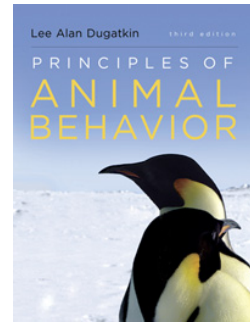


**Psychology of Animal Behavior**  
**PSYC/NRSC 311, Section 500**  
**Fall 2017**  
**Tu/Th 8:00 – 9:15 am, PSYC Rm. 338**



**Course Instructor:**

Dr. Naomi Nagaya

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. or by appointment

**Course Description:** This course is an undergraduate-level survey of principles, problems, and methods in animal psychology or animal behavior. Students will learn about animal learning, motivation, discriminative processes, and social and instinctual behaviors.

**Prerequisites:** PSYC 107; junior/senior classification

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. Demonstrate an understanding of basic principles of animal behavior.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the role of evolution in determining behavior.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the interaction between hormones and the nervous system in producing behavior.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the 'how', 'why', and 'what' of animal learning.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of various aspects of animal behavior including cultural transmission, sexual selection, mating systems, kinship, cooperation, foraging, antipredator responses, communication, habitat selection, aggression, play, and personalities.
6. Develop an integrative view of nonhuman and human behavior.

**Required Materials:**

**Textbook:**

Lee A. Dugatkin, *Principles of Animal Behavior*, 3rd edition, W. W. Norton & Company.

The book is available in paperback and digital versions through various vendors including the TAMU Bookstore (ISBN 9780393920451) with options to purchase or rent. A copy of the book is on reserve at Media & Reserves Services in the Evans Library Annex, 4<sup>th</sup> floor.

**In-class polling subscription:**

iClicker REEF (formerly REEF Polling) Mobile Student Software by iClicker (6-month subscription)

An access code can be purchased through the TAMU Bookstore (ISBN 9781498600750), other vendors, or in the app. A 14-day free trial begins upon creating an account.

**Course Website:** All lecture slides to be projected in class will be available on the eCampus website as PDF files only but are subject to modifications and changes as needed. Any supplementary readings and materials will be listed and/or posted on the website. Log in and select: 17 FALL NRSC 311\_PSYC 311: PSYCHOLOGY OF ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

### ***Classroom Polling***

I'm excited to let you know that I will be using a cloud-based student response software by iClicker in class this semester. This will help me understand what you know, give everyone a chance to participate in class, and allow you to review the material after class. ***Participation with iClicker REEF will account for 10% of your final grade.***

You will need to create an iClicker Reef Student account to participate in class using your laptop, smart phone, or tablet connected to the university Wi-Fi. You may also use an iClicker remote in combination with your Reef Student account.

### ***Creating Your iClicker REEF Account***

Go to [iclicker.com/students](http://iclicker.com/students) or download the iClicker Reef Student app for your Apple or Android device to sign up for a Reef account. You should use your university email address and your UIN in the Student ID field. You can edit your email address, password, or student ID from your account profile. Do ***not*** create and use more than one Reef account as you will only receive credit from a single account.

Unless you will exclusively be using an iClicker remote, you will need to purchase a subscription to use Reef. You can use a credit card to purchase online, complete an in-app purchase, or buy an access code from the bookstore. When you create your Reef account, you will have a free two-week trial subscription.

### ***Add an iClicker Remote to Your iClicker REEF Account***

If you want to use your iClicker + or iClicker 2 remote, you must register it with your REEF account. Register your clicker by logging into REEF, navigate to your profile, and then enter your 8-character clicker ID. You may use either your smart device or registered clicker to vote in classroom polls throughout the term and will be able to review your session history no matter which device you use. If you need help deciding what device is right for you, this [video](#) may be helpful.

