

Eastern Kentucky University, Animal Studies, Department of Psychology
INTRODUCTION TO ANIMAL STUDIES CRN: 15776
ANS 200 (3 CREDIT HOURS) FALL 2010 TR 11:00-12:15 (224 Cammack)

Instructor: Dr. Robert Mitchell
114 Cammack; PHONE: 622-3122 [answer machine] e-mail: robert.mitchell@eku.edu
Office hours: MWF 9-11am, MW 1:10-2pm, TR 8-11am Last day to drop: 29 Aug./19 Oct.

Texts:

- Boyle, T. C. (1993). **Descent of man**. Penguin. (ANY edition)
- Bulliet, R. W. (2005). **Hunters, herders, and hamburgers: The past and future of human-animal relationships**. Columbia University Press. ISBN: 9780231130776.
- Flynn, C. (ed.) (2005). **Social creatures**. Lantern Press. ISBN: 9781590561232.
- Fudge, E. (2007). **Animal**. Reaktion Press. ISBN: 9781861891341.
- Kalof, L., & Fitzgerald, A. (eds.) (2007). **The animals reader: The essential classic and contemporary writings**. Berg. ISBN: 9781845204709. (K&F)
- Kafka, F. (1993). **Selected Short Stories of Franz Kafka** (Modern Library). ISBN: 9780679600619.
- Pezzenti, John, Jr. (2001). **Shooting bears: The adventures of a wildlife photographer**. (pp. 137-167). Rizzoli. (This will be supplied.)

Course Description: A survey of the field of animal studies, focusing on animals' lives and histories, and the human experience of animals as food, as objects of entertainment, spectacle and science, as companions, and as representations.

Student learning outcomes and Evaluation methods: The course will introduce students to the field of animal studies by reading, discussing, thinking, and writing about various traditions in the field, including anthropology, art, biology, history, literature philosophy, psychology, and sociology. At the end of this course students should:

- A. Understand diverse methodologies to study both nonhuman animals and their interactions with people. How this objective is evaluated: Essay exams.
- B. Read, write, evaluate, and talk knowledgeably about research and theory about animals in science and the humanities. How this objective is evaluated: Class discussion, multiple-choice quizzes, essay exams.
- C. Understand diverse approaches to thinking about and representing both animals and animal-human interaction. How this objective is evaluated: Class discussion, multiple-choice quizzes, essay exams.
- D. Analyze one topic in animal studies in depth, using diverse perspectives. How this objective is evaluated: Book review, film review.
- E. Integrate class material. How this objective is evaluated: Book review, film review, essay exams.

Course grade will be based on class discussion (50 pts.), the quizzes (80 pts.), the exams (60 pts.) the film review (20 pts.), and the book review (40 pts.). TOTAL: 250 points. Cutoffs for: **A=90%; B=80%; C=70%; D=60%; F=below 60%**.

Student Progress: Students will be sent an email prior to 14th class telling them their midterm grade, based on the total % of points received for participation, quizzes, and the first exam.

Course requirements:

- 1. Attendance and Discussion:** To achieve the course objectives, attendance is required. Class attendance presumes class participation. For each class attended, students receive no points if they fail to attend (for whatever reason), 1 point if they attend but do not communicate their ideas, and 2 points if they participate in discussion of the reading material, for a maximum of **50 points**. (There are at least 25 discussion-based classes.) Students who miss class receive no point for that day (no matter what the reason). Students who miss classes will likely do poorly on exams. Readings will consist of assigned chapters in the texts, as well as some outside readings. Students are required to read and discuss assigned material.
- 2. Quizzes:** For most (22) classes, quizzes worth 4 points each will be given at the beginning of the class to test students on their mastery of the reading material. Quizzes will be multiple choice (and perhaps fill in the blank). The two quizzes with the lowest grade will be dropped. There are no make-up quizzes. The maximum that can be earned on quizzes is **80 points**.
- 3. Essay exams:** Three take-home essay exams (the last the final) will be given, mostly covering material discussed in class and from the readings. However, some questions may require independent research. Several questions will be given to students before the exam (at least one week before), and the exam will require answers to 2 of these questions (each worth 10 points), some or all of which can be selected by the student (i.e., I may require that all students answer some questions). Each exam will be worth 20 points. Answers to each question must be typed, double-spaced, and (not including the question itself) **at least** 3 full pages long, but no more than 5 pages long. To receive credit, a student must provide answers that satisfy the questions asked; simply providing lots of information tangentially or unclearly relevant to the questions is not appropriate. Total possible: **60 points**.
- 4. Film review:** Students will select a film to observe, either on their own (with approval by the professor) or one shown by the professor in the evening, and will write a 5-6 page double-spaced typed review of the film, bringing ideas discussed in class into focus to illuminate how animals are conceptualized or imagined in the film. Imagine that you are a very knowledgeable animal studies person and film critic. This review, worth **20 points**, will be due by the time of the final.
- 5. Book review:** Students will select two books from the Reaktion Press *Animal* series (see www.press.uchicago.edu/Complete/Series/RB-A.html), and review them in a typed paper that is at least 6-pages, double-spaced. Each book focuses on the natural history of and cultural uses and ideas about one type of animal. Students are to summarize and critique each book, and detail the ways in which the diverse perspectives applied to the two animals results in similar and different attitudes toward the animals. Students need to specify what the books tell us about the animals, how cultural attitudes toward the animals influence human perceptions, knowledge, and uses of the animals, and what the consequences of these are for us and for the animals. Students must apply material from the course readings and discussion to the review, to offer an integrated perspective on common attitudes to animals in general, and attitudes more specific to particular animals. This review is due by 30 November, and is worth **40 points**.

