Starting on week one and throughout the semester we will be talking about this article on climate change:


Be sure to read it and be prepared to discuss it in class. The material in the article and topics covered in our class discussion may be included in the corresponding exam.

Aug/21-Sep/4: Animal evolution (5 lectures).
Tentative video: “What is the evidence for evolution”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIEoO5KdPvQ (11:21 min)
Reading assignments: Papini, chapters 2 and 3.

Sep/6 - FIRST EXAM: Class material (lectures, videos, etc.) and reading assignments.

Sep/11-25: Learning and cognition (5 lectures).
Tentative video: A recreation of Clever Hans' behavior
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= Nza20_l6qQ (5:49 min)
Tentative video: “How to train a brain”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qG2SwE_6uVM (11:49 min)
Tentative video: “Kanzi: An ape of genius”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dBUHWoFnuB4 (14:56 min)
Reading assignments: Papini, chapters 8 and 9.

Sep/27 - SECOND EXAM: Class material and reading assignments.

Oct/2-18: Brain-behavior evolution (5 lectures).
Tentative video: “The origin of the brain”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6RbPQG9WTZM (9:29 min)
Reading assignments: Papini, chapters 5 and 6.

Oct/23 - THIRD EXAM: Class material and reading assignments.

Tentative video: “Bird brains”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZRz7Xwl1ypU (13:03 min)
Tentative video: “Harlow’s studies on dependency in monkeys”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OrNBEhzjg8I (6:07 min)
Reading assignments: Papini, chapters 11 and 12.

Nov/13 - FOURTH EXAM: Class material and reading assignments.

Nov/15-Dec/5: Primate evolution (5 lectures).
Tentative video: "Where and when did humans evolve?"
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K4S2qJboi4I (5:27 min)
Tentative video: "In search of human origins Lucy"
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ju-HoJtPkJ8 (7:27 min)
Tentative video: “The analysis of Ardipithecus ramidus”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EC9aIth1ah4 (9:59 min)
Reading assignment: Papini, chapter 14.

FIFTH EXAM and MAKE-UP EXAMS for GRADUATING SENIORS:
2:00-4:30 pm, Thursday, Dec/6: Class material and reading assignment.

FIFTH EXAM and MAKE-UP EXAMS for NON-GRADUATING STUDENTS:
2:00-4:30 pm, Thursday, Dec/13: Class material and reading assignment.

Objectives

The main goal is to provide you with knowledge about the factors that contribute to the evolution and development of brain-behavior relationships. You will learn a basic vocabulary and a set of concepts and theories that will enable you to appreciate the importance and scope of comparative psychology. This course is organized around five fundamental topics: evolutionary theory, brain evolution, animal learning and cognition, behavioral development, and primate evolution.

Textbooks


Exams

There will be 5 exams, each worth a maximum of 40 points (maximum total points in exams: 200; see below). In terms of reading material, there will be no overlap between the exams. There will be no comprehensive final. Each exam will involve 40 multiple-choice questions, each with 4 alternatives, only one correct alternative per question, and each question will be worth 1 point.

Missing Exams

Make-up exams will be given immediately after the final exam (see dates for graduating and non-graduating students above).
Exam Requirements

The following will be required during an exam in this course:

1. **PERSONAL PROPERTY** (backpacks, clothing, etc.): All personal property/items will be on the floor next to you or at the front of the room.

2. **LEAVING THE ROOM**: Once you are in possession of an exam, you will not be permitted to leave the room until you complete the test.

3. **FOOD/DRINKS**: No food or drinks are allowed in the classroom.

4. **ADJACENT EXAMS**: Resist the temptation to look at others' exams and protect your own exam from being viewed by others.

5. **COMPUTERS, PHONES, WATCHES**: You must turn off your computer, and put your phones and watches away in a pocket or backpack.

6. **HATS**: You are not allowed to wear hats during an exam.

7. **EXAM**: Under no circumstances may exam questions or any part of an exam be removed, reproduced, and/or disclosed by any means (hard copy, verbally, electronically, etc.) to any person or entity.

Failure to comply with these instructions may result in the immediate termination of the exam and an assignment of a zero score for that exam. The Dean’s office will also be notified of the violation.

Extra Points

For each hour of participating in research through SONA systems, two points will be added to your final course score, up to a maximum of 10 extra points. Please note the following:

1. Because the grading scale is 0-200 (see Grading below), there is no guarantee that your final grade will be increased as a result of collecting extra points by participating in experiments.