### ***Add This Course to Your iClicker REEF Account***

Search with the following information to find this course and add it to your iClicker REEF account:

Institution: Texas A&M University; Course: Psychology of Animal Behavior

### ***Troubleshooting***

You can find the answers to many of your questions on the [iClicker student support site](https://community.macmillan.com/community/iclicker-support/iclicker-student-support) (<https://community.macmillan.com/community/iclicker-support/iclicker-student-support>). If you continue to experience issues, please contact support via phone (866.209.5698 ) or email ([support@iclicker.com](mailto:support@iclicker.com)). Live support is available Monday - Thursday from 9AM - 11PM, ET and Friday from 9AM - 9PM, ET

### **Exams**

There will be 4 non-cumulative, multiple-choice midterm exams but ***no final exam***. Exam material will be drawn from lectures, readings, and online/in-class videos. Each exam will start at **8:00 AM sharp** and end promptly at 9:15 AM. Late submission of exams may result in point deductions. Please be prepared to show photo ID. Each student should bring a large gray Scantron #0-101607-TAMU and #2 pencil to the exam. Use of books, notes, phones, and other portable electronic devices during the exam will result in a score of 0.

Please note:

- 1) Scantron must be completed in pencil.
- 2) Scantron and exam must be labeled with your name and UIN.
- 3) Exam must be turned in to receive an exam grade.
- 4) Exam score will be based on Scantron responses only.

### **Completion of Online Quizzes**

There will be 8 online quizzes (6.25 points each) that will be posted on eCampus. Two quizzes will be posted before each exam and ***must be completed by 11:59 PM the evening before the exam***. Given that this is a study aide, you will be graded on completion and not accuracy. You are welcome to repeat the quizzes as many times as you like; credit for completion will be assigned independent of actual quiz scores.

### **Class Participation via iClicker REEF**

Class participation will be assessed by in-class iClicker REEF ***starting Week 2 on Tuesday, Sept. 5***. Starting with Lecture 3 and ending with Lecture 23, points can be earned by participating in iClicker REEF activities (71 points will be available). The participation grade will be based on the number earned out of a total of 50 points. Points in excess of 50 will not boost your grade, e.g. 53 out of 50 is still 100%. Participation points will be posted on eCampus so it is your responsibility to track how many you have earned. ***Given that there is a surplus of participation points, there will be no opportunities to make them up.***

### **Grading**

The grading scale is as follows:

- |         |           |
|---------|-----------|
| A range | 90-100%   |
| B range | 80-89.99% |
| C range | 65-79.99% |
| D range | 50-64.99% |

F range below 50%

- 80% of the course grade will be based on exam grades. There will be 4 exams during the semester, and no final exam. Each exam will count towards 20% of the course grade (100 points each).
- 10% of the course grade will be based on completion of online quizzes (50 points).
- 10% of the course grade will be based on in-class participation (50 points).
- There will be NO EXTRA CREDIT!

### **Attendance**

"The University views class attendance as the responsibility of an individual student. Attendance is essential to complete the course successfully. University rules related to excused and unexcused absences are located on-line at <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>." Absences **must** be excused on the days that exams are scheduled in order to have the opportunity to take a make-up exam; no early exams will be given. **Unexcused absences on such days will result in a 0.** Prior notification via e-mail is requested for University-approved absences. If advance notification is not feasible, notification should be provided by the end of the **second working day** after the absence with an explanation as to why notice could not be sent prior to the exam. In cases where prior notification is not feasible (e.g., accident or emergency) the student must provide notification by **the end of the second working day** after the absence, including an explanation of why notice could not be sent prior to the class. Accommodations sought for absences due to the observance of a religious holiday can be sought either prior to or after the absence, but **no later than two working days** after the absence.

### **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

### **Academic Integrity Statement and Policy**

Aggie Code of Honor:

***An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal or tolerate those who do.***

For more information about the Aggie Honor System Office (AHSO), Honor Council, and Honor Code visit <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu>.

### **Respect for Diversity**

The diversity that different students bring to the classroom enhances a university education. Therefore, our classroom is a designated **zone of respect** for diversity in gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability, age, socio-economic status, ethnicity, race, culture, political views, etc.

