

---

# ANTH 200/NBB 201

## FOUNDATIONS OF BEHAVIOR

---

Lecture TTH 10:00-11:15 Humanities Hall 201  
Spring Semester, 2006  
Instructor: Dr. Wendy Dirks  
Office: Language Hall 102  
Office Hours: TuTh 2:30-3:30 or by appointment.  
Phone: (770) 784-8349  
E-mail: wdirks@emory.edu

### Textbooks:

deWaal, FB (2001) *Tree of Origin: What Primate Behavior Can Tell Us about Human Social Evolution*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press

Konner, M (2001) *The Tangled Wing: Biological Constraints on the Human Spirit* 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. New York: Henry Holt

A number of journal articles will be assigned to supplement the textbooks.

---

### Goals of the Course:

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the biological basis of behavior. The course will consist of three parts. In the first part, we will consider the basics of evolutionary theory as they apply to behavior in general. We'll examine natural selection, sexual selection, reproductive strategies, parent-offspring conflict, kin selection, and reciprocal altruism. In the second part of the course, we'll examine the evolution of the human brain and cognitive abilities. In the third part of the course, we'll examine the proximate mechanisms that underlie behavior in humans and nonhuman primates.

### Student Requirements for Completing the Course:

There will be three exams and the final grade will be an average of the three. The final exam will not be cumulative.

### Course policies:

As the coordinator of the Oxford College Honor Council, and as a scientist, academic integrity is extremely important to me. I expect every student to be familiar with and abide by the Oxford College Honor Code.

The following outline is subject to change as the course proceeds.

### Class Outline

---

Date:	Topic	Reading
Jan 19	Introduction to the course	
Jan 24	Explanation & Evolution	
Jan 26	Evolutionary Theory	Konner, Chapter 2

---

---

Jan 31	Sexual Selection & Parent Offspring Conflict	Trivers & West Eberhard
Feb 2	Kin Selection & Reciprocal Altruism	Trivers & Silk
<b>Feb 7</b>	<b>FIRST EXAM</b>	<b>BASICS OF EVOLUTIONARY THEORY</b>
Feb 9	Human Evolution	Konner, Chapter 3
Feb 14	Nonhuman Primates	de Waal, Chapters 1-3, Brosnan & de Waal
Feb 16	Allometry & Life History	Martin
Feb 21	Life History Theory	Harvey & Purvis
Feb 23	Great Ape Cognition	de Waal Chapters 6 & 7
Feb 28	Geat Ape Cognition & Life History	Povinelli & Cant, Kelley, Dirks
Mar 2	Food & Human Evolution	de Waal, Chapters 4 & 5, Konner, Chapter 15
Mar 7	More about food	O'Connell et al., Aiello & Wheeler
Mar 9	Human Life Histories	TBA
<b>Mar 13</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
<b>Mar 16</b>		
Mar 21	Grandmothers	Hawkes, et al., Fairbanks
<b>Mar 23</b>	<b>EXAM 2</b>	<b>HUMAN COGNITIVE EVOLUTION</b>
Mar 28	The Triune Brain	Konner, Chapter 7
Mar 30	Emotions	Tooby & Cosmides
Apr 4	Language	Konner, Chapter 8
Apr 6	More on Language	DeWaal, Chapter 8
Apr 11	Music	TBA
Apr 13	Sexual Differences?	Konner, Chapter 6
Apr 18	More about sex	Konner, Chapter 12
Apr 20	Maternal Behavior & Bonding	Konner, Chapter 13
Apr 25	Monkey Models	Suomi, Maestripieri
Apr 27	Play & Flexible Behavior	TBA
May 2	Course Wrap Up & Review	
<b>MAY 5</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>9:00 TO 12:00</b>

---