

6823 Human-Animal Relations

Department of Anthropology, University of Texas at San Antonio

Assistant Professor Jamon Halvaksz

phone: 458-5872

email: jamon.halvaksz@utsa.edu

office: HSS 4.03.24

blog: politicsofnature.wordpress.com

office hours: Tues. & Thurs. 11:00-12:30 and by appointment

Catalog description: This course is centered on the interactions between human and nonhuman animals. Topics may include animal histories, agencies and behaviors; the role of animals in biotechnology, research, and agricultural practices; domesticates and companion species; animal rights and human values; cross-cultural classification and the social construction of animals.

Objectives: Students will gain an understanding of both the history of human-animal studies in Anthropology and contemporary approaches to the topic.

Required texts (additional readings will be available through the library's electronic databases, or via blackboard):

1. Brightman Robert. 2002. *Grateful Prey: Rock Cree Human-Animal Relationships*. CPRC
2. Davis, Susan. 1997. *Spectacular Nature*. University of California Press
3. Cornier, Loretta. 2003. *Kinship with Monkeys: The Guajá Foragers of Eastern Amazonia*. Columbia University Press.
4. Haraway, Donna. 2007. *When Species Meet*. University of Minnesota Press.
5. Knight, John. 2006. *Waiting for Wolves in Japan*. University of Hawai'i Press.
6. Levi-Strauss, Claude. 1963. *Totemism*. Boston: Beacon
7. Lowe, Celia. 2006. *Wild Profusion: Biodiversity Conservation in an Indonesian Archipelago* Princeton University Press.
8. Ritvo, Harriet. 1998. *The Platypus and the Mermaid: And Other Figments of the Classifying Imagination*. Harvard University Press.

Grading:

Grades will be based on Attendance, Participation, Presentation and Discussion, and Writing as detailed below.

Attendance and Participation	50
Presentation and discussion	50
<u>Writing</u>	<u>280</u>
Total	380 points

Attendance and participation: Attendance will be taken and participation evaluated throughout the class. Absences and silences will be noted. I will let you know if you are losing points here.

Presentation, critical evaluation and discussion: In pairs, students will lead discussion once during the course of the term (50 pts). For each presentation, students will circulate a handout with major themes and discussion questions the night before class. More than summary, these will critically evaluate the work, taking a position for or against different elements of the author's argument. During the presentations, students will present a brief summary of the assigned readings, raise critical questions and direct the rest of the class in discussions. You will be graded on the handout, presentation content and style. All students are expected to read and consider the handout prior to class in relation to their own reading of the text.

Writing: The writing component in the class will include an academic paper and a bibliography on an animal related to your research (your familiar), fieldnotes and descriptions from shorter assignments as well as short reaction statements on the assigned readings.

A. Animal Familiar: Each student will choose an animal of interest in their own research and complete the following projects by the date indicated:

1. Bibliography. Compile a bibliography of at least 20 peer-reviewed references on this animal. The majority of these references must be ethnographic. The bibliography should be in AAA format. (20 points)
2. Representations. Collect at least 10 popular references/ portrayals of this animal. This can include internet, film, newspaper, magazines, and other media directed toward a popular audience. Where possible you should try and collect materials available to the communities that directly interact with the species in question. (10 points)
3. Observation. Find a location/ or media through which human-animal interactions can be observed for at least 4 hours. Take notes and record the behavior observed systematically. Write a 4-5 pages description of the animal based upon your observation. Both notes and description will be handed in. (50 points)
4. Term paper will consist of at least 20 pages examining the human-animal interface related to the animal of your choice. The paper should include both the academic and popular portrayals of the species and your own observations. In addition to discussing the literature, effort should be made towards:
 - a. Identifying what we don't know about the human-animal relationship of the species in question as a possible direction for future research.
 - b. Connecting to course readings topically and theoretically

Standard formatting and AAA style should be included (double spaced, standard margins, font, etc.) and include a bibliography (which does not count toward the page total). Given variation in student interests, I am willing to consider alternative foci for the paper, as long as the theme of the class is adhered to. (100 points)

B. Reaction Statements: Each student will be expected to write 10 short reaction statements over the course of the term (Minimum of 2 pages of written text excluding heading and references cited; typed, double spaced). The statements should not be exhaustive, but should focus on themes and points of interest to the student. They can take the form of main points from each reading and questions that you would like to raise during discussion. Reaction statements for the second and third week of class are mandatory for everyone. If you complete more, the lowest grades will be dropped. (10 points each)

Additional Resources

Journals [in addition to more general journals]:

Animal Biodiversity and Conservation

Anthrozoos

Humanimalia

Human–Wildlife Conflicts

Journal for Critical Animal Studies

Society and Animals

Reference Volumes:

Kalof, Linda and Bridgette Resi. 2007 *A Cultural History of Animals*. New York: Berg.

