



Course Specifications

Course Title:	Animal behavior
Course Code:	424BIO-2
Program:	Biology
Department:	Biology
College:	College of Arts and Sciences
Institution:	Najran University

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A. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: 2
2. Course type
a. University <input type="checkbox"/> College <input type="checkbox"/> Department <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/>
b. Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elective <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Level/year at which this course is offered: VIII/ 4 th year
4. Pre-requisites for this course (if any): non
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any): non

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	30	100%
2	Blended	-	
3	E-learning	-	
4	Correspondence	-	
5	Other	-	

7. Actual Learning Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Learning Hours
Contact Hours		
1	Lecture	30
2	Laboratory/Studio	-
3	Tutorial	-
4	Others (specify) E-learning	-
	Total	30
Other Learning Hours*		
1	Study	30
2	Assignments	3
3	Library	15
4	Projects/Research Essays/Theses	2
5	Others (specify) Office hours	10
	Total	60

* The length of time that a learner takes to complete learning activities that lead to achievement of course learning outcomes, such as study time, homework assignments, projects, preparing presentations, library times

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Course Description

This course is an introduction to the science of ethology (Animal Behavior). The course will examine behavior, physiology of behavior, ecology of behavior, and the evolution of behavior. Assigned readings from the scientific literature, exams, inquiry based activities/assignments,

and online discussions will be used to explore these topics. Plan to spend several hours each week on reading, writing, responding to topic discussions, and participating in activities.

2. Course Main Objective

1. Gain familiarity with the study of animal behavior.
2. Describe the procedures and techniques used to study of animal behavior.
3. Know how behavioral hypotheses are formulated.
4. Recognize the four types of questions that may be asked about animal behavior.
5. Understand some of the mechanisms involved in the production of a behavioral sequence by an animal.
6. Understand the role of natural and sexual selection in the evolution of behavior.
7. Explain how these principles can be used to understand human behavior.

3. Course Learning Outcomes

CLOs		Aligned PLOs
1	Knowledge:	
1.1	Know the procedures and techniques used to study of animal behavior.	
1.2	Know how behavioral hypotheses are formulated.	
1.3	Recognize the four types of questions that may be asked about animal behavior.	
2	Skills :	
2.1	Explain some of the mechanisms involved in the production of a behavioral sequence by an animal.	
2.2	Describe the role of natural and sexual selection in the evolution of behavior.	
2.3	Explain how these principles can be used to understand human behavior.	
3	Competence:	
3.1	Work independently and as a team work	
3.2	Manage recourses, time and other members of the group	
3.3	Communicate results of work with others	

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	Introduction to Animal Behavior	2
2	Behavioral Ecology & the Evolution of Altruism	2
3	The Evolution of Social Behavior	2
4	The Evolution of Communication	2
5	Avoiding Predators & Finding Food	2
6	Evolution of Habitat Selection, Territoriality, & Migration	4
7	Evolution of Reproductive Behavior	2
8	Evolution of Mating Systems & The Evolution of Parental Care	2
9	Proximate & Ultimate Causes of Behavior	2
10	The Development of Behavior	2
11	Evolution, Nervous Systems, and Behavior	2
12	How Neurons and Hormones Organize Behavior	2
13	The Evolution of Human Behavior	4
Total		30

D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge:		
1.1	Describe the procedures and techniques used to study of animal behavior.	Lectures	Final and semester exams
1.2	Know how behavioral hypotheses are formulated.	Lectures	Final and semester exams
1.3	Recognize the four types of questions that may be asked about animal behavior.	Lectures	Final and semester exams
2.0	Skills :		
2.1	Understand some of the mechanisms involved in the production of a behavioral sequence by an animal.	Student negotiations	Class room activity
2.2	Understand the role of natural and sexual selection in the evolution of behavior.	Student negotiations	Class room activity
2.3	Explain how these principles can be used to understand human behavior.	Student negotiations	Class room activity
3.0	Competence:		
3.1	Work independently and as a team work	Student negotiations	Class room activity
3.2	Manage recourses, time and other members of the group	Student negotiations	Class room activity
3.2	Communicate results of work with others	Student negotiations	Class room activity

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Theoretical First Exam	7	20%
2	Theoretical Second Exam	12	20%
3	Assays , oral presentations	continuous	10%
4	Theoretical Final Exam	16	50%

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice :

- 10 hours per week as office hours
- Academic advisor 10 hours per week

F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. Learning Resources

Required Textbooks	Alcock, J. 2009. Animal Behavior (9th Ed). Sinauer Associates, Inc. Sunderland, MA. 606 pp. ISBN 9780878932252 Additional articles as assigned. Goodenough, J., B McGuire, E Jakob. 2010. Perspectives on Animal Behavior (3rd Ed). John Wiley & Sons. Manning, A, M Dawkins. 2012. An Introduction to Animal Behaviour. Cambridge U Press.
Essential References Materials	Breed, MD, J Moore. 2012. Animal Behavior. Acad. Press. Dugatkin, LA. 2009. Principles of Animal Behavior (2nd Ed).
Electronic Materials	Websites
Other Learning Materials	Videos and films related to the course topics

2. Facilities Required

Item	Resources
Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)	Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.) 40 seats/ class room/ 20 seats/lab Computer access with data show and internet
Technology Resources (AV, data show, Smart Board, software,	Data show, Overhead projector
Other Resources (Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements	Models Microscopes

G. Course Quality Evaluation

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
Course evaluation	Student	direct
Student-faculty meeting	Faculty, Program Leaders	indirect
Departmental council discussions	Staff members	indirect
Discussion with the group of faculty teaching the same course	Peer Reviewer	indirect
Periodical department revisions	Peer Reviewer	indirect

Evaluation areas (e.g., Effectiveness of teaching and assessment, Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes, Quality of learning resources, etc.)

Evaluators (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify)

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

H. Specification Approval Data

Council / Committee	
Reference No.	
Date	