**Course Information**

Term/Time: Fall 2014/TR 8:00-9:15AM  
Location: Waverly Building, Rm. 569  
Instructor: Christine Webb  
E-mail: cw2472@columbia.edu  
Office: 285 Mercer Street, Rm. 1002  
Office hours: TBD & by appointment

**Course Description**

This course progresses through the study of primate behavior to welfare to conservation. It emphasizes the links between these fields, where research has important overlap, but often lacks integration and real-world application. A significant aspect of this class is then to discuss the values and ethics within and between each of these domains (e.g. how does behavioral research translate to welfare/conservation, what are the possibilities and limits, which issues warrant further study and funding, etc.). We will cover topics ranging from primate sociality and cognition to perceived similarities between human and nonhuman primates, raising questions about primate ‘elitism,’ legal ‘personhood,’ and animal ‘culture.’ As such, the course will cover both traditional and contemporary debates in primatology, encouraging students to think along cross-disciplinary lines when it comes to theory and practice.

**Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class/Date</th>
<th>Readings/Media (in suggested order)</th>
<th>Assignments/Exams</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 T 9/2</td>
<td>Course Introduction (no readings)</td>
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Taxonomy handouts | Pick a species that interests you |
Listen: NPR’s Prioritizing the Globe’s Most Endangered Primates |                   |

### Week Four: Evidence-Based Conservation

|   | T 9/23 | TBD | Assignment 1 due  
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<td>7</td>
<td>R 9/25</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>(Presentations)</td>
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### Week Five: Snapshot of NHP Behavior

|   | T 9/30 | TBD | TBD  
|---|--------|-----|------|
| 9 | R 10/2 | TBD | TBD  


### Week Six: The Conservation – Behavior Interface

|   | T 10/7 | TBD | TBD  
|---|--------|-----|------|
| 10 | TBD | TBD | TBD  


### Week Seven: More Behavior – Sociality

|   | T 10/14 | TBD | TBD  
|---|--------|-----|------|
| 11 | TBD | TBD | TBD  


### Week Eight: The Social Behavior – Cognition Interface

|   | T 10/21 | TBD | TBD  
|---|--------|-----|------|
| 12 | TBD | TBD | TBD  


### Week Nine: 98.6%, Theory of Mind, Anthropomorphism, are NHPs special?

|   | T 10/28 | TBD | TBD  
|---|--------|-----|------|
| 13 | TBD | TBD | TBD  


### Week Ten: The Conservation – Behavior Interface

|   | T 10/30 | TBD | TBD  
|---|--------|-----|------|
| 14 | TBD | TBD | TBD  

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<tr>
<th>Week Ten: Ethnoprimatology</th>
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<td>19 R 11/6</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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| Assignment 2 due (Presentations) |

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<th>Week Eleven: Primate ‘Personhood’</th>
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<td>20 T 11/11</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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Watch: NYTimes Op-Doc: *Animals are Persons Too*  |

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<th>Week Twelve: Primate Welfare</th>
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| 23 R 11/20                       | Listen: RadioLab: *Inside Out Cage*  

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<tr>
<th>Week Thirteen: Primates as Pets</th>
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Listen: RadioLab: Lucy  |
| 25 R 11/27                       | NO CLASS – enjoy Thanksgiving Break. Watch *Project Nim*  |

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<tr>
<th>Week Fourteen: Primates in Research</th>
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Listen: NPR’s *Rule Would List All Chimps As Endangered, Even Lab Animals*  |

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<th>Week Fifteen: Synthesis + Review</th>
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<tr>
<td>28 R 12/11</td>
<td>Course Review (no readings)</td>
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| Assignment 3 due (Grant Proposal)  |

*Note that for starred readings, you are only required to read the subset of pages/sections listed.  
TBD indicates student-led discussions, for which student-selected readings will be added to the syllabus.  

Grade  
Participation & attendance (20% of total grade)
2 mid-term assignments each worth 10% (20% of total grade)
1 final assignment (20% of total grade)
Mid-term exam (20% of total grade)
Final exam (20% of total grade)