Websites:

H-Animal: <http://www.h-net.org/~animal/>

In addition to a listserv, the home site includes a wealth of resources

Society and Animals Forum: <http://www.psyeta.org/>

Includes other links and references

Listserves

H-Animal: <http://www.h-net.org/~animal/>

Academic discussion

Human-Animal Studies listserv: <http://www.psyeta.org/listserv.html>

Academic and professionals

Academic Policies, including Misconduct: The University of Texas at San Antonio has clear policies concerning disruptive classroom behaviors, plagiarism, and other forms of misconduct (see www.utsa.edu/infoguide/appendices/b.cfm). Plagiarism can be as simple as collaborating with a classmate on an assignment that is intended to show individual effort. A common form in this class is failure to appropriately cite sources in the ethnography paper. More serious forms include cheating or copying another's work as your own. Cutting and pasting from internet sources is particularly problematic as the material on-line is not always accurate, and this is plagiarism. The college's policies regarding this and other misconduct are available in written form, and you are expected to know them and follow them.

You can also refer to the UTSA Student Code of Conduct on scholastic dishonesty and disciplinary action (<http://www.utsa.edu/OSJA/index.cfm>). There are clear procedures for instructors and students to follow in the event of misconduct, harassment, or other unwanted behaviors, along with appropriate consequences for infractions. Students who ignore these policies will minimally receive an F on the associated assignment, but could receive an F for the course at my discretion.

Access/Accommodations: Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with disabilities and learning needs. If you need accommodation in order to fully participate in the course, information about the Disability Services can be found at their web site (www.utsa.edu/disability/), or call them at 458-4157. Please let me know if there is anything that I can do as well.

Other college services include:

Writing Center: www.utsa.edu/twc/index.html

Counseling: (210) 458-4140, RWC1.810

Academic advising (general): (210) 458-8000

Tomás Rivera Center: www.utsa.edu/trcss or (210) 458-4694

Class Schedule

Week 1 / August 27: Introduction

Week 2 / September 3

Theoretical background: Animal structures and animal symbols

Required:

Douglas, Mary. 1957. Animals in Lele Religious symbolism. *Africa* 27(1): 46-58

Evans-Pritchard, E.E. 1974[1940]. Interest in Cattle. Chapter 1 in *The Nuer*. Oxford University Press

Levi-Strauss, Claude. 1963. *Totemism*. Boston: Beacon

See also:

Davis, Simon. 1987. *The Archaeology of Animals*. Routledge

Harris, Marvin. 1974. *Cows, Pigs, Wars and Witches*. Vintage.

Ingold, Tim (ed.). 1988. *What is an Animal?* London: Unwin Hyman.

Shepard, Paul. 1978. *Thinking Animals: Animals and the Development of human intelligence*. Viking Press.

Shepard, Paul. 1997. *The others: how animals made us human*. Island Press.

Week 3 / September 10

Animal classifications

Required:

Berlin, Brent. 1976. The concept of Rank in Ethnobiological Classification: Some evidence from Aguaruna folk botany. *American Ethnologist* 3:381-399

Bulmer, R (1973) 'Why the Cassowary is not a Bird' in Douglas, M, *Rules and Meanings* London: Harmondsworth

Hunn, Eugene. 1982. The Utilitarian Factor in Folk Biological Classification. *American Anthropologist* 84(4) :830-847

Marks, Jonathan. 2007. Anthropological taxonomy as subject and object. The consequences of descent from Darwin and Durkheim. *Anthropology Today* 23(4): 7-12. Available electronically at: <http://personal.uncc.edu/jmarks/pubs/MarksAT2007.pdf>

Siltoe, Paul, 2002. Contested Knowledge, Contingent Classification: Animals in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea. *American Anthropologist* 104(4): 1162-1171

See also

Berlin, Brent. 1992. *Ethnobiological Classification*. Princeton University Press.

Ellen, Roy. 1993. *The Cultural Relations of Classification: An Analysis of Nualu Animal Categories from Central Seram*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Week 4 / September 17

Peer-Reviewed Bibliography Due

Animal Histories

Required:

Ritvo, Harriet. 1998. *The Platypus and the Mermaid: And Other Figments of the Classifying Imagination*. Harvard University Press.

See also:

Cronon, William. 1991. *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West*. W.W. Norton.

MacKenzie, J.M. 1988. *The Empire of Nature: Hunting, Conservation and British Imperialism*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Mitchell, Timothy. 2002. Can the Mosquito Speak? Chapter 1 in *Rule of Experts: Egypt, Techno-Politics, Modernity*. University of California Press.

Ritvo, Harriet. 2009. *The Dawn of Green: Manchester, Thirlmere, and Modern Environmentalism*. Chicago University Press.

