

ANSC*6010 Topics in Comparative Animal Nutrition

Department of Animal Biosciences
University of Guelph
Fall 2019

Instructor: Dr. Jim Atkinson, Room 228 ANNU
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Class time and location: Wednesday, 11:30-2:20, ANNU 101

Office hours: Wednesday, 9-11am or by appointment

Course outline: The course addresses the comparative aspects of food selection, feeding behaviour, digestive anatomy, physiology and function, nutrient utilization and energy metabolism in a diversity of animals including invertebrates and vertebrates, including wildlife, zoo animals, pets, experimental and alternative livestock species.

Course structure: Dr. Atkinson is responsible for delivering material in the first two weeks of the course. After dealing with an introduction to the course and its general objectives, he will review the scope of metabolic, digestive and feeding behaviour diversity in vertebrate animal species.

The core of the course will feature individual presentations by students on topics reflecting their personal interests in the relevant scientific literature, selected in consultation with Dr. Atkinson. Three to four students will present each week, with each student presenting three times in total. Each student will also submit a review paper at the end of the semester, with the topic again selected in consultation with Dr. Atkinson. It is recommended that the second presentation of the three given be centrally relevant to the term paper topic selected.

Guest presentations by nutrition personnel from Toronto Zoo will be featured late in the semester.

Assessment:

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Presentations (3 x 15%) | 45% |
| Presentation abstracts (3 x 5%). | 15% |
| Presentation feedback. | 15% |
| Review paper. | 25% |
| Total. | 100% |

Presentations: Your three presentations should each last 15-20 minutes, followed by a question period of 5-10 minutes. The presentation should be illustrated with appropriate visual aids. Each presentation will focus on one or possibly two papers selected from the recent literature. (preferably 2016 onwards). You will provide a brief (approximately 200-250 word) abstract to Dr. Atkinson and the other class members no later than Monday of the weeks you present.

In order to promote critical evaluation of presentations by the other participants, on the days they are not presenting students will complete a one page evaluation for each of the first two presentations by the other students in the course (template to be supplied). These will be collected and graded by Dr. Atkinson for their effectiveness before being returned anonymously to the presenter. Performance in these evaluations will be reflected in 10% of the "feedback" grade awarded. Appropriate participation during question periods will be accounted for in the remaining 5% of this grading component.

Class schedule:

| Date | Topic | Presenter(s) |
|--------------|--|--------------|
| September 11 | Course introduction. The scope of Comparative Nutrition | Jim Atkinson |
| September 18 | The scope of Comparative Nutrition (cont.). | Jim Atkinson |
| September 25 | First student presentations | TBA |
| October 2 | First student presentations | TBA |
| October 9 | First student presentations | TBA |
| October 16 | Second student presentations | TBA |
| October 23 | Second student presentations | TBA |
| October 30 | Second student presentations | TBA |
| November 6 | Applied zoo nutrition | Zoo staff |
| November 13 | Third student presentations | TBA |
| November 20 | Third student presentations | TBA |
| November 27 | Third student presentations | TBA |

Term paper: You will submit a fully referenced* scholarly review of between 2000 and 2200 words in length (references not included) on a topic relevant to both the scope of the course and your personal academic interests. Your final topic selection must be confirmed with Dr. Atkinson before you proceed with your full literature research. Your topic will likely build on the content of your second presentation, but this is not mandatory. Guidelines on the appropriate structure and balance of the term paper will be discussed in class and with students individually.

*Referencing should follow that of a journal of your choice, which should be identified.

Your paper topic should be finalized by Monday, November 4th at the latest and is due no later than Monday, December 9th.

