COURSE DETAIL

HUMAN BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY
Country United Kingdom - England
Host Institution University College London
Program(s) University College London
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Anthropology
UCEAP Course Number 139
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title HUMAN BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY
UCEAP Transcript Title HUMAN BEHAVIOR ECOL
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

Darwinian approaches can contribute to our understanding of human behavior, including our demography, health, psychology, culture, and can be applied in hunter-gatherer, small-scale agricultural/pastoralist and post-industrial societies. This course is about the evolution of behavior in humans and examines how much of the variation in human behavior can be understood in terms of individuals making choices that are adaptive in different ecological and social circumstances. The course introduces classic theories of social evolution (kin selection, reciprocal altruism and indirect reciprocity). It covers aspects of our behavior and life history that have parallels in numerous species, as well as those that are (more or less) uniquely human (such as menopause), and discusses how cultural evolution has influenced our behavior. Topics include basic behavioral ecology (as applied to both animal and human behavior) and some evolutionary psychology and cultural evolution, mate choice, parental investment, life history evolution, evolution of cooperation and kinship and marriage systems.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
ANTH7018

Host Institution Course Title
HUMAN BEHAVIOURAL ECOLOGY

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.ucl.ac.uk/module-catalogue/modules/human-behavioural-ecology-ANTH00...

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Anthropology

Course Last Reviewed
2025-2026

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