

(Provisional syllabus)

HUMANS AMONG ANIMALS

KHC AN101
Honors College Freshman Seminar
Prof. Parker Shipton
Spring 2013

Meetings: Weds., Fri. 9:30-11.

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Office hours: TBA.

An exciting field of study is emerging in human-animal relations. Based partly on ancient questions and long-debated ideas, and partly on new observations, experiments, and experiences of humans with animals at home and in the "wild," this course examines ways humans understand animals, and ways we use animals to form our understanding of ourselves. Considering species deemed wild, herded, and domestic, we ask (1) what is known and unknown, animal thought, feeling, and communication; and what humans in different contexts assume, believe, and imagine about these knowns and unknowns; (2) what roles language and culture play in these sentiments and understandings in contemporary societies variously engaged in hunting, fishing, herding, farming, pet keeping, and spectating; and (3) how our understandings about animals reflect back upon, and condition, our relations among ourselves.

Recent developments in ethology (the study of animal behavior and character) -- as well as in brain science and genetics -- have challenged many assumptions about human uniqueness, and about innateness, learning, and possible balances between. Concepts of evolution continue being challenged and refined in light of evidence on species co-evolution and co-dependence. We will see how the lines people draw between humans and animals, or culture and nature, get redrawn -- for psychological, political, and other reasons -- and explore where they blur in the light of new discoveries, and in the twists and turns of belief, story, and humor. Case material on several selected species, and several human languages and societies, will be drawn from settings in Africa south of the Sahara, from parts of western Europe, and from some Native and other people in the Americas. Origin myths and legends, cognition and classification, sentience and emotion, ownership and exchange; territoriality and accommodation; symbolism and sacrifice; protection and conservation; and emergent understandings of rights are all to be considered.

In particular, we will concentrate this semester on a few key issues that have involved some speculation at the edge of current knowledge, of the sort that invites not only scholarly participation but also some wider public readership. We will also read a wide range of brief essays, and commentary on them, exemplifying current discussion and debate between

disciplines. And we will read an intensive ethnography of how people in one part of the world (this semester, one in Africa) relate to animals of many kinds.

Note: Although this course is numbered "KHC AN101," it is not meant to be a general introduction to anthropology (for that, see CAS AN101 and CAS AN102). Our approach in this present course is interdisciplinary, drawing for instance on anthropology, history, linguistics, philosophy, psychology, and zoology. Findings will have practical, legal, and ethical implications, bearing on some of the most pressing issues of our time.

Requirements:

-Active participation in discussions. Class participation will include brief presentations of independent reading and research.

-Weekly assignments. *Explanation of weekly assignments:* Each week, for Monday, students will write on three pages (stapled please), for peer critique. The format is simple. Unless otherwise indicated, the standard assignment is as follows: The first page should present a summary of the first (or only) listed reading for the week, in your own words (outline form is acceptable). On the second page, write an original question on that reading. (A fertile question will be one that, in the search for an answer, would spawn "offspring" questions. No need to answer it yet in writing -- we will do some of that in class.) The third page should contain a creation of your own that is based upon, or uses as a point of departure, anything in the week's required reading. This third page is an opportunity for diagrams, comparisons, critiques, tie-ins to current news, or something more personal, poetic, or artistic of your own. What you do with this page is up to you, but you should try out different genres over the semester. These weekly assignments will not be graded as individual papers but will be handed in on the day due, and evaluated at the end of the term as a dossier, and their number and evident over-all quality are an important part of the final evaluation. (Everyone is allowed to miss one or two weekly assignments. If you miss one, just go on to the next, in order to keep up with the group; then fill in the missing one later if time permits.) All papers are collected in class; not to be mailed, e-mailed, or dropped off. Please keep a copy of your work.

-Two longer papers to be assigned. Max. 1,800 words apiece (length excludes notes and references).

Any student who has read any of the assigned readings for more than one other course should choose a substitute assignment from the recommended list of the same week.

Evaluation:

Longer papers 25 percent each. Class participation, including weekly writing assignments and contribution to colleagues' work, 50 percent. The emphasis of the course is on constructive collaboration no less than competition.

Evaluation is based on cooperation no less than on competition.

Students are expected to abide by both KHC and BU's Undergraduate Academic Conduct Code. The Academic Conduct Code can be found at

[http://www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/Handing in someone else's work as one's own](http://www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/Handing%20in%20someone%20else%27s%20work%20as%20one%27s%20own), failing to properly cite words and ideas taken from others, copying answers, and unauthorized conversation during exams are clear violations of the Code with serious implications. For CAS students, the relevant URL is <<http://www.bu.edu/cas/students/undergrad-resources/code>>.

*Readings (*Required):*

- *Anon. 2003 [n.d.] The Epic of Gilgamesh, trans. Andrew George. New York: Penguin Classics.
- *Ardrey, Robert. 1997 [1966]. The Territorial Imperative. New York: Kodansha. (See note in schedule below)
- *Belcher, Stephen, ed. 2006. African Myths of Origin. New York: Penguin Classics.
- *Bulliet, Richard. 2005. Hunters, Herders, and Hamburgers: The Past and Future of Human-Animal Relationships. New York: Columbia University Press.
- *Comstock, Gary, Parker Shipton, and Sally Haslanger, eds. On the Human (essays and commentary as assigned). Interdisciplinary forum website of the National Humanities Center. <www.onthehuman.org>
- *Darwin, Charles. 2006 [1872]. The Expression of Emotions in Man and Animals. New York: Barnes and Noble Publishing. (also in Darwin and Wilson 1005)
- *Fisher, Helen. 1994. Anatomy of Love. New York: Ballantine.
- *Morris, Brian. 1998 . The Power of Animals: An Ethnography. Oxford: Berg.
- *Morris, Brian. 2000. Animals and Ancestors: An Ethnography. Oxford: Berg.
- *Reid, Bill, and Robert Bringhurst. The Raven Steals the Light. Seattle: University of Washington Press.
- *Rowan, A.N. ed., Animals and People Sharing the World.