2. There is no guarantee that enough experiments will be available to participate in for you to collect all 10 credits.

3. Let me know no later than Tuesday, January/30/2018, if you are unwilling or unable to participate in experiments. In such a case, you will be able to collect a maximum of 10 extra points by writing a paper (APA style, Times New Roman 12 font, 1-inch margins, 15 pages of narrative minimum not counting the title page and references). I will assign you with a topic. The deadline for submitting the paper is: Tuesday, April/3/2018.

Questions about the SONA systems must be directed at Dr. Uma Tauber (uma.tauber@tcu.edu) or Hanna Bradshaw (h.k.bradshaw@tcu.edu). Instructions on how to register for participation in experiments (SONA systems) can be found here:
http://psychology.tcu.edu/current-undergraduate-students/sona-systems/

Grading

Your final score will be the sum of the scores obtained in the 5 exams plus the extra points (maximum extra points: 10). Thus, a student who scores the maximum number of points will have a final score of 210 (200 from exams plus a maximum of10 from extra points). Letter grading from your final score:

A: 180-210 points.
B: 160-179 points.
C: 140-159 points.
D: 120-139 points.
F: below 120 points.

Attendance Policy

This course has a total of 30 meetings of which 5 are allocated to the exams. Attendance in the remaining 25 lectures will be monitored. It is recommended that you attend all the lectures since this course depends heavily on material presented in class. It is unlikely that you will obtain a C or better grade if you miss more than 20% of the 25 lectures (that’s about 5 absences in the entire semester). Here is evidence of the correlation between attendance and grades from several courses offered over the past several years. Notice that attendance accounts for 82% of the variance in grades. I may add that I found strong correlations like this one in my other courses, suggesting that this is probably true for most of the courses you take at TCU.

Concern about Grade Inflation

Data on grade inflation show that there is a general trend across both public and private schools toward higher grades over the period ranging between 1991 and 2007 (see www.gradeinflation.com for more information). This trend is not apparently present in community colleges. Notice in the graph given below that this trend is especially robust in private schools, like TCU. Although there are several interpretations of these results, if the trend continues, soon a diploma from a private school may be worth less than one from a public school in the job market. Whether or not this would be fair is irrelevant to your professional future. TCU was not sampled for the research represented in this figure, but, as a graduate from a private school you may be affected anyway when competing for jobs. I provide this information so that you become aware of a potential problem.
Disability Statement
(Approved Fall 2007 by the Undergraduate Council. Revised Summer 2011.)

Texas Christian University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 regarding students with disabilities. Eligible students seeking accommodations should contact the Coordinator of Student Disabilities Services in the Center for Academic Services located in Sadler Hall, 1010. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the Coordinator as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. Further information can be obtained from the Center for Academic Services, TCU Box 297710, Fort Worth, TX 76129, or at (817) 257-6567.

Adequate time must be allowed to arrange accommodations and accommodations are not retroactive; therefore, students should contact the Coordinator as soon as possible in the academic term for which they are seeking accommodations. Each eligible student is responsible for presenting relevant, verifiable, professional documentation and/or assessment reports to the Coordinator. Guidelines for documentation may be found at http://www.acs.tcu.edu/disability_documentation.asp.

Students with emergency medical information or needing special arrangements in case a building must be evacuated should discuss this information with their instructor/professor as soon as possible.

Students with disabilities

If you require accommodation for a disability (physical, learning, or otherwise), please contact the Coordinator of Academic Services for Students with Disabilities. Once I have received a letter from the Coordinator’s office that outlines need-specific accommodations, we can then implement fair procedures targeted to your learning requirements.

Academic Misconduct

In order to encourage and preserve the honor and integrity of the academic community, TCU expects its students to maintain high standards of personal and scholarly conduct. Academic misconduct includes the following acts:

A. Cheating
   (1) Copying from another student’s test paper, lab report, other report, or computer files and listings.
   (2) Using, during any academic exercise, material and/or devices not authorized by the person in charge of the test.
   (3) Collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or a lab without permission.
   (4) Knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in its entirety or in part, the contents of a test or other assignment unauthorized for release.
   (5) Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, to take a test or other assignment or to make a presentation.

B. Plagiarism
The appropriation, theft, purchase, or obtaining by any means another’s work, and the
unacknowledged submission or incorporation of that work as one’s own offered for credit. Appropriation includes the quoting or paraphrasing of another’s work without giving credit therefore.

