

# PSYCHOLOGY 3F03: EVOLUTION AND HUMAN BEHAVIOUR

**Spring/Summer 2018**

**Instructor:** Dr. Daniel Brian Krupp ([kruppdb@mcmaster.ca](mailto:kruppdb@mcmaster.ca))  
**When:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
**Where:** T13 (“Preliminary Laboratory Building”), room 127

**Office Hours:** By appointment only.

**Important Note:** The instructor reserves the right to modify elements of the course and will notify students accordingly (in class and on the course website).

## Course Content

As the name implies, this course is about human behaviour—especially social behaviour—in the light of evolutionary theory. We will pursue an interdisciplinary enterprise, covering research drawn from Biology, Psychology, Anthropology, Economics, Criminology, and Medicine, among other areas of study.

The goals of the course are twofold. First, you will form a greater appreciation for the place of evolutionary thinking in human psychology and behaviour. Second, you will learn about methodological approaches to the study of human behaviour, from theoretical development to empirical testing. Having met these goals, you will ideally develop critical faculties that enable you to judge the quality of claims about human psychology and behaviour that you might encounter outside of this classroom.

## Required Readings

Students are responsible for all of the readings listed in the Schedule and Readings section, below. These readings are available through the course website.

## Grading

Grades will be assigned on the basis of twelve quizzes, equally weighted and worth a total of 40%, and one final exam, worth 60%. The quizzes and the final exam will be administered in class, possibly on Avenue to Learn, on paper, or by another option. As can be seen below, the quizzes are scheduled for every class from May 3 until June 12. Both the quizzes and the final exam will be cumulative, assessing your knowledge and comprehension of the lectures given and readings assigned. The quizzes and final exam will begin at the beginning of each class, so please arrive promptly, as extra time will not be given.

There will be no “make-up” quizzes. If you file acceptable documentation online with the McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF) or with your Dean of Studies, your final grade will be based on the quizzes and exam that you completed, with appropriate re-weighting

of the final exam. For further information about missed work, medical exemptions, exam conflicts, and deferred exams, see <http://mcmaster.ca/msaf/>.

Quizzes and the final exam may include multiple choice and/or short answer and/or essay questions. A deferred final exam will not necessarily be of the same format as the original final exam. Grades will be computed out of 100 points and converted to a letter grade as follows: 90-100=A+, 85-89=A, 80-84=A-, 77-79=B+, 73-76=B, 70-72=B-, 67-69=C+, 63-66=C, 60-62=C-, 57-59=D+, 53-56=D, 50-52=D-, and <50=F. The instructor reserves the right to adjust final marks up or down, on an individual basis, in light of special circumstances and/or the student's total performance in the course.

### **Email**

All students should have McMaster e-mail accounts. If you prefer to receive e-mail at another address, I will try to accommodate your request, but I cannot be responsible for the non-receipt of messages to students using non-McMaster e-mail addresses. Neither can I be responsible for returning long distance calls from students. Any student wishing to contact me should use e-mail.

### **Course Website**

All students registered in this course have access to the course website, which you can be found via Avenue to Learn (<http://avenue.mcmaster.ca>). I will post lecture notes, quiz feedback, and other course-related materials on this site. Lecture slides are prepared with care and are often being improved upon until the minute class begins. I will do my best to post the slides before class begins, but I cannot guarantee this will happen. Slides are not a replacement for taking notes.

### **Policy Reminder**

Your attention is drawn to the Statement on Academic Ethics and the Senate Resolutions on Academic Dishonesty, as found in the Senate Policy Statements distributed at registration and available in the Senate Office. Any student who infringes one of these resolutions will be treated according to the published policy. Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. a 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, specifically Appendix 3, at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicIntegrity.pdf>

## SCHEDULE AND READINGS

I anticipate no changes in the course schedule below. If unforeseen circumstances require changes, they will be announced both in class and on the course website. Readings are available to persons registered in the course at its website on Avenue; most can also be accessed through the library. They should be read *before* the class for which they are assigned.

### May 1: Introduction

Gregory, T. R. (2009). Understanding natural selection: Essential concepts and misconceptions. *Evolution Education Outreach*, 2, 156-175.