Also Being Ordered as Recommended (on Reserve), But Not Required:

Corbey, Raymond. 2005. The Metaphysics of Apes: Negotiating the Animal-Human Boundary. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Cormier, Lori. 2003. Kinship with Monkeys: The Guajá Foragers of Eastern Amazonia. New York: Columbia University Press.

Deacon, Terrence. 1977. The Symbolic Species: The Co-evolution of Language and the Human Brain. New York: W.W. Norton.

Flynn, Clifton P., ed. 2008. Social Creatures: A Human and Animal Studies Reader. New York: Lantern (Booklight).

Horowitz, Alexandra. 2009. Inside of a Dog.

Jahoda, Gustav. 1998. Images of Savages: Ancient Roots of Modern Prejudice in Western Culture. London and New York: Routledge.

Ritvo, Harriet. 1987. The Animal Estate: The English and Other Creatures in the Victorian Age. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Shepard, Paul. 1996. The Others: How Animals Made Us Human.

READINGS – Further recommended (Journals)

Humanimalia
Animal Cognition

WEBSITES

On the Human
H-Animal
DNAPES (pop science and conservation)

SCHEDULE

Introduction: Situating Our Species

Week 1

Some Ancient Approaches: Depictions Remaining in Story, Scripture, and Sculpture

Reading:

Anon., The Epic of Gilgamesh

Rowan, Andrew, "The Power of the Animal Symbol,"
in Rowan, ed., Animals and People Sharing the World," pp. 1-12.
Herzog, Harold Jr., and Gordon M. Burghardt,
"Attitudes toward Animals: Origins and Diversity." In Rowan, ed.,
Animals and People Sharing the World, pp. 75-94

Recommended:

Germond, Philippe, and Jacques Livet. An Egyptian Bestiary
Aelian. Of Animals
Fisher, Jonathan. Scripture Animals
Johns, Catherine. Cattle

Week 2

Blurring the Bounds: The Imaginary Savage

Reading:

Bulliet, Richard. Hunters, Herders, and Hamburgers (first half)
Marino, Lori. "A Trans-Species Perspective on Nature."
On the Human website (read essay and discussion)
Morris, Brian. The Power of Animals, Introduction

Recommended:

Corbey, Raymond. The Metaphysics of Apes
Shepherd, Paul. The Others: How Animals Made Us Human
Jahoda, Gustav. Images of Savages: Ancient Roots of Modern Prejudice in Western Culture
Street, Brian. The Savage in Literature
Heartfield, James. The Aborigines' Protection Society
Cartmill, Matt. A View to a Death in the Morning

Week 3

Situating Our Species: Our Place in Nature (above, below, beside, beyond ...?)

Reading:

Bulliet, Richard. Hunters, Herders, and Hamburgers (second half)
De Waal, Frans. "Morals Without God?"
On the Human website (read essay and discussion)
Sapolsky, Robert. "This Is Your Brain on Metaphors."
On the Human website (read essay and discussion)
Sterelny, Kim. "The Evolved Apprentice."
On the Human website (read essay and discussion)
Morris, Brian. The Power of Animals, Ch. 1

Recommended:

Shepard, Paul. How Animals Made Us Human
Deacon, Terrence. The Symbolic Species
Ingold, Tim. What is an Animal?

Frans De Waal. Our Inner Ape
Sarah Blaffer Hrdy. Mothers and Others
Robert Sapolsky. A Primate's Memoir
Manning, Aubrey, and James Serpell, eds. Animals and Human Society
Kalof, Linda, and Brigitte Resl, eds. A Cultural History of Animals (6 vols.)

Thinkers Feelers, Communicators: The Question of Consciousness

Consciousness and the Limits of Empathy. Our inquiry into the nature of thought, emotion, and consciousness will take us to some of the smaller creatures as well as larger ones to see if humans can rightly claim any more awareness or consciousness than any or all other beings. Whom, or what, do humans in different times and places consider their own kin or kind – and why? Looking into the limits of human empathy, we shall ask whether attention to nonhuman animals stretches our capacities for understanding or only detracts from the attention we devote to other humans. Can human empathy stretch indefinitely, or does more to one species mean less to another?

Week 4

Observing Expression, Inferring Emotion: Who Counts as Conscious?

Reading:

Darwin, Charles. The Expression of Emotions in Man and Animals (Chapters to be assigned)
Sober, Elliott. "Common Ancestry and Natural Selection in Darwin's Origin"
On the Human website (read essay and discussion)
Beer, Gillian. "Late Darwin and the Problem of the Human."
On the Human website (read essay and discussion)
Ritvo, Harriet. "Humans and Humanists."
On the Human website (read essay and discussion)
Strier, Karen. "The Challenge of Comparisons in Primatology."
On the Human website (read essay and discussion)
Morris, Brian. The Power of Animals, Ch. 2

Recommended:

Darwin, Charles, The Origin of Species
Darwin, Charles, The Descent of Man
Ritvo, Harriet, The Animal Estate
Ritvo, Harriet, The Platypus and the Mermaid
Wright, Robert. The Moral Animal
Morris, Desmond. Manwatching
Thomas, Elizabeth Marshall. The Hidden Life of Dogs
Horowitz, Alexandra. Inside of a Dog
Bekoff, Marc. The Emotional Lives of Animals
Bekoff, Marc, and Jessica Pierce. Wild Justice
Cohen, Anthony P., and Nigel Rapport. Questions of Consciousness

Week 5

Brain, Language, and Co-evolution? Old Questions, Fresh Evidence, Hot Debate

Reading:

Savage-Rumbaugh, Sue. "Human Language – Human Consciousness."

On the Human website: read both essay and discussion

Deacon, Terrence. "On the Human."

On the Human website: read both essay and discussion

Hrdy, Sarah Blaffer. "How Humans Became Such Other-Regarding Apes."

On the Human website: read both essay and discussion

Start Fisher, Helen, Anatomy of Love.

