

Course goals:

To learn the fundamental evolutionary approach to analyzing immature development

To understand why the immature period is critical to explaining adult lives

To become familiar with the social organizations and developmental life histories of 10 model primate species across four taxa

To acquire expertise in using primatological methods for conducting observations of human children in their natural environments

Course format:

Lectures plus weekly student observations of children and videotaped observations of non-human primates.

The course requires weekly observations of children at different locations and a visit to the Franklin Park Zoo.

Typical enrollees:

Undergraduate and graduate students

When is course typically offered?

Spring 2024

Assignments and grading:

The majority of the evaluation is based on weekly observations and a project. A final quiz will evaluate lecture material.

Enrollment cap, selection process, notification:

The course will be capped at 15 students, who can be undergraduates or graduate students.

Absence and late work policies:

Students must be able to walk to observational sites and stand for 30-minute weekly observations. Students are expected to keep up-to-date with observations unless sickness or an emergency arises. Students will be expected to arrange by themselves to make up any missed observations at alternative sites.