### May 3: Social Evolution Theory and Quiz 1

Chapter 1 of Marshall, J. A. R. (2015). *Social evolution and inclusive fitness theory*. Princeton University Press.

Hamilton, W. D. (1963). The evolution of altruistic behavior. *American Naturalist*, 97, 354-356.

### May 8: Social Evolution Theory and Quiz 2

Cosmides, L., & Tooby, J. (n.d.). *Evolutionary psychology: A primer*. Unpublished manuscript.

Excerpt from Salmon, C., & Symons, D. (2001). *Warrior lovers: Erotic fiction, evolution and female sexuality*. London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson.

### May 10: Kinship and Quiz 3

Daly, M., Salmon, C., & Wilson, M. (1997). Kinship: The conceptual hole in psychological studies of social cognition and close relationships. In J. A. Simpson & D. T. Kenrick (Eds.), *Evolutionary social psychology* (pp. 265–296). Hillsdale, NJ, England: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc.

Daly, M., & Wilson, M. I. (1996). Violence against stepchildren. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 5, 77–80.

### May 15: Kinship and Quiz 4

Krupp, D. B., DeBruine, L. M., & Jones, B. C. (2011). Cooperation and conflict in the light of kin recognition systems. In C. A. Salmon & T. K. Shackelford (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Evolutionary Family Psychology* (pp. 345–364). New York: Oxford University Press.

DeBruine, L. M. (2002). Facial resemblance enhances trust. *Proceedings of the Royal Society, Series B: Biological Sciences*, 269, 1307–1312.

### **May 17: Sociality Among Nonkin and Quiz 5**

Barclay, P., & Van Vugt, M. (2015). The evolutionary psychology of human prosociality: Adaptations, byproducts, and mistakes. In D. A. Schroeder & W. G. Graziano (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Prosocial Behaviour* (pp. 37-60). New York: Oxford University Press.

Barclay, P., & Willer, R. (2007). Partner choice creates competitive altruism in humans. *Proceedings of the Royal Society, Series B: Biological Sciences*, 274, 749–753.

### **May 22: Sociality Among Nonkin and Quiz 6**

West, S. A. et al. (2006). Cooperation and the scale of competition in humans. *Current Biology*, 16, 1103–1106. \*The “Supplemental Data” page is optional.

DeScioli, P., Massenkoff, M., Shaw, A., Petersen, M. B., & Kurzban, R. (2014). Equity or equality? Moral judgments follow the money. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 281, 20142112.

### **May 24: Sexual Selection and Quiz 7**

Daly, M., & Wilson, M. (1999). Darwinism and the roots of machismo. *Scientific American Presents*, 10, 8–14.

### **May 29: Sexual Selection and Quiz 8**

Roberts, S. C., Havlicek, J., Flegr, J., Hruskova, M., Little, A. C., Jones, B. C., Perrett, D. I., & Petrie, M. (2004). Female facial attractiveness increases during the fertile phase of the menstrual cycle. *Proceedings of the Royal Society, Series B: Biological Sciences (Supplement)*, 271, S270–S272.

DeBruine, L. M., Jones, B. C., Crawford, J. R., Welling, L. L. M., & Little, A. C. (2010). The health of a nation predicts their mate preferences: cross-cultural variation in women’s preferences for masculinized male faces. *Proceedings of the Royal Society, Series B: Biological Sciences*, 277, 2405–2410.

### **May 31: Parenting & Family Dynamics and Quiz 9**

Wilson, M., & Daly, M. (1992). The man who mistook his wife for a chattel. In J. H. Barkow, L. Cosmides, & J. Tooby (Eds.), *The adapted mind* (pp. 289–322). New York: Oxford University Press.

Sear, R. (2016). Beyond the nuclear family: An evolutionary perspective on parenting. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 7, 98-103.

### **June 5: Differences Within Groups and Quiz 10**

Buss, D. M. (2009). How can evolutionary psychology successfully explain personality and individual differences? *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 4, 359–366.

### **June 7: Differences Between Groups and Quiz 11**

Yamagishi, T., Hashimoto, H., & Schug, J. (2008). Preferences versus strategies as explanations for culture-specific behavior. *Psychological Science*, 19, 579–584.

### **June 12: Review and Quiz 12**

### **June 14: Final Exam**