Morris, Brian. The Power of Animals, Ch. 3

Recommended:

Deacon, Terrence, The Symbolic Species

Hurford, Jim, The Origins of Meaning

Greenspan, Stanley, and Stuart G. Shanker, The First Idea

Tomasello, Michael, The Cultural Origins of Human Cognition

Keeping (And Parting) Company: Nature and Culture of Attraction, Mating, and Cohabitation

Can animals love in the ways humans do? And what, if anything, do humans add to what animals do when we undergo marriage, divorce, adultery, and divorce? Or when we move in and out of each other's spaces?

Week 6 [FIRST LONGER PAPER DUE]

Sex and Species: The Mating Add/Drop (incl. Marriage, Adultery, Divorce).

(Reading)

Fisher, Helen. Anatomy of Love

Morris, Brian. The Power of Animals, Ch. 4

Recommended:

Hrdy, Sarah Blaffer. Mothers and Others

Hrdy, Sarah Blaffer. Mother Nature

Sarah Blaffer. The Woman That Never Evolved

Wrangham, Richard, and Dale Peterson, Demonic Males

Daly, Martin, and Margo Wilson, Sex, Evolution and Behavior

Ellison, Peter T. On Fertile Ground

Montagu, Ashley. Touching: The Human Significance of the Skin

Morris, Desmond. Intimate Behavior

Week 7

Animals as (Quasi-)Kin: Companionship and Co-Dependence

Reading:

Ritvo, Harriet, "The Emergence of Modern Pet-Keeping."

In Rowan, ed., Animals and People..., pp. 13-32.

Serpell, James, "Pet-keeping in Non-Western Societies: Some Popular Misconceptions."

In Rowan, ed., Animals and People..., pp. 33-52.

Katcher, Aaron Honori, and Alan M. Beck, "Health and Caring for Living Things."

In Rowan, ed., Animals and People..., pp. 53—74.

Kellert, Stephen R. "Human-Animal Interactions: A Review of American Attitudes to Wild and Domestic Animals in the Twentieth Century."

In Rowan, ed., Animals and People..., pp. 137-176.

Fogle, Bruce, "Summation: People, Animals, and the Environment."

In Rowen, ed., Animals and People..., pp. 177-186

Morris, Brian. Animals and Ancestors, Ch. 1 (Intro.)

Recommended:

Bulliet, Robert, Hunters, Herders, and Hamburgers

Herzog, Hal. Some We Love, Some We Hate, Some We Eat

Serpell, James, In the Company of Animals

Thomas, Elizabeth Marshall. The Hidden Life of Dogs

Cormier, Loretta, Kinship with Monkeys

Fouts, Roger, with Stephen Tukul Mills. Next of Kin

Manning, Aubrey, and James Serpell, eds. Animals and Human Society

Classification and Creativity: Animals as Humans, and Humans as Animals

Therianthropy: creative human animal-fusion – by transformation or in intermediate forms. In mythic-historical narrative (origin stories), sacred scripture, sculpture, pop movies, and other individual and collective creations, humans just about everywhere seem to imagine, and to try to convey images of, creatures of mixed human and animal composition (think of werewolves, vampires, winged angels, and horned or tailed devils). What psychological, social, and cultural needs, if any, might these creations satisfy – and are the needs or wants universal? And is there any way to know whether such needs and penchants are uniquely human in themselves?

Week 8

Tricksters and Culture Teachers: Birds and Beasts as People in Story

Reading:

Reid, Bill, and Robert Bringhurst. The Raven Steals the Light

Krech, Shepard III. "The Nature and Culture of Birds"

On the Human website (read essay and discussion)

Morris, Brian. Animals and Ancestors, Ch. 2

Recommended:

Boas, Franz. Primitive Art

Jonaitis, Aldona. From the Land of the Totem Poles

Gordon, David, and Shepard Krech III, eds., Indigenous Knowledge and the Environment in Africa and North America

Guss, David, ed. The Language of the Birds

Krech, Shepard III, The Ecological Indian

Krech, Shepard III, Spirits of the Air: Birds and American Indians in the South.

Cronon, William, Changes in the Land

Tideman, Sonia, and Andrew Gosler, eds.,

Ethno-ornithology: Birds, Indigenous Peoples, Culture and Society

Erdrich, Louise, Tracks (novel)

Waters, Frank. The Man Who Killed the Deer (novel)

Radin, Paul. The Trickster: A Study in American Indian Mythology.

Radin, Paul. African Folktales and Sculpture

Marzluff, John, and Tony Angell, In the Company of Crows and Ravens

Morris, Brian, "Attitudes to Nature," Ch. 4 of Morris, The Power of Animals
(esp. pp. on trickster tales)

Week 9

Therianthropy: Art of the Missing Link

Reading:

Blier, Suzanne Preston. "Animalia: The Natural World, Art, and Theory."

On the Human website; read both essay and discussion below it.

Burt, Marianna. "The Animal as Alter Ego: Cruelty, Altruism, and the Work of Art."

In Rowan, ed., Animals and People..., pp. 117-136.

Morris, Brian. Animals and Ancestors, Ch. 3

Recommended:

Drewal, Henry, Mami Wata

Germond, Philippe, and Jacques Livet. An Egyptian Bestiary

Belcher, Stephen. African Myths of Origin

Isichei, Elizabeth. Voices of the African Poor

Johns, Catherine, Cattle

Week 10

Human Groups with Animal Symbols: Metaphor and Metonym

Reading:

Serpell, James, "Further Thoughts on Totemism:

"The Evolution of Animal Food Taboos." On the Human website (essay and discussion).

Shipton, Parker. "Recruiting Nature: Snakes, Serpents, and Social Movements."