READINGS (Tentative schedule, subject to possible revision)

<u>Class#</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Essay questions given/due:</u>
1	<i>Animal</i>	Fudge (pp. 1-66)	
2	<i>Animal</i>	Fudge (pp. 67-112); <i>and</i> Kafka's "A report to an Academy"	
3	<i>Animal</i>	Fudge (pp. 113-166)	
4	Human-animal studies	Flynn, Part 1; Pezzenti; <i>and</i> Boyle's "Descent of man" (pp. 3-16)	
5	Psychology of animals	K&F (pp. 53-90), Handout	
6	Philosophy & Ethics	Flynn, Ch. 28; K&F (pp. 1-22)	
7	Philosophy & Social movements	K&F (pp. 23-50); Flynn, Ch. 29-31	
8	Psychology of animals 2	K&F (pp. 91-110), Handout	
9	Human-animal research	Flynn, Part 2	
10	Attitudes toward animals	Flynn, Part 5	
11		Tiger movie	
			EXAM 1 questions given
12	Animals as domesticates & food	K&F (pp. 113-157); <i>and</i> Boyle's "Heart of a champion" (pp. 37-46)	
13	Conservation (Dr. Ben Freed)	Handouts	
14	Animals as domesticates & food 2	K&F (pp. 158-189)	(Exam 1 due)
15	HOLIDAY!		
16	Animals and oppression	Flynn, Part 7; <i>and</i> Kafka's "Metamorphosis"	
17	Historical & cultural perspectives	Flynn, Part 3	
18	Animals in culture	Flynn, Part 4	
19	Animals as spectacle & sport	K&F (pp. 191-218); <i>and</i> Boyle's "The extinction tales" (pp. 99-108)	
20	Animals as spectacle & sport 2	K&F (pp. 219-244)	EXAM 2 questions given
21	Animals as symbols	K&F (pp. 247-269)	
22	HOLIDAY!	Work on exam	
23	Animals as symbols 2	K&F (pp. 270-301); <i>and</i> Boyle's "Green hell" (pp. 139-158)	
24	Animals in science	K&F (pp. 303-348)	(Exam 2 due)
25	Animals in science 2	K&F (pp. 349-374), Flynn (Ch. 27)	
26	<i>Hunters, herders & hamburgers</i>	Bulliet (pp. 1-70)	
27	<i>Hunters, herders & hamburgers</i>	Bulliet (pp. 71-120)	
28	HOLIDAY!		
29	<i>Hunters, herders & hamburgers</i>	Bulliet (pp. 121-188)	Book Review due
30	<i>Hunters, herders & hamburgers</i>	Bulliet (pp. 189-224); <i>and</i> Kafka's "Investigations of a dog"	
31	Abuse and psychopathology	Flynn, Part 6	Final Exam questions given
32	Living with animals	Flynn, Part 8, Handout	
	Final and film review due		16 December, 10:30am

Final notes:

For all papers, use Times font, size 12, with at most 1 inch margins all around.

Departmental Writing Statement: Students in all psychology courses are expected to use correct grammar, spelling and composition in written assignments. These elements of writing will be taken into consideration in grading all out-of-class writing assignments. If you would like free help with your writing, you may use the new Noel Studio, temporarily located in Library room 208.

Disability Statement: If you are registered with the Office of Services for Individuals with Disabilities, please obtain your accommodation letters from the OSID and present them to the course instructor to discuss any academic accommodations you need. If you believe you need accommodation and are not registered with the OSID, please contact the Office in the Student Services Building Room 361 by email at disserv@eku.edu or by telephone at (859) 622 2933 V/TDD. Upon individual request, this syllabus can be made available in an alternative format.

Academic Integrity Statement: Students are advised that ECU's Academic Integrity policy will strictly be enforced in this course. The Academic Integrity policy is available at www.academicintegrity.eku.edu. Questions regarding the policy may be directed to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Official E-mail: An official ECU e-mail is established for each registered student, each faculty member, and each staff member. All university communications sent via e-mail will be sent to this ECU e-mail address.