ANTH 350-A01
PRIMATE BEHAVIOURAL ECOLOGY

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Lisa Gould

Course Description and Objectives

In this course, you will learn how the discipline of primate behavioral ecology is approached and studied. We will spend some time looking at the natural history, behavior, and ecology of various primate groups in both the neotropics (Central and South America) as well as in Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa and Madagascar, and we will examine some of the theoretical topics that primatologists consider in relation to their research. We will also look at ways in which the environment and shifting habitats affect the lives of non-human primates and issues relating to primate conservation will be presented via lecture and short videos.

The course requirements consist of a midterm and final exam, and a poster project, which involves some research and information organization. For the poster assignment, you will work in pairs, research a topic related to primate behavioural ecology that interests you, and assemble a poster presentation (detailed instructions will be given in class). We will have one class near the end of the semester where all students present their posters and answer questions related to their topics. This project will build academic research and organizational skills, as well as provide an opportunity to make a short oral presentation about your chosen topic.

Skills Development

Critical thinking, academic research (library and online), succinct writing practise, organizational and oral presentation skills