(Chapter 10 of David M. Gordon and Shepard Krech III,

Indigenous Knowledge and the Environment in Africa and North America) (Reserve)

Morris, Brian. Animals and Ancestors, Ch. 4

Recommended:

Adanson, Michel. Histoire Naturelle du Sénégal. Paris: Jean-Claude-Baptiste Bache

Durkheim, Emile. The Elementary Forms of Religious Life

Durkheim, Emile, and Marcel Mauss. Primitive Classification

Ellen, Roy. The Categorical Impulse

Freud, Sigmund. Totem and Taboo

Fernandez, James, ed., Beyond Metaphor

Lakoff, George, and Mark Johnson. Metaphors We Live By

Lakoff, George, and Mark Johnson. Philosophy in the Flesh:
The Embodied Mind and its Challenge to Western Thought.

Levi-Strauss, Claude. Totemism

Adams, Carol. The Sexual Politics of Meat

Sanday, Peggy Reeves. Divine Hunger

Herz, Rachel. That's Disgusting

Willis, Roy, ed. Signifying Animals

Range, Territory, Belonging

Roots of Spatial Relations. Debates and remaining mysteries about instinct and learning – particularly about migration, territoriality, and accommodation – are clarified by comparisons between species as more abstract concepts like property, belonging, and dominion come into question. We shall ask, in a speculative vein, what humans might learn from other animals about what sorts of competition and cooperation to expect of ourselves, and to expect to have to adjust or transform, in increasingly crowded and contested spaces. And as far as animals themselves are concerned, we shall ask not only what humans might do to improve or protect the wellbeing of animals in captivity, but why cultures seem to clash so dramatically on issues of wildlife conservation, and what should be done about it. What, if anything, ought to determine who moves and lives where?

Week 11

Proximity and Belonging: Animal (and Human) Territoriality and Accommodation

Reading:

Ardrey, Robert, The Territorial Imperative, first half

(Note: Read the DeVore appreciative *and* critical foreword, if in your edn.; our approach too will involve some caution, dissection of ideas, and debate.

For other views see especially Malmberg below.)

Ritvo, Harriet, "Going Forth and Multiplying: Animal Acclimatization and Invasion."

On the Human website (read essay and discussion)

Morris, Brian. Animals and Ancestors, Ch.5

Recommended:

Malmberg, Torsten, Human Territoriality

Tiger, Lionel, and Robin Fox, The Imperial Animal

Wrangham, Richard, and Dale Peterson, Demonic Males
De Waal, Frans, Chimpanzee Politics
Howard, Eliot, Territory in Bird Life
Bakker, Cornelis, and Marianne K. Bakker-Rabdau. No Trespassing!
Hall, Edward T. The Hidden Dimension

...and a few general ethology texts and reference books:

Alcock, John. Animal Behavior
Manning, Aubrey. An Introduction to Animal Behavior
McFarland, David. The Oxford Companion to Animal Behavior
Reynolds, Vernon. The Biology of Human Action
Wittenberger, James F. Animal Social Behavior

Week 12

Territory and Range, Aggression and Conciliation; immigration and "naturalization"

Reading:

Ardrey, Robert, The Territorial Imperative, second half (see note above)
Shipton, Parker. "Belonging, Exclusion, and Ethnic Competition." (Reserve)

Recommended:

Malmberg, Torsten, Human Territoriality
Shipton, Parker. Mortgaging the Ancestors
Wrangham, Richard, and Dale Peterson, Demonic Males
de Waal, Frans, Our Inner Ape
(and as above)
Morris, Brian. Animals and Ancestors, Ch. 6

Week 13 [SECOND LONGER PAPER DUE]

Hunter-Prey; Hunter-Herder; Hunter-Farmer.... Killing and Conserving

Reading:

Marks, Stuart. "Wild Animals and a Different Human Face."
On the Human website (read essay and discussion)
Bateson, Patrick. "Hunting and Humans." On the Human website (read essay and discussion)
Kaufman, Les. "Loaves, Fishes, and the Human Side of Ecosystems."
On the Human website (read essay and discussion)

Recommended:

Marks, Stuart. The Imperial Lion.
Marks, Stuart. Large Mammals and a Brave People.
Morris, Brian. The Power of Animals.
Morris, Brian. Animals and Ancestors.
Cartmill, Matt, A View to a Death in the Morning

Klieman, Kairn, The Pygmies Were Our Compass.
Frank Marlowe, The Hadza: Hunter-Gatherers of Tanzania.
Cormier, Loretta, Kinship with Monkeys
Marks, Stuart. The Imperial Lion
Sapolsky, Robert. A Primate's Memoir
Bradshaw, G.A. Elephants at the Edge
Reid, Bill, and Robert Bringhurst, The Raven Steals the Light
Moran, Emilio F. Human Adaptability
Igoe, Jim, Conservation and Globalization.
Brockington, Dan, Rosalind Duffy, and Jim Igoe. Nature Unbound.

**Between Life and Death:
Making Order, Marking Ties.... Violating Rights?**

Week 14

Slaughter as Murder? Ethics, Edibility, and the Animal Industry, as a Subject of Moral Philosophy

Reading:

Singer, Peter. "Taking Life: Animals." On the Human (read web essay and ensuing discussion)

Regan, Tom. "The Case for Animal Rights."

On the Human (read web essay and ensuing discussion)

McMahan, Jeff. "The Meat Eaters:

Would the Controlled Extinction of Carnivorous Species Be a Good Thing?"

On the Human (read web essay and ensuing discussion)

Broch-Due, Vigdis. "Animal in Mind:

People, Cattle and Shared Nature on the African Savannah."

On the Human website (read essay and discussion)

Recommended:

Singer, Peter, and Jim Mason, The Ethics of What We Eat.

McMahan, Jeff. The Ethics of Killing: Problems at the Margins of Life.

Herzog, Hal. Some We Love, Some We Hate, Some We Eat

Pollan, Michael, The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals.

Foer, Jonathan Safran, Eating Animals

Striffler, Steve. Chicken: The Dangerous Transformation of America's Favorite Food.

Stull, Donald, and Michael Broadway, Slaughterhouse Blues.

