Instructor: Ayesha Khan  
Email: akhan@mcmaster.ca  
(905) 525-9140 ext. 26037

Office hours can be arranged by appointment only.

Please include Psych 3F03 in the title of all emails to bypass spam filters. The instructor cannot be responsible for returning long distance calls.

**Time**: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:30-9:30PM  
**Location**: JHE/A102

**Prerequisite**: Psychology 2TT3 or six units of Level I Biology

**Course Description**: This course will provide an introduction to theory and research in the field of evolutionary psychology. We will consider a broad range of topics that have been addressed from an evolutionary perspective, including human survival, mating, parenting, kinship, cooperation, aggression and violence. By the end of this course, you should have 1) a basic understanding of how evolutionary theories apply to animal and human behaviour, and 2) gain practice in evaluating and presenting scientific concepts in the form of written summaries and oral presentations.

During the first three classes, introductory material will be presented by the instructor in lecture based format. In subsequent weeks students will be organized into groups and allotted a major theme discussed in the text and will be required to present this material during the first hour of each class in the form of a group presentation*.

The second hour of class will contain either invited guest speakers, audio/visual interviews from prominent scientists or video examples complimenting the preceding presentation. Students will be asked to write a short summary (two pages, double spaced, maximum) explaining the link between materials presented during the 2\textsuperscript{nd} hour of class and the student presentation(s) from the same day.

* In order to accommodate all students, some classes will contain two presentations. In this case, presentations can not exceed a maximum of 45 minutes per group.
Remainder of the time for each class will be allocated for groups to meet regarding their projects. It is expected that each group has a prepared outline of their presentation one class in advance from the date of their presentation. Each group will be required to meet with the instructor to review content of their upcoming presentation. The instructor will also be available to answer questions related to any portion of the course. Please use this time to your advantage!

**Student Resources:** To help you in better understanding the course material, to encourage discussion and remain in contact with your group members, this course has been registered on WebCT ([http://www.ltrc.mcmaster.ca/webct/index.shtml](http://www.ltrc.mcmaster.ca/webct/index.shtml)). On this site, you can post questions about course content and it is encouraged that all students offer answers. The instructor will moderate the discussions, but the emphasis is on the students to seek help from each other.

The course outline, class calendar, lectures and marks will be posted on WebCT. You will also be able to access additional resources such as audio/visual materials (although it is not guaranteed that all audio/visual material presented in class will be available). Please make sure to use this site to your advantage!

**Required Text:**


ISBN-10: 0205370713

**Evaluation:**

Presentation: 20% (5% presentation outline, 5% group member evaluation, 10% instructor evaluation)

Summaries: 30% (6 in total, worth 5% each)

Midterm: 20%

Final: 30%

- The format of both exams will be multiple choice, true/false, and short answer.
- The final exam *is* cumulative.

***Students are responsible for all class material (including information presented through audio/visual materials, student presentations and guest lectures) and assigned readings, with roughly equal weighting.***
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic/Presentation</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 1st</td>
<td>Introduction to the course, expectations, WebCT</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to Key Concepts of Evolution</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Scientific Movements Leading to Evolutionary Psychology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Video: Darwin’s Dangerous Idea</td>
<td>Chapter 1 (Only pp. 2-18)</td>
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<td>May 3rd</td>
<td>Group Organization</td>
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<td>Presentation Skills Lecture</td>
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<td><strong>Presentation Topics Due Today</strong></td>
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<td>May 8th</td>
<td>The New Science of Evolutionary Psychology</td>
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<td>Combating the Hostile Forces of Nature</td>
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<td><strong>Summary No. 1 Due Today</strong></td>
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<td>May 10th</td>
<td>Women’s Long-Term Mating Strategies</td>
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<td>Presentation from group 1 (pp. 104 –126)</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<td>Presentation from group 2 (pp. 126 -134)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Video: Why Sex?</td>
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<td>****Groups 3 and 4 will hold their meetings at 5:30PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15th</td>
<td>Men’s Long-Term Mating Strategies</td>
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<td>Presentation from group 3 (pp. 135 – 154)</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
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<td>Presentation from group 4 (pp. 154 – 162)</td>
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<td><strong>Summary No. 2 Due Today</strong></td>
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<td>May 17th</td>
<td>Short-Term Mating Strategies</td>
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<td>Presentation from group 5 (pp. 163 – 175)</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<td>NPR Broadcast: Why Do Men Have Deeper Voices Than Women?</td>
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<td>Presentation from group 6 (pp. 175 – 186)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Chapter</td>
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<td>May 22nd</td>
<td>Problems of Parenting  Presentation from group 7  Guest Lecture: TBA</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<td>May 24th</td>
<td><strong>MIDTERM EXAM – 2 hours</strong></td>
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<td>May 29th</td>
<td>Problems of Kinship  Presentation from group 8  Video: TBA</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<td><strong>Summary No. 3 Due Today</strong></td>
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<td>May 31st</td>
<td>Cooperative Alliances  Presentation from group 9  Videos</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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<td>Richard Dawkins: The Selfish Gene</td>
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<td>Richard Dawkins: Nice Guys Finish First</td>
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<td><strong>Summary No. 4 Due Today</strong></td>
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<td>June 5th</td>
<td>Aggression and Warfare  Presentation from group 10  BBC Radio Programme: In Our Time (Human Nature)</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
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<td><strong>Summary No. 5 Due Today</strong></td>
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<td>June 7th</td>
<td>Status Prestige and Social Dominance  Presentation from group 11</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
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<td><strong>Summary No. 6 Due Today</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>June 12th</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM – 3 hours</strong></td>
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**This schedule is tentative; changes can be made according to the instructor’s discretion.**
Note: Please organize travel and work plans keeping the exam/presentation dates in mind. If you miss the midterm exam due to illness or other personal reasons, you will need to provide appropriate documentation to the Associate Deans office of your faculty before any accommodations can be made by the instructor. The final exam will then be weighed proportionately higher. If you are unable to write the final exam and permission has been given from the Associate Deans office, the exam will be deferred into the following semester.

If you require special accommodations regarding note taking/mid-term/final exam, please contact the Centre for Student Development located in MUSC B-107 or via their website at http://csd.mcmaster.ca/

The penalty for submitting late assignments is 10% per day.

The instructor has the right to adjust final marks on an individual basis in light of special circumstances. The grading scheme for this class is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
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<tr>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>77-79</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>73-76</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>0-49</td>
<td>F</td>
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Policy Reminder on Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g., the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy: http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm.