

IB-OEB Town Hall: What's to come 2020-21

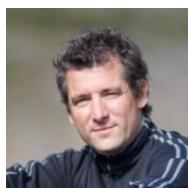
- Online course work
- “Shopping”
- Zoom U: some options
- Research
- Leave of Absence

Andrew Berry



Conc Advisor
OEB 53

Gonzalo Giribet



Head Tutor
OEB 51

Elena Kramer



Head of Dept
OEB 10, 52

Pete Girguis



OEB 10, 119

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- Online course work
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- Research
 - *Not* a re-run of the end of the Spring semester
- Leave of Absence
 - Letter graded. This is not up for debate.
 - Instructors now trained in use of online tools
 - Investment by the College: eg 12 students per section
 - Opportunities (especially in the sciences)
 - Simulations
 - Virtual field work
 - New Courses

Fall Course Catalog Preview

This is INCOMPLETE AND SUBJECT TO REVISION: new courses yet to be added
Catalog will be published on July 20

Evolutionary Human Physiology and Anatomy

LIFESCI 2 Lieberman FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
Why is the human body the way that it is? This course explores human anatomy and physiology from an integrated framework, combining functional, comparative, and evolutionary perspectives on hc ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

! TBA

Foundations of Biological Diversity

OEB 10 Farrell FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
An integrated approach to the diversity of life, emphasizing how chemical, physical, genetic, ecological and geologic processes contribute to the origin and maintenance of biological diversity. Topics to ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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10:30am - 11:45am

Genetics and Genomics

OEB 50 Hartl FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
Fundamental concepts in genetics and genomics forming a critical foundation for biology approached from two perspectives: (1) as a body of knowledge pertaining to genetic transmission, funct ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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12:00pm - 1:15pm

Biology of the Fungi

OEB 54 Pfister FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
This course explores the fascinating diversity of the kingdom fungi, including evolution, ecology and morphology. All of the major groups of fungi, from smuts to molds, will be included. Students use ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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1:30pm - 2:45pm

Supervised Reading

OEB 91R Giribet FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
Supervised reading on topics not covered by regular courses. For OEB concentrators, work may be supervised by faculty in other departments, provided it is co-sponsored by an OEB faculty member. F ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

! TBA

Supervised Research

OEB 99R Giribet FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
Course taken in one or more semesters to obtain credit for independent research, including research toward a senior thesis. Work should be directed by an OEB faculty member or have an OEB facu ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

! TBA

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Vertebrate Viviparity

OEB 114 Haig FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
Viviparity has evolved many times in vertebrate phylogeny. The course reviews the diversity of parental care in vertebrates and explores the selective forces that have favored the evolution of live-bearing. T ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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9:00am - 10:15am

Deep Sea Biology

OEB 119 Gurguis FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
The oceans contain 97% of Earth's water, and host the most disparate ecosystems on the planet. This course provides an introduction to deep ocean habitats, macrofauna and microorganisms. Emphasis ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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10:30am - 11:45am

Molecular Ecology and Evolution

OEB 125 Edwards FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
A survey of theory and applications of DNA technologies to the study of evolutionary, ecological and behavioral processes in natural populations. Topics to be covered will span a variety of hierarchi ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

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12:00pm - 1:15pm

Biogeography

OEB 141 Giribet FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
Biogeography aims to explain distributions of organisms through historical and ecological factors. This course will focus on the history of biogeographic research, developments in the area of histori ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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10:30am - 11:45am

Genes and Behavior

OEB 145 Zhang FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
Behavior is inheritable and regulated by genes. This lecture course explores the causal links between the genes encoded in the genome and various behaviors, aiming to provide mechanistic understandin ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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3:00pm - 4:15pm

Biology of Insects

OEB 155R Pierce FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
An introduction to the major groups of insects. The life history, morphology, physiology, and ecology of the main taxa are examined through a combination of lecture, lab, and field exercises. Topics include t ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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1:30pm - 2:45pm

Evolutionary Convergence, Mass Extinctions, and the Shape of Life

OEB 213 Ortega-Hern... FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
Understanding the origin of major animal groups and the composition of the biosphere represents a core objective of evolutionary biology. While molecular techniques allow us to reconstru ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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9:45am - 11:45am

Coalescent Theory

OEB 252 Wakeley FAS Organismic & Evolutionary Biol
The mathematics and computation of ancestral inference in population genetics. Theory relates observable genetic data to factors of evolution such as mutation, genetic drift, migration, natu ...