Goodall, Jane, Harvest for Hope

Coetzee, J.M. The Lives of Animals (novel)

Nussbaum, Martha, Frontiers of Justice: Disability, Nationality, Species Membership.

Week 15

A General Direction?

Reading:

Sterelny, Kim. "The Evolved Apprentice." (review)
[On the Human](#) website (read essay and discussion)
Railton, Peter. "Moral Camouflage or Moral Monkeys?"
[On the Human](#) website (read essay and discussion)
Sapolsky, Robert. "This is Your Brain on Metaphors." (review)
[On the Human](#) website (read essay and discussion)

Recommended:

Bulliet, Robert. [Hunters, Herders, and Hamburgers](#)
Wright, Robert. [Nonzero: The Logic of Human Destiny](#)
Wright, Robert. [The Moral Animal](#)
Hall, Edward T. [The Hidden Dimension](#)
Kuper, Adam. [The Chosen Primate](#)
Morris, Desmond. [The Human Zoo](#)
Pinker, Steven. [The Better Angels of Our Nature](#)
Gray, John. [Straw Dogs](#)
Shepard, Paul. [The Others](#)

[End of semester]

SUPPLEMENTARY TOPICS AND SUGGESTIONS

Some Cross-Cutting Themes

[**Note:** The following topics and readings are included in case they may help students choosing special topics for concentration as individuals or in groups]

Ethnocentrism, Racism, Speciesism: One Continuum?

Reading:

Corbey, Raymond. [The Metaphysics of Apes](#).

Gruen, Lori. "The Ethics of Captivity"

[On the Human](#) website (read essay and discussion)

Recommended:

Street, Brian. [The Savage in Literature](#)

Pearce, Roy Harvey, [Savagism and Civilization](#)

Corbey, Raymond. [The Metaphysics of Apes](#)

Heartfield, James. [The Aborigines' Protection Society](#)

[Ask for separate bibliog. on savagery]

(No assigned week)

Debating Genetic Determinism, I: Reduction as Realism

Reading:

Burnham, Terry, and Jay Phelan. [Mean Genes](#)

Recommended:

Dawkins, Richard, [The Selfish Gene](#)

Wilson, Edward O., [Consilience](#)

Harris, Marvin, [Cultural Materialism](#)

(No assigned week)

Debating Genetic Determinism, II: Reduction as Illusion

Reading:

McKinnon, Susan, and Sydel Silverman. [Complexities: Beyond Nature and Nurture](#)

Recommended:

Geertz, Clifford, [The Interpretation of Cultures](#)

Sahlins, Marshall, [Culture and Practical Reason](#)

(No assigned week)

The Anthropomorphism vs. Behaviorism: Personifiers... and Petrifiers?

Reading:

Griffin, Donald, Animal Minds

Recommended:

Adams, Carol. The Sexual Politics of Meat

Thomas, Elizabeth Marshall, The Tribe of Tiger

Thomas, Elizabeth Marshall, The Hidden Life of Dogs

(No assigned week)

Communicating with Symbols – Who (or What) Does?

Reading:

Deacon, Terrence. The Symbolic Species.

Recommended:

Deacon, Terrence. Incomplete Nature

Hurford, James. The Origins of Meaning

Noble, William, and Iain Davidson. Human Evolution, Language and Mind

Tomasello, Michael. The Cultural Origins of Human Cognition

Pepperberg, Irene. Alex and Me

(No assigned week)

Liminality in Symbol Formation: Human animalization, animal humanization

Reading:

Cormier, Lori. Kinship with Monkeys

Recommended:

Lévi-Strauss, Claude. Totemism

Lévi-Strauss, Claude. Tristes Tropiques

Douglas, Mary, Purity and Danger

Isichei, Elizabeth, Voices of the African Poor

Leach, Edmund, "Animal Categories and "Verbal Abuse," in Stephen Hugh-Jones and James Laidlaw, eds., The Essential Edmund Leach, v.1, pp. 322-343.

Niehaus, Isak, Witchcraft, Power, and Politics (esp. parts on "animal familiars")

Adams, Carol. The Sexual Politics of Meat

(No assigned week)

Endogamy, Exogamy, Incest: Who's Too Close for Comfort?

Reading:

Fox, Robin. The Red Lamp of Incest

Recommended:

Fox, Robin. Kinship and Marriage

Hrdy, Sarah Blaffer. Mother Nature

Hrdy, Sarah Blaffer. Mothers and Others

Westermarck, E. The History of Human Marriage

Cattle and Cooperation: Herding a Living, Passing to Adulthood -- and Adjusting Out

Reading:

Hodgson, Dorothy. Once Intrepid Warriors.

Recommended:

Hodgson, Dorothy. Once Intrepid Warriors.

Spear, Thomas, and Richard Waller, eds. Being Maasai.

Tepilit, Ole. Worlds of a Maasai Warrior.

Sapolsky, Robert. A Primate's Memoir

Anderson, David. Eroding the Commons.

Johns, Catherine. Cattle.

Bulliet, Richard. The Camel and the Wheel.

Knight, John, ed.. Animals in Person.

Moritz, Mark, ed. "Changing Contexts and Dynamics of Farmer-Herder Conflicts Across West Africa." Special issue of Canadian Journal of African Studies, 40(1), 2006.

(No assigned week)

Kinship through Cattle: Marriage, Blood, and Exchange in African Ethnography

Reading:

(To be assigned from list below)

Evans-Pritchard, Edward. Kinship and Marriage among the Nuer

Hutchinson, Sharon. Nuer Dilemmas

Rigby, Peter. Cattle and Kinship among the Gogo

Gulliver, Phillip. The Family Herds

Shipton, Parker. The Nature of Entrustment (esp. Ch. 6)

(No assigned week)

Mating and Marrying Via Animals: Theory and Comparison

Reading:

Goody, Jack, and S.J. Tambiah. Bridewealth and Dowry.