Ritvo, Harriet. 1997. *The Animal Estate: The English and Other Creatures in the Victorian Age*. Harvard University Press.

Week 5 / September 24

Animals and worldview

Required:

Brightman Robert. 2002. *Grateful Prey: Rock Cree Human-Animal Relationships*. CPRC

See also:

Descola, Phillipe. 1994. *In the Society of Nature: A Native Ecology in Amazonia* Cambridge University Press

Franklin, Adrian. 2006. *Animal Nation: the true story of animals and Australia*. University of New South Wales Press.

Geertz, Clifford. 1972. Deep Play: Notes on the Balinese Cockfight. In *The Interpretations of Cultures*. Basic Books.

Halvaksz, Jamon and Heather Young-Leslie. 2008. 'Thinking Ecographically: Places, Ecographers and Environmentalism.' *Nature+Culture* 3(2): 183-205.

Jones, Andrew. 1998. Where Eagles Dare. *Journal of Material Culture* 3(3): 301-324.

Nasaday, Paul. 2007. The gift in the animal: The ontology of hunting and human-animal sociality. *American Ethnologist* 34(1): 25-43.

Young-Leslie, Heather 2007. A Fishy Romance: Chiefly Power and the Geopolitics of Desire. *The Contemporary Pacific* vol 19(2)

Week 6 / October 1:

Animal commodities, collectibles and huntables

Required:

- Brown, Linda and Kitty Emery. 2008. Negotiations with the Animate Forest: Hunting Shrines in the Guatemalan Highlands. *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* 15: 300-337.
- Howe, James. 1981. Fox hunting as ritual. *American Ethnologist* 8(2): 278-300
- Mack, Andrew and Paige West. 2005. Ten Thousand Tons of Small Animals: Wildlife Consumption in Papua New Guinea, a vital resource in need of management. Working Paper 61, Resource Management in Asia-Pacific. Australia National University.
- Raffles, Hugh. 2001. The uses of butterflies. *American Ethnologist*. 28(3): 513-548.
- Song, Hoon. 2000. The Great Pigeon Massacre in a Deindustrializing American Region. In *Natural Enemies*. ed. by John Knight. Routledge.

See also:

- Asma, Stephen T. 2001. *Stuffed Animals and Pickled Heads: The Culture and Evolution of Natural History Museums*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Dahles, Heidi. 1993. Game killing and killing games: An anthropologist looking at hunting in a modern society. *Society and Animals* 1(2): 169-189.
- Dufour, Darna. 1987. Insects as Food: A Case Study from the Northwest Amazon. *American Anthropologist* 89 (2): 383-397.
- Franklin, Adrian . 1996. Australian hunting and angling sports and the changing nature of human-animal relations in Australia. *The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Sociology* 32(3): 39-56.
- Franklin, Adrian . 1998. Naturalizing sports: Hunting and angling in modern environments. *International Review for the Sociology of Sport* 33(4): 355-366.
- Gunn, Alastair S. 2001. Environmental ethics and trophy hunting. *Ethics and the Environment* 6(1): 68-95.

Week 7 / October 8

Popular Representations Due

Animal commodities, selling the wild

Required:

- Davis, Susan. 1997. *Spectacular Nature*. University of California Press

See also:

- Davis, Susan. G. Touch the magic, In William Cronon (ed.), *Uncommon Ground: Rethinking the Human Place in Nature*. 204-217. New York: W. W. Norton.
- Desmond, Jane C. 1999. *Staging Tourism: Bodies on Display from Waikiki to Sea World*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.
- Price, Jennifer. 1995. Looking for Nature at the Mall: a field guide to The Nature Company. Pp. 186-203 in *Uncommon Ground: Tward Reinventing Nature*, W. Cronon, ed. W.W. Norton.

Week 8 / October 15

Animal Conservations

Required:

Lowe, Celia. 2006. *Wild Profusion: Biodiversity Conservation in an Indonesian Archipelago* Princeton University Press.

See also [*really, too numerous to list all*]:

Brockington, Dan, Rosaleen Duffy and Jim Igoe. 2008. *Nature Unbound: Conservation, Capitalism and the Future of Protected Areas*. Earthscan Publications Ltd.

Brosius, J. Peter, ed. 2005. *Communities and Conservation: Histories and Politics of Community-Based Natural Resource Management*. AltaMira Press.

Guyers, J, and P. Richards. 1996. The invention of biodiversity: Social Perspectives on the management of biological variety in Africa. *Africa* 66(1): 1-13.

Lowe, Selia. 2004. Making the monkey: How the Togeian Macaque went from 'new form' to 'endemic species' in Indonesians' conservation biology. *Cultural Anthropology* 19(4): 491-516.

Manfredo, Michael. 2008. *Who Cares About Wildlife?: Social Science Concepts for Exploring Human-Wildlife Relationships and Conservation Issues*. Springer.