C. Collusion
The unauthorized collaboration with another in preparing work offered for credit.

D. Abuse of resource materials
Mutilating, destroying, concealing, or stealing such materials.

E. Computer misuse
Unauthorized or illegal use of computer software or hardware through the TCU Computer Center or through any programs, terminals, or freestanding computers owned, leased, or operated by TCU or any of its academic units for the purpose of affecting the academic standing of a student.

F. Fabrication and falsification
Unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.

G. Multiple submissions
The submission by the same individual of substantial portions of the same academic work (including oral reports) for credit more than once in the same or another class without authorization.

H. Complicity in academic misconduct
Helping another to commit an act of academic misconduct.

All instructors or proctors shall have the right to examine materials in the student’s possession during quizzes, examination, and/or laboratory sessions. In instances of cheating during an examination or other classroom or laboratory activity or exercise, the instructor shall have the right to suspend the student(s) credit for the examination or exercise. Faculty may impose the following sanctions for academic misconduct:

1. Grant no credit for the examination or assignment in question (treated as a missed assignment).
2. Assign a grade of F (or a zero) for the examination or assignment in question.
3. Recommend to the dean that the student be dropped immediately from the course with a grade of F. This grade cannot be changed by student-initiated withdrawal.

Also note that the dean of the college may enforce specific sanctions. Procedures for handling cases of alleged academic misconduct have been carefully drawn to protect the rights of individual students and to safeguard the University’s commitment to academic integrity.

Title IX

Familiarize yourself with Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972 and similar acts that protect individuals against discrimination. Visit TCU’s web site (https://titleix.tcu.edu/) to learn about your rights. From that site:
As you explore this website, you will get a glimpse of a unique university. You’ll learn that TCU was, is and always will be about people. TCU is committed to providing a positive learning and working environment free from discrimination. In support of this commitment, TCU prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, ethnic origin, disability, genetic information, covered veteran status, and any other basis protected by law.

Discrimination and harassment are incompatible with TCU’s mission to educate individuals to think and act as ethical leaders and responsible citizens in the global community, and can threaten the educational experience, careers and well-being of members of the TCU community, including employees, students, and visitors.

Victor J. Boschini, Jr.
Chancellor

Emergency Actions for Severe Weather

- Use your location’s weather alert radio or television weather channel to monitor the approach and severity of the weather.
- Tornado Watch means weather conditions are favorable for the formation of tornadoes.
- Tornado Warning means a tornado has been sighted in the area.
- If the Weather Service issues a severe weather or tornado warning for the Tarrant County area, warn employees/students in your immediate area.
- If the City’s All-Hazard sirens sound, you should immediately proceed to a shelter.
- Close all doors and stay away from windows and other glassed areas.
- Avoid rooms (lecture halls, auditoriums, etc.) with large ceilings or roof spans, if possible.
- If available, take a battery-powered radio and flashlight into the shelter. Computers in the shelter areas can be used to monitor weather sources over the internet.
- Remain in the shelter area until an all-clear signal is given or until you determine the storm system has passed.
- Reconvene employees/students when the emergency is past to account for all persons.
- If deemed necessary, dismiss classes and instruct students to seek shelter within the building.

Shelters - Best areas:

- Lowest floor level - basements, if possible; interior restrooms, closets, alcoves, etc, without windows; interior hallways on the lowest ground floor.
- Keep as many inside walls/doors between you and the outside wall.

The official source for information concerning possible or actual severe weather is the U.S. Weather Service. This information is broadcast continuously at 162.550 megahertz on VHF-FM radio.

All commercial radio stations are in constant receipt of this information and in turn broadcast the same to their listeners. Local radio stations include:

WBAP 820 – AM / KRLD 1080 – AM / KLIF 570 – AM
Additional resources for local weather information over the internet and television include:

- KXAS, NBC Channel 5: [http://www.nbc5i.com/index](http://www.nbc5i.com/index)
- WFAA, ABC Channel 8: [http://www.wfaa.com/](http://www.wfaa.com/)

For more weather information, the TCU TV Cable System provides the following sources:

- Weather Channel 16.4
- Local Weather
- NBC5
- Channel 5.2

Additional information and guidance is available through the TCU Emergency Preparedness website: [https://tcuemergency.tcu.edu/](https://tcuemergency.tcu.edu/).