**Tentative Schedule of Topics and Readings**

| Day and date        | Lecture # & topic                                      | In-class activity               | Assigned reading | Other             |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Tuesday, Aug. 29    | 1. Introduction: Principles of animal behavior         | Practice with REEF (0 pts)      | Chapter 1        |                   |
| Thursday, Aug. 31   | 2. Evolution and behavior                              | Practice with REEF (0 pts)      | Chapter 2        |                   |
|                     |  |                                 |                  |                   |
| Tuesday, Sept. 5    | 3. Hormones and neurobiology, part 1                   | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 3        |                   |
| Thursday, Sept. 7   | 4. Hormones and neurobiology, part 2                   | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 3        |                   |
|                     |  |                                 |                  |                   |
| Tuesday, Sept. 12   | 5. Learning, part 1                                    | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 5        |                   |
| Thursday, Sept. 14  | 6. Learning, part 2                                    | REEF (5 pts)                    | Chapter 5        |                   |
|                     |  |                                 |                  |                   |
| Tuesday, Sept. 19   | 7. Cultural transmission                               | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 6        | Online review TBA |
| Wednesday, Sept. 20 | Quizzes 1 and 2 completed by 11:59 PM                  | Quizzes online at eCampus       |                  |                   |
| Thursday, Sept. 21  | <b>Exam 1, includes material from Aug. 29-Sept. 14</b> | Exam starts at 8:00 a.m. sharp! |                  |                   |
|                     |  |                                 |                  |                   |
| Tuesday, Sept. 26   | 8. Sexual selection, part 1                            | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 7        |                   |
| Thursday, Sept. 28  | 9. Sexual selection, part 2                            | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 7        |                   |
|                     |  |                                 |                  |                   |
| Tuesday, Oct. 3     | 10. Mating systems, part 1                             | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 8        |                   |
| Thursday, Oct. 5    | 11. Mating systems, part 2                             | REEF (5 pts)                    | Chapter 8        |                   |
|                     |  |                                 |                  |                   |

|                    |  |                                 |            |                      |
|--------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------|----------------------|
| Tuesday, Oct. 10   | 12. Kinship  | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 9  | Online review<br>TBA |
| Wednesday, Oct. 11 | Quizzes 3 and 4<br>completed by 11:59 PM                       | Quizzes online at eCampus       |            |                      |
| Thursday, Oct. 12  | <b>Exam 2, includes<br/>material from Sept. 19-<br/>Oct. 5</b> | Exam starts at 8:00 a.m. sharp! |            |                      |
|                    |  |                                 |            |                      |
| Tuesday, Oct. 17   | 13. Cooperation  | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 10 |                      |
| Thursday, Oct. 19  | 14. Foraging, part 1   | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 11 |                      |
|                    |  |                                 |            |                      |
| Tuesday, Oct. 24   | 15. Foraging, part 2   | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 11 |                      |
| Thursday, Oct. 26  | 16. Antipredator<br>behavior, part 1                           | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 12 |                      |
|                    |  |                                 |            |                      |
| Tuesday, Oct. 31   | 17. Antipredator<br>behavior, part 2                           | REEF (5 pts)                    | Chapter 12 |                      |
| Thursday, Nov. 2   | 18. Habitat selection  | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 14 |                      |
|                    |  |                                 |            |                      |
| Tuesday, Nov. 7    | 19. Aggression   | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 15 | Online review<br>TBA |
| Wednesday, Nov. 8  | Quizzes 5 and 6<br>completed by 11:59 PM                       | Quizzes online at eCampus       |            |                      |
| Thursday, Nov. 9   | <b>Exam 3, includes<br/>material from Oct. 10-<br/>Oct. 31</b> | Exam starts at 8:00 a.m. sharp! |            |                      |
|                    |  |                                 |            |                      |
| Tuesday, Nov. 14   | 20. Play behavior, part 1                                      | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 16 |                      |
| Thursday, Nov. 16  | 21. Play behavior, part 2                                      | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 16 |                      |
|                    |  |                                 |            |                      |
| Tuesday, Nov. 21   | 22. Animal personalities,<br>part 1                            | REEF (3 pts)                    | Chapter 17 |                      |
| Thursday, Nov. 23  | No class   | Thanksgiving                    |            |                      |
|                    |  |                                 |            |                      |

|                    |   |                                 |            |                         |
|--------------------|---|---------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| Tuesday, Nov. 28   | 23. Animal personalities,<br>part 2                           | REEF (5 pts)                    | Chapter 17 | Online<br>review<br>TBA |
| Wednesday, Nov. 29 | Quizzes 7 and 8<br>completed by 11:59 PM                      | Quizzes online at eCampus       |            |                         |
| Thursday, Nov. 30  | <b>Exam 4, includes<br/>material from Nov. 2-<br/>Nov. 28</b> | Exam starts at 8:00 a.m. sharp! |            |                         |
|                    |   |                                 |            |                         |
| Tuesday, Dec. 5    | No class  |                                 |            |                         |