West, Paige. 2006. *Conservation is our government now: The politics of ecology in Papua New Guinea*. Duke University Press.

Week 9 / October 22

Animal conflicts

Required:

Knight, John. 2006. *Waiting for Wolves in Japan*. University of Hawai'i Press.

See also:

Dowie, Mark. 2009. *Conservation Refugees: The Hundred-Year Conflict between Global Conservation and Native Peoples*. MIT

Heatherington, Tracey. 2008. Cloning the wild mouflon. *Anthropology Today* 24(1):9-14.

Kellert, Stephen R. 1991. Japanese perceptions of wildlife. *Conservation Biology* 5(3): 297- 308.

Knight, John, ed. 2000. *Natural Enemies: People-Wildlife conflicts in anthropological perspective*. Routledge.

McGregor, JoAnn. 2004. Crocodile crimes: people versus wildlife and the politics of postcolonial conservation on Lake Kariba, Zimbabwe. *Geoforum* 36(3): 353-369.

Proctor, J and S. Pincetl. 1996. Nature and the reproduction of endangered space: the spotted owl in the Pacific Northwest and southern California. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 14: 683-708.

Woodroffe, Rosie, Simon Thirgood, and Alan Rabinowitz. 2005 *People and Wildlife: conflict or coexistence?*. Conservation Biology 9. Cambridge.

Week 10 / October 29

Fieldnotes and discussion due

Animal kinship, ethnoprimateology

Required:

Cornier, Loretta. 2003. *Kinship with Monkeys: The Guajá Foragers of Eastern Amazonia*. Columbia University Press.

See Also

Riley, Erin. 2006. Ethoprimateology: Toward reconciliation of Biological and cultural Anthropology. Wildlife Damage Management, Internet Center for Ecological and Environmental Anthropology (University of Georgia)

Wolfe, Linda and Agustin Fuentes. 2007. Ethoprimateology: Contextualizing Human and Nonhuman Primate Interactions. Pp 691-701 in Campell et al, eds. *Primates in Perspective*. Oxford University Press.

Week 11 / November 5

Animal Domesticates, part 1

Required:

Haraway, Donna. 2007. *When Species Meet*. University of Minnesota Press.

Read part 1 of Haraway

See Also:

Anderson , P.K. 2003. A bird in the house: An anthropological perspective on companion parrots. *Society and Animals* 11 (4): 393-418.

Haraway, Donna *The companion Species Manifesto*.

Lawrence, Elizabeth A. 1982. *Rodeo: An Anthropologist Looks at the Wild and the Tame*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

Lawrence, Elizabeth A. 1985. *Hoofbeats and Society: Studies of Human-Horse Interactions*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press.

Seprell, James. 1986. *In the company of animals*. Basil Blackwell.

Shanklin, Eugenia. 1985. Sustenance and Symbol: Anthropological Studies of Domesticated Animals. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 14: 375-403.

Smith, Julie Ann. 2003. Beyond Dominance and Affection: Living with Rabbits in Post-Humanist Households. *Animals and Society* 11(2): 181-197.

Tuan, Yi-Fu. 1984. *Dominance and affection: The making of pets*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Week 12 / November 12

Animal Domesticates, Part 2

Required:

Haraway, Donna. 2007. *When Species Meet*. University of Minnesota Press.

Read parts 2 and 3

Week 13 November 19 Animal Futures: Science, cloning and the hybridity

Required:

Bateson, Gregory. 1972. Metalogue: Why a Swan? In *Steps to an Ecological Mind*.
Balentine Walden Books.

Bird-David, Nurit. 1999. "Animism" Revisited: Personhood, Environment, and
Relational Epistemology. *Current Anthropology*. 40(Supplement): S67-S91.

Braun, Bruce. 2004. Querying Posthumanisms, editorial. *Geoforum* 35: 269-273.

Conneller, Chantal. 2004. Becoming Deer. *Corporal Transformations at Star Carr*.
Archaeological Dialogues 11(1): 37-56.

Franklin, Sarah. 2001. *Sheepwatching*. *Anthropology Today* 17(3): 3-9.

Latour, Bruno. 2008 Will Non Humans Be Saved? Available on-line at:
<http://www.bruno-latour.fr/articles/article/113-MYERS-ECOTHEO.pdf>

See also

Derrida, Jacques. 2002. The Animal That Therefore I Am (More to Follow). Trans. David Wills,
Critical Inquiry 28: 373-374.

Wolfe, Cary. 2003. *Animal Rites: American Culture, The Discourse of Species, and Posthumanist
Theory*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

Wolfe, Cary (ed.). 2003. *Zoontologies: The Question of the Animal*. Minneapolis, MN: University
of Minnesota Press.

Week 14 / November 26 Thanksgiving, no class

Week 15 / December 4, film, discussion.

Final Paper Due