Recommended:

Tambiah, S.J. et al., Bridewealth and Dowry Revisited. *Current Anthropology* 30 (4), 1989
Kuper, Adam: Wives for Cattle: Bridewealth and Marriage in Southern Africa.
Comaroff, John L. The Meaning of Marriage Payments

(No assigned week)

Like Animals, Like Slaves: Captivity, Exploitation, and the Question “As If” and “As Being”

Reading:

Meillassoux, Claude. The Anthropology of Slavery.

Recommended:

Heywood, Linda, and John Thornton.

Central Africans, Atlantic Creoles, and the Foundation of the Americas, 1585-1660.

Miers, Suzanne, and Igor Kopytoff, eds. Slavery in Africa

Turley, David. Slavery

Miller, Joseph. Way of Death

Harms, Robert. The Diligent

Coetzee, J.M. Waiting for the Barbarians

Scott, James C. Two Cheers for Anarchism

(No Assigned Week)

Play: Sporting and Sparring, Within and Between Species

Reading:

Fagen, R. Animal Play Behavior

Huizinga, Johan. Homo Ludens

(No Assigned Week)

Humor: Animals in Fun

Reading:

Radin, Paul. The Trickster.

Recommended:

Reid, Bill, and Robert Bringhurst, The Raven Steals the Light

Shakespeare, William. A Midsummer Night’s Dream

Mankoff, Robert, ed., The Complete Cartoons of the New Yorker

(No Assigned Week)

Animals Stylized: More Real When Partly Abstract?

Reading:

Boas, Franz. Primitive Art

Recommended:

Jonaitis, Aldona. [A Wealth of Thought](#)

Jonaitis, Aldona. [From the Land of the Totem Poles](#)

(No Assigned Week)

Law of Animal Treatment: Its Safeguards, Limits, and Holes

Reading:

Nussbaum, Martha. [Frontiers of Justice: Disability, Nationality, Species Membership](#).

Recommended:

Regan, Tom. [The Case for Animal Rights](#)

Singer, Peter. [Animal Rights](#)

Grandin, Temple. [Animals in Translation](#)

(No assigned Week)

Infant Intelligibility and Dependency: Parenting and Alloparenting

Reading:

Hrdy, Sarah Blaffer, [Mothers and Others](#)

Recommended:

Hrdy, Sarah Blaffer, [Mother Nature](#)

Tomasello, Michael. [The Cultural Origins of Human Cognition](#)

Trust through Transacting Animals

Reading:

Shipton, Parker. [The Nature of Entrustment](#)

Recommended:

Gulliver, Peter. [The Family Herds](#)

Rigby, Peter. [Cattle and Kinship among the Gogo](#)

(No Assigned Week)

The Sequencing Species: Roots of Ritual, Wellspring of Society?

Reading:

Rappaport, Roy. [Ritual and Religion in the Making of Humanity](#)

Recommended:

Griffin, Donald, [Animal Minds](#)

Morgan, Lewis Henry. [The American Beaver and His Works](#).

Hall, Edward T. [The Dance of Life](#)

Frisch, Karl von. The Dance Language and Orientation of Bees
Wilson, E.O. The Insect Societies
Kroodsma, Donald. 2007. The Singing Life of Birds:
The Art and Science of Listening to Birdsong
Kroodsma, Donald. 2009. Birdsong by the Seasons
Van Gennep, Arnold. The Rites of Passage
Turner, Victor. The Ritual Process
Strogatz, Steve. Sync
McNeill, William. Keeping Together in Time.
Korom, Frank, ed. The Anthropology of Performance
Manning, Aubrey. An Introduction to Animal Behavior
Alcock, John. Animal Behavior

Sacrifice, Transcendence, Revitalization

Reading:

Shipton, Parker. The Nature of Entrustment , chapter 7,
“Blood, Fire, and Word: Luo, Christian, and Luo-Christian Sacrifice”
(on Reserve)
Other reading as assigned.

Recommended:

Bourdillon, Michael, and Meyer Fortes, eds. Sacrifice
Carter, Jeffrey. Understanding Religious Sacrifice
Regan, Tom, ed., Animal Sacrifices
De Heusch, Luc. Sacrifice in Africa
Evans-Pritchard, Edward, Nuer Religion
Hutchinson, Sharon, Nuer Dilemmas
Frazer, James George. The Golden Bough
Lienhardt, Godfrey. Divinity and Experience: The Religion of the Dinka.
Mooney, James. The Ghost Dance
Wipper, Audrey. Rural Rebels (part on Mumbo)
Girard, René, The Scapegoat
Girard, René, Violence and the Sacred

(No assigned week)

Animals, Transcendence, and Visions of the Ultimate

Reading:

(To be assigned from list below)

Recommended:

Corbey, Raymond, The Metaphysics of Apes
Miller, Jay, The Shamanic Odyssey
Girard, René, Sacrifice

Regan, Tom, Animal Sacrifice
Singer, Peter, and Jim Mason, The Ethics of What We Eat
Reid, Bill, and Robert Bringhurst, The Raven Steals the Light
Waters, Frank, The Man Who Killed the Deer
Waters, Frank, Book of the Hopi
Whyte, Susan Reynolds, Questioning Misfortune

(No Assigned Week)

Blockbusters and Backlashes: Or, Putting the Debatables Out There for a Fortune and a Firestorm

Reading:

Tiger, Lionel, and Robin Fox, The Imperial Animal

Recommended (that is, for finding constestables):

Ardrey, Robert. African Genesis
Lorenz, Konrad. On Aggression
Dawkins, Richard. The Selfish Gene
Harris, Marvin. Cows, Pigs, Wars, and Witches
Morris, Desmond, The Human Zoo
Tiger, Lionel. Men in Groups
Wilson, Edward O., Sociobiology
Pinker, Steven, The Better Angels of Our Nature

Animal Topics and Author Names: - Identity beyond Coincidence?

Reading:

Doris, Jon "Do You Know What You're Doing?" On the Human website.

