BIOBEHAVIORAL ANTHROPOLOGY. FALL 2018.

Ron Wallace, Ph.D.
Emeritus Professor of Anthropology
Interdisciplinary Fellow
Department of Anthropology
Howard Phillips Hall 309
Meetings by appointment.
E-mail: Ronald.Wallace@ucf.edu

Overview.

Biobehavioral Anthropology is the scientific study of biological influences on human social behavior. The course explores the idea that human behavior derives from an interaction of genetic and cultural information. Topics discussed from this standpoint include nurturance, language, sexual orientation, mate selection, dominance, aggression, and human belief systems, among others. The course utilizes an evolutionary perspective. There are no prerequisites, but it is assumed that all students have a basic familiarity with human biology provided in the General Education Program.

Course Structure.

The course is comprised of oral reports and class discussions. Although I will introduce the course with lectures that provide a conceptual framework, it should be emphasized that *this is not a lecture course.* The grade is based on two components: the oral reports, and examinations.

The oral reports. Shortly after the semester begins, I will circulate a sign-up sheet. Each student will sign up for two oral report dates. Each report will be on a scientific article from the journal *Evolutionary Psychology* which is available online. All the articles in this journal are on biobehavioral topics. Other journals may also be acceptable. See the list at the end of the syllabus. Browse through the journal, find an article that interests you, and have it approved by me. You may simply e-mail me the title and abstract of the article, or Xerox the first page and bring it to me at the beginning of the class. When you give your report, you will be expected to present the main ideas of the article in your own words. Reports should be presented in the traditional manner, rather than through electronic media such as PowerPoint. You may use 4X6 cards if you wish. You are then expected to respond to questions from other students and from me. The oral report should be about 15 minutes long, and the question-and-answer period about 5 minutes long. Each report is letter-graded, and counts 25% of your grade.

The examinations. There will be two examinations: a mid-term and a final. Each exam has 50 questions, and is in true-false format. Please bring brown scantron sheets to each exam. *The exams are based primarily on class discussions.* A few questions on each exam will be based on the textbook. The first exam will also include questions based on the introductory lectures. The final exam is not cumulative. Each exam counts 25% of your grade.

Course Schedule:

Students are expected to have read the following chapters in the text by the following dates:
Week 1: Darwin comes of age.
Week 2: Male and Female.
Week 3: Men and Women.
Week 4: The Marriage Market.
Week 5: Darwin's marriage.
Week 6: The Darwin Plan for Marital Bliss.
Week 7: Families.

Week 8: **Review for Midterm: October 9. Midterm Exam: October** 11.
Week 9: Darwin and the Savages.
Week 10: Friends.
Week 11: Darwin's conscience.
Week 12: Darwin's delay.
Week 13: Social status.
Week 14: Darwin's triumph.
Week 15: November 27: Cynicism, ethics, blaming the victim, religion.
November 29 review for final exam.
Final Exam: Thursday, December 6, 8 AM, in our usual classroom.

Attendance.
Please make a strong effort to attend every class. In the event that you are absent due to an emergency, please contact me via email as soon as possible. In the event that you unavoidably miss either the midterm exam or the final exam, you must make up the exam within one week in the Anthropology department office at Howard Phillips Hall 309. If you are not present for an oral report, you must present it at the next class meeting. If this is not possible, or if there is a scheduling problem, I reserve the right to request that you prepare a written report instead. The written report should be a summary of the article you have researched. It should be approximately 2-3 typed pages, double-spaced, sent to me as an email attachment.

Textbook.
The text for the course is *The Moral Animal* by Robert Wright.
- **Publisher:** Vintage
- **ISBN-13:** 978-0679763994

Grading Scheme.
The midterm exam and the final exam each have 50 true-false questions. The final is non-cumulative. On each exam 45-50 is an A, 40-44 is a B, 35-39 is a C, 30-34 is a D, and below 30 is F. A "plus and minus" system is not used. For example, there is no A+ or A-. The two oral reports are letter-graded; no point system is used. At the end of the course, I use the 4 letter grades (two that are quantitatively based, and two that are based on my impression of your reports) for determining your final grade. In the event of a borderline situation (two As and two Bs), I will take your attendance into consideration in determining your final grade.

Academic Integrity
Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Rules of Conduct. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in:
- *Unauthorized assistance*: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
- *Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means*: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.
- *Commercial Use of Academic Material*: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.
- *Falsifying or misrepresenting* the student's own academic work.
- *Plagiarism*: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.

- *Multiple Submissions*: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
- *Helping another violate* academic behavior standards.

For more information about Academic Integrity, students may consult The Center for Academic Integrity
For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices.".

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating

Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, The Golden Rule. UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to academic misconduct. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation, see http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade.

Course Accessibility Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need disability-related access in this course should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone (407) 823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable.Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student.

****If you are registered with SAS, please contact the professor immediately for information concerning extended quiz and assignment times**

Campus Safety Statement

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise in our class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of the surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.
- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Please make a note of the guide's physical location and consider reviewing the online version at http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html.
- Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.
- If there is a medical emergency during class, we may need to access a first aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those items are located in this building, see http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/workplacesafety.html (click on link from menu on left).
- To stay informed about emergency situations, sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to my.ucf.edu and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the tool bar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on your Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert," fill out the information, including your e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click "Apply" to save the changes, and then click "OK."
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.
- To learn about how to manage an active-shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this video. You CAN Survive an Active Shooter

Deployed Active Duty Military Students

If you are a deployed active duty military student and feel that you may need a special accommodation due to that unique status, please contact your instructor to discuss your circumstances.

Copyright

This course contains copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, video lectures, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

According to the Academic Misconduct section of the UCF Golden Rule section C. states: "Commercial use of academic material: Selling notes, handouts, etc., without authorization or using them for any commercial purpose without the express written permission of the University and the instructor is a violation of this rule." Students cannot use any class materials for commercial purposes without instructor consent. If you do, it could result in disciplinary expulsion. All punitive sanctions can come with educational sanctions to help enforce the rules of conduct. In other words, we will file a lawsuit.

Third-Party Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need **not** make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.

Recommended journals for oral reports in Biobehavioral Anthropology. Fall 2018.

Articles from the following list of journals are almost always acceptable for oral reports. Some of these journals require an institutional subscription, and are therefore only accessible from a UCF computer terminal. However, several of them (e.g., Human Nature, Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology) are available as hard copy in the library. The journal *Evolutionary Psychology* is an excellent journal which is open-access; anyone with an online computer can access the articles.

The list is not exhaustive. If you locate an article in a journal not listed here, but which seems appropriate, please query me. You may be able to use it.

- Animal Behaviour
- Behavior Genetics
- Behavioral and Brain Sciences
- Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology
- Behavioral Neuroscience
- Ethology and Sociobiology
- Evolution and Human Behavior
- Evolutionary Psychology
- Human Nature

In addition to the above, the two semi-technical journals below occasionally include articles relevant to this course:

- American Scientist
- Scientific American

Begin your exploration. Let me know if there are any problems.