COURSE OUTLINE (COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY)

1. GENERAL

SCHOOL	SOCIAL SCIENCES		
DEPARTMENT	PSYCHOLOGY		
LEVEL	UNDERGRADUATE		
COURSE CODE:	**ΨΧ-1301**	**SEMESTER**	2ο
COURSE TITLE:	**Comparative Psychology**		
ΑΥΤΟΤΕΛΕΙΣ ΔΙΔΑΚΤΙΚΕΣ ΔΡΑΣΤΗΡΙΟΤΗΤΕΣ		**WEEKLY HOURS**	**ECTS**
Lectures, demonstrations of videos		3	4
COURSE TYPE:	specialized general knowledge (Elective)		
PREREQUISITES COURSES::	None		
INSTRUCTION/EXAM LANGUAGE:	Greek		
OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	YES (independent study of English literature, 3 small essays (about 500-600 words/each), and a final exam or a longer essay		
COURSE WEB PAGE (URL)	https://elearn.uoc.gr/course/view.php?id=319 (password required)		

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to identify similarities and differences between animals and humans, as well as to stimulate reflection on the possible origin of certain patterns of behaviour in humans. The aim of the course is to familiarize students with the terms of comparative psychology as well as related scientific fields. In order to incorporate the subject matter, students are briefly invited to watch short videos about the behaviour of animal organisms in nature.

On the successful completion of the course students are expected a) to become familiar with aspects of basic and modern literature concerning the interpretation of behavior free from simplistic approaches with a perspective on the development of critical skills. and b) to have understood the main issues raised in this course which are:

1. The mechanisms (causal and functional) that are the basis of animal and human behaviour,

2. The concept of phylogenetic continuity between human and other species and

3. The understanding that behaviour is determined in an integral way by the biological and contextual constraints of individuals.

The students should be able also to know:

- The various "streams of thought" and theories related to the study of animal behaviour
- Fundamental methods and study techniques used to capture the behaviour of animals in nature and the laboratory.
- The limits of reliability of study methods and techniques used in the context of recording the

behavior of animals in nature and the laboratory

- The moral and ethical issues arising from research in the field of science outlined in the course

General Competences

- Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology.
- Working independently.
- Working in an international environment.
- Respect for difference.
- Respect for the natural environment.
- Production of free, creative and inductive thinking.
- Criticism and self-criticism

3. COURSE CONTENT

The course's content is linked to the 5 main axes of the curriculum:

Scientific Foundations [1], Scientific Research and Critical Thinking [2], Ethical and Social Responsibility [3], Communication Ability [4], Basic Preparation for Career Decisions and Vocational Rehabilitation [5].

1st Week: Comparative Psychology and its relationships with other disciplines - Levels of analysis of animal behavior - Comprehensive study of behavior [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

2nd Week: Theory of evolution and behavior. - Animal and human evolution [1, 3, 4]

3rd Week: Behavior genetics (from gene to behavior and the influence of environmental factors on behavior) [1, 3, 4]

4th Week: Instinct and learning [1, 3, 4]

5th Week: Patterns of behavior - Ritualization [1, 3, 4]

6th Week: Stimuli and communication - The evolution of signals in animal communication [1, 3, 4]

7th Week: Territorial behavior and aggression - Predator and anti-predator behavior [1, 2, 3, 4]

8th Week: Habitat choice and immigration [1, 2, 3, 4

9th Week: Mate selection and sexual strategy - Family relationships and parental care [1, 2, 3, 4]

10th Week: Mate selection and sexual strategy - Family relationships and parental care [1, 2, 3, 4]

11th Week: Social organization and altruism [1, 2, 3, 4]

12th Week: From ethology to behavioral ecology [1, 2, 3, 4]

13th Week: Sociobiology and culture - Conclusions [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

4. INSTRUCTIONAL and LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

INSTRUCTION METHOD.	In class (face-to-face). These meetings include lectures, short video demonstrations, and discussions.
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES USED	Use of ICT in teaching Support for learning (communication with students and delivery of all course material) via the UoC e-learn online

	platform (moodle)
TEACHING ORGANIZATION	

Δραστηριότητα	*Φόρτος Εργασίας Εξαμήνου (ώρες)*	*ECTS*
Lectures	39	1,56
Independent study	60	2,40
Final exam	2	0,08
Course total	**101**	**4,04**

STUDENT EVALUATION	The evaluation is in Greek for the students of UoC and in English for the Erasmus students. I. Final Exams (written exams: multiple choice questions, short answers questions etc) II. Optional bonus small reviews on specific topics up to 3 point The evaluation criteria are presented during the 1st lecture of the semester. Moreover, all criteria are available to the students via the web-site of course on UoC e-learn platform.

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

This course is comprised of a range of different free, online materials (lecture notes, slides & videos). However, the course makes primary use of the following materials:

Basic bibliography:

- Rubenstein, D. R., & Alcock, I. (2019). *Animal Behavior.* Oxford University Press.
- Chintiroglou, C.C., & Staikou, A. (2020). *Animal Ethology*. University Studio Press (Greek edition).
- Davies, N.B., Krebs, J.R., & West, S.A. (2015). *Introduction to Behavioural Ecology* (4th ed., Editors in Greek edition: A. Economou, & R. Mitoula). Parisianou Publications (Greek edition).
- Hickman, C. P. Jr, Roberts, L. S., Keen, S., Eisenhour, D., Larson, A., & l' Anson, H. (2015). *Zoology: Integrated Principles* (II vol., pp. 369-391, Editors in Greek edition: E. Voultsiadou, & A. Legakis). Utopia (Greek edition).
- Kourtovik, D. (1998). *Comparative Psychology.* Ellinika Grammata (Greek edition).
- Krimpas, K. V. (2009). *Darwinism and its history.* Okeanida (Greek edition).

Additional Reading:

- Agosta, W.C. (2000). *Chemical communication: The language of pheromones.* Crete University Press (Greek edition).
- Ayala J. F. (2010). *Am I a monkey: Six big questions about evolution*. Athens: Katoptro Publications (Greek edition).
- Blanc, M. (1995). *The Darwin's inheritors.* Stahy Publications (Greek edition).
- Diamond J. (2009). *The third chimpanzee: The evolution and future of the human animal*. Katoptro Publications (Greek edition).
- Eibl-Eibelfeldt, I. (1981). *Love and Hate: on the natural history of basic behaviour patterns.* Thymari Publications (Greek edition)..
- Kafetzopoulos, E. (1999). *The sexual ape.* Katoptro Publications (Greek edition).
- Kourtovik, D. (2010). *The evolution of human sexuality.* Ellinika Grammata (Greek edition).

- Krimbas, K. V. (2007). *Sociobiology.* Katoptro publications (Greek edition).
- McFarland, D. (1999). *Animal behaviour* (3rd ed.). Longman Ltd.
- Manning, A., & Dawkins M.S. (1998). *Animal behaviour* (5th ed.). Cambridge University Press.

Many articles from scientific journals