

Animal Behaviour II BIOL 4701 Seminar presentation instructions

Purpose: **Choose, read, prepare and present a descriptive and critical seminar about a single recent animal behaviour-themed publication** in the peer-reviewed scientific literature (Animal Behaviour, Behavioural Ecology, Behavioural Ecology and Sociobiology et c., et c.)

Choose

Suggested papers are provided on the course web page, corresponding to subjects paralleling the order of lecture topics. You may: a) pick one of these and sign up for the slot by e-mailing me iljones@mun.ca (**first come first served**); or b) pick one of your own from the scientific literature (e-mail me iljones@mun.ca to discuss suitability – aim for a paper with **experiments and relevance to evolutionary ecology**). 1-3 presentations can be accommodated in each lab (draft schedule is on the web page www.mun.ca/serg/animbehav.html).

Your presentation

35-45+ minutes including time for questions. You can use MS Powerpoint or a similar presentation app, using the classroom projecting system. Include: 1) a quick review of the subject area (this is often covered in the paper's Introduction section) and author's credentials; 2) summarize the Objectives, Methods and Results of the study; 3) summarize the study's conclusions and implication for further future research; and 4) criticize the paper – was it easy to understand? was it interesting or boring? were the conclusions supported by the data? is the study of major significance to increasing our understanding of behaviour?

Do: **reach out to audience** by asking questions and getting people to respond and discuss the subject area and paper you are presenting on (Socratic method).

Evaluation for marks (the seminar is worth 18% of your final course mark)

Production values (catchiness, novelty, visual design, spelling) 4%

Review of subject area 3%

Summary of the study 4%

Critique 4%

Engagement with audience 3%

Getting your evaluation...

Via a meeting with course TA within one week of your presentation.