Recommended (to consider for instance):

Tiger, Lionel, and Robin Fox, The Imperial Animal
Goodall, Jane. Harvest for Hope
Alcock, John. Animal Behavior
Griffin, Donald. Animal Minds
Heartfield, James. The Aborigines' Protection Society
Shepherd, Paul. The Others: How Animals Made Us Human
Wright, Robert. The Moral Animal

(No Assigned Week)

Creatures Who Study Animals: In the Belly of the Beast (Ivory Tower? Jungle? Zoo?)

Reading:

Coetzee, J.M. 2001. The Lives of Animals

Recommended:

Kozol, Jonathan. Savage Inequalities
Rosovsky, Henry. The University: An Owner's Manual

Twale, Darla J., and Barbara M. De Luca. Faculty Incivility
Patricia Highsmith (mystery novels set in Oxford, etc.)

[End of list]

On a Few Creatures by Type

[**Note:** The following topics and readings are a few suggestions meant to help students choosing their species or animal types for special concentration, as individuals or in groups.]

(No assigned week)

Bugs and Bigger Beings: Communication, Cooperation... and Consciousness?

Reading:

Raffles, Hugh. Insectopedia

Recommended:

Griffin, Donald. Animal Minds

Frisch, Karl von. The Dance Language and Orientation of Bees

Wilson, Edward O. The Insect Societies

Stewart, Amy. The Earth Moved: On the Remarkable Achievements of Earthworms

(No Assigned Week)

Birds and Humans: Corvids in Flight, Fact, and Fancy

Reading:

Marzluff, John, and Tony Angell, In the Company of Crows and Ravens

Recommended:

Mynott, Jeremy. Birdscapes: Birds in Our Experience and Imagination

Lorenz, Konrad. The Year of the Greylag Goose

Kroodsma, Donald. 2007. The Singing Life of Birds:

The Art and Science of Listening to Birdsong.

Kroodsma, Donald. 2009. Birdsong by the Seasons.

Howard, Eliot, Territory in Bird Life

Stokes, Donald, A Guide to Bird Behavior, Vol. I

Tideman, Sonia, and Andrew Gosler, eds.,

Ethno-ornithology: Birds, Indigenous Peoples, Culture and Society

(No assigned week)

The Birds Over the Bridge: Goose and Other Avian Culture and Society

Reading:

Lorenz, Konrad. Year of the Greylag Goose

Recommended:

Howard, Eliot. Territory in Bird Life

Marzluff, John, and Tony Angell, In the Company of Crows and Ravens

Pepperberg, Irene. Alex and Me

Reid, Bill, and Robert Bringhurst. The Raven Steals the Light

Striffler, Steve. Chicken: The Dangerous Transformation of America's Favorite Food.

(No assigned week)

Snakes and Serpents (and Sex and Wealth)

Reading:

Drewal, Henry John. Mami Wata.

Recommended:

Jehl-Balsen, Sabine. The Water Goddess in Igbo Cosmology

Fisher, Jonathan. Scripture Animals

(No Assigned Week)

(Hu)man's Best Friend? At Home in an Alien, Olfactory World

Reading:

Horowitz, Alexandra. Inside of a Dog.

Recommended:

Thomas, Elizabeth Marshall. The Hidden Life of Dogs

Lorenz, Konrad. Man Meets Dog

Coppinger, Raymond, and Lorna Coppinger. Dogs

London, Jack. Call of the Wild

London, Jack. White Fang

(From the Editors of The Bark): Dog is My Co-Pilot

Huizinga, Johan. Homo Ludens

(No Assigned Week)

Between Housecats and Wildcats: Feline, Feral... and how Ferocious?

Reading:

Thomas, Elizabeth Marshall. The Tribe of Tiger. (Note: it's on cats of varied sorts.)

Recommended:

Marks, Stuart. The Imperial Lion.

Reichel-Dolmatoff, Gerardo. Amazonian Cosmos.

(No Assigned Week)

Riders and Raiders: Cavaliers and Conquest

Reading:

Lawrence, Elizabeth, "Horses in Society," in Rowan, ed., Animals and People... pp. 95-116.

Recommended:

Barfield, Thomas J. The Perilous Frontier.

Lawrence, E.A. 1985. Hoofbeats and Society

Lawrence, E.A. 1982. Rodeo.

Basso, Keith. Portraits of "The Whiteman."

Alexie, Sherman. The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven.

Bulliet, Richard W. The Camel and the Wheel.

(No Assigned Week)

Shared Psychology? Elephants and Human Experiences of Dislocation and Trauma

Reading:

Bradshaw, G.A. Elephants at the Edge

Recommended:

O'Connell, Caitlin. The Elephant's Secret Sense: The Hidden Life of the Wild Herds of Africa

O'Connell, Caitlin. An Elephant's Life: An Intimate Portrait from Africa

Colson, Elizabeth. The Social Consequences of Resettlement

Cliggett, Lisa, Grains from Grass

(No assigned week)

So Near, Yet So Far: Our Closest, Remotest Kin

Reading:

Fouts, Roger. Next of Kin: What Chimpanzees Have Taught Me about Who We Are

Recommended:

Wrangham, Richard, and Derek Peterson, Demonic Males

De Waal, Frans, ed. Peacemaking among Primates

(No assigned week)

Participant Observation: Among "Primates" in the "Wild"

Reading:

Sapolsky, Robert, A Primate's Memoir

Recommended:

Fossey, Dian, Gorillas in the Mist

Goodall, Jane. In the Shadow of Man.

MacClancy, Jeremy, and Agustín Fuentes, eds., Centralizing Fieldwork

(No assigned week)

Participant Observation: Among “Primates” in “Captivity”

Reading:

de Waal, Frans, Our Inner Ape

Recommended:

de Waal, Frans, Chimpanzee Politics

de Waal, Frans, Bonobo: The Forgotten Ape

Tomasello, Michael. The Cultural Origins of Human Cognition

MacClancy, Jeremy, and Agustín Fuentes, eds., Centralizing Fieldwork

(No assigned week)

Conservation Strategy: At Sea as on Land?

