will be penalized by 10% of the assignment grade each and every day they are late.

7.2 Netiquette Expectations

The course website is considered the classroom and the same protections, expectations, guidelines, and regulations used in face-to-face settings apply. Inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated. Examples of inappropriate online behaviour include:

- Posting inflammatory messages about your instructor or fellow students;
- Using obscene or offensive language online
- Copying or presenting someone else's work as your own;
- Adapting information from the Internet without using proper citations or references;

- Buying or selling term papers or assignments;
- Posting or selling course materials to course notes websites;
- Having someone else complete your quiz or completing a quiz for/with another student;
- Stating false claims about lost quiz answers or other assignment submissions;
- Threatening or harassing a student or instructor online
- Discriminating against fellow students, instructors, and/or TAs;
- Using the course website to promote profit-driven products or services;
- Attempting to compromise the security or functionality of the learning management system; and
- Sharing your username and password
- Recording lectures without the permission of the instructor

7.3 Technical Skills

As part of your learning experience, you are expected to use a variety of technologies for assignments, lectures, teamwork, and meetings. In order to be successful in this course you will need to have the following technical skills:

- *Manage files and folders on your computer (e.g., save, name, copy, backup, rename, delete, and check properties);*
- *Install software, security, and virus protection;*
- *Use Office applications (e.g., Word, PowerPoint, or similar) to create documents; also use software to work as a team (e.g. Google Docs or One Drive);*
- *Be comfortable uploading and downloading saved files;*
- *Communicate using email (e.g., create, receive, reply, print, send, download, and open attachments);*
- *Navigate the CourseLink learning environment and use the essential tools, such as Dropbox, Quizzes, Discussions, and Grades (the instructions for this are given in your course);*
- *Access, navigate, and search the Internet using a web browser (e.g., Firefox, Internet Explorer); and*
- *Perform online research using various library databases.*

8 University Statements

8.1 Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

8.2 When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml>

8.3 Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

8.4 Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

8.5 Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared

responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 14 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website
<https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm>

8.6 Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community—faculty, staff, and students—to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff, and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that encourages academic integrity. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

8.7 Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student,

or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

8.8 Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

8.9 Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g.. final exam or major assignment).