2020 Fall

Full Term

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1:30pm - 2:45pm

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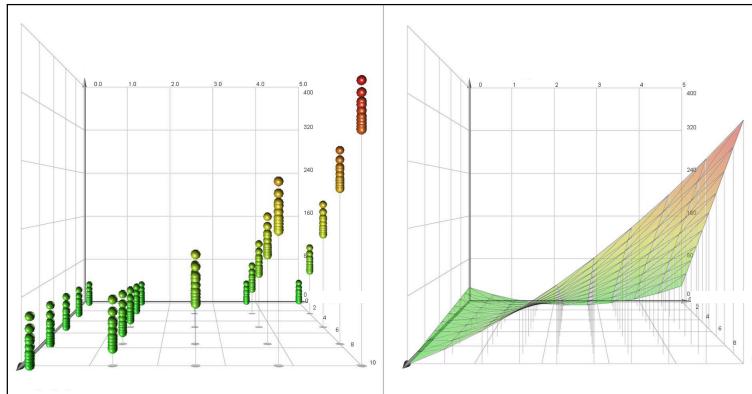
New Course



Experimental Design and Statistics for Ecology

This course aims to provide a practical introduction to many ways of designing ecological experiments and analyzing ecological data. At the end of the course, students will be equipped to form testable questions and hypotheses, design experiments catered to the appropriate statistical tests, and perform a variety of statistical analyses on the resulting data.

Benton Taylor, New Faculty



New Course



From Darwin to Derrida: the evolution of meaning and purpose

Natural selection is a purposeless process that has produced purposeful beings. The seminar will explore how this biological world of purpose and meaning has emerged from a physical world of meaningless mechanism by processes of natural selection.

David Haig

From Darwin to Derrida
Selfish Genes, Social Selves, and the Meanings of Life

By David Haig
Foreword by Daniel C. Dennett

How the meaningless process of natural selection produces purposeful beings who find meaning in the world.

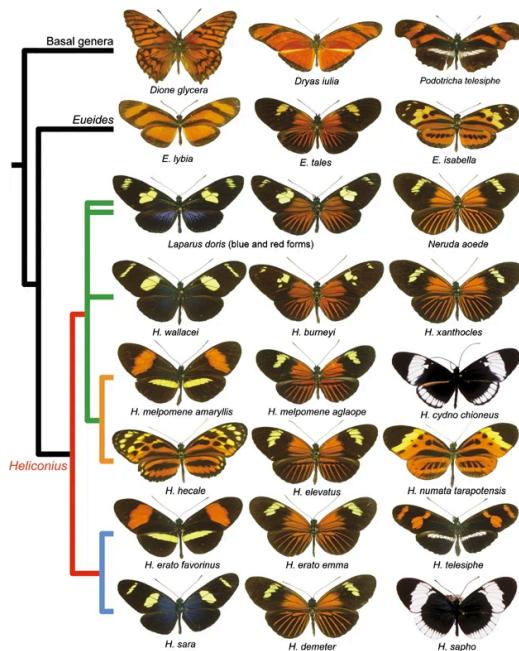
New Course



Jim Mallet

Speciation: how to species evolve?

Speciation, or the origin of species, has been a controversial topic ever since Darwin's 1859 book. Even in the genomic era we are now experiencing, speciation is a frequent topic that demands attention.



New Course



Gonzalo Giribet

Arthropod biology: Arachnids and myriapods, their biology and evolution

This course aims to introduce the evolutionary history and biology of arachnids, myriapods and related groups via a combination of learning their taxonomy and anatomy as well as their role as model organisms to understand phenomena such as segmentation or appendage specification. We aim to then use the knowledge acquired to study aspects related to web evolution, sociality, parental care, use of defensive secretions, and other behaviors that have made arthropods the most successful group of terrestrial organisms.



Familiar Courses Reconceived

OEB 10

OEB 119

OEB 54