Reading:

Kaufman, Les. “Loaves, Fishes, and the Human Side of Ecosystems.”

On the Human website (read essay and discussion) (review)

Recommended:

Taylor, Joseph. Making Salmon

Sullivan, Robert. Whale Hunt

(No Assigned Week)

Feral Humans: Can Only Humans Nurture Humans?

Reading:

Malson, Lucien. Wolf Children

Recommended:

Benzaquen, Adriana. Encounters with Wild Children

Candlan, Douglas K. Feral children and Clever Animals

Singh, J.A.L., and Robert M. Zingg, Wolf-Children and Feral Man

[end of list]

READINGS, further recommended

- Adams, Carol J. 1990. The Sexual Politics of Meat. New York: Continuum.
- Adanson, Michel. 1757. Histoire Naturelle du Sénégal. Paris: Jean-Claude-Baptiste Bache.
- Aelian. 1959 [n.d. orig.] On Animals [or, On the Characteristics of Animals], trans. A.F. Scholfield. Loeb Classical Library. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- Alcock, John. Animal Behavior: An Evolutionary Approach. (latest edn.). Sunderland, MA: Sinauer.
- Ardrey, Robert, and Philip Turner. 1997 [orig. 1966]. The Territorial Imperative: A Personal Inquiry into the Animal Origins of Property and Nations. Kodansha Globe.
- Bakker, Cornelis, and Marianne K. Bakker-Rabdau. No Trespassing! Explorations in Human Territoriality. San Francisco: Chandler and Sharp.
- Barkow, Jerome, Leda Cosmides, and John Tooby, eds. 1995. The Adapted Mind: Evolutionary Psychology and the Generation of Culture. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Bekoff, Marc. 2008. The Emotional Lives of Animals. Middle Island, NY: New World Press.
- Bekoff, Marc, and Jessica Pierce. 2010. Wild Justice: The Moral Lives of Animals. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Bekoff, Marc, Allen, Colin. & Burghardt G.M. (eds.) (2002) The Cognitive Animal: Empirical and Theoretical Perspectives on Animal Cognition. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.
- Boas, Franz. 1927. Primitive Art. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- Bolhuis, Johan, and Luc-Alain Giraldeau. 2004. The Behavior of Animals: Mechanisms, Function, Evolution. Oxford, UK and Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Borgerhoff-Mulder, Monique, and Peter Coppolillo. 2004. Conservation: Linking Ecology, Economics and Culture. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Boyd, Robert, and Peter J. Richerson. 2004. The Origin and Evolution of Cultures. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Bradshaw, G.A. 2009. Elephants on the Edge: What Animals Teach Us about Humanity. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Brockington, Dan, Rosaleen Duffy, and Jim Igoe. 2008. Nature Unbound: Conservation, Capitalism and the Future of Protected Areas. London, UK and Sterling, VA: Earthscan.

Buller, David J. 2006. Adapting Minds: Evolutionary Psychology and the Persistent Quest for Human Nature. Cambridge: MIT Press.

Bulliet, Richard W. 1990. The Camel and the Wheel. New York: Columbia University Press.

Bulliet, Robert. 2005. Hunters, Herders, and Hamburgers: The Past and Future of Human-Animal Relationships. New York: Columbia University Press

Burnham, Terry, and Jay Phelan. 2001. Mean Genes: From Sex to Money to Food. New York: Penguin Putnam.

Candland, Douglas K. 1995. Feral children and Clever Animals: Reflections on Human Nature. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Cartmill, Matt. 1993. A View to a Death in the Morning: Hunting and Nature Through History. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Coetzee, J.M. 1999. The Lives of Animals. (Novel.) Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Cohen, Anthony P., and Nigel Rapport, eds. Questions of Consciousness. ASA Monographs 33. London: Routledge.

Copeland, Marion. 2004. Cockroach (animal). []: Reaktion Books.

Coppinger, Raymond, and Lorna Coppinger. 2001. Dogs: A New Understanding of Canine Origin, Behavior, and Evolution. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Corbey, Raymond. 2005. The Metaphysics of Apes: Negotiating the Animal-Human Boundary. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Cormier, Loretta. 2003. Kinship with Monkeys: The Guajá Foragers of Eastern Amazonia. New York: Columbia University Press.

Cronin, William. 1983. Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England. New York: Hill and Wang.

Daly, Martin, and Margo Wilson. 1983. Sex, Evolution and Behavior, 2nd edn. Boston: PWS Publishers.

Damasio, Antonio. 1999. The Feeling of What Happens: Body and Emotion in the Making of Consciousness. New York: Harcourt Brace.

Darwin, Charles. 2006 [1872]. The Expression of Emotions in Man and Animals. New York: Barnes and Noble Publishing. (also in Darwin and Wilson 2005)

Darwin, Charles and E.O. Wilson. 2005. From So Simple a Beginning: Darwin's Four Great Books. New York: Norton.

Dawkins, Richard. 2006. The Selfish Gene, 30th anniversary edn. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Deacon, Terrence. 1997. The Symbolic Species: The Co-evolution of Language and the Brain. New York: Norton.

Douglas, Mary. 2002 [1966]. Purity and Danger: An Analysis of the Concepts of Pollution and Taboo.

Dove, Michael, and Carol Carpenter. 2007. Ecological Anthropology: A Historical Reader. Oxford, UK and Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.

Drewal, Henry John. 2008. Mami Wata: Arts for Water Spirits in Africa and its Diasporas. Fowler Museum. Also: Drewal, Henry John. 2008. Sacred Waters: Arts for Mami Wata and Other Divinities in Africa and the Diaspora. Bloomington : Indiana University Press.

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Ellison, Peter. 2001. On Fertile Ground: A Natural History of Human Reproduction. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

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Flynn, Clifton, ed. Social Creatures: A Human and Animal Studies Reader. New York: Lantern Books.

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Fouts, Roger, with Stephen Tukul Mills. 1997. Next of Kin: What Chimpanzees Have Taught Us about Who We Are. New York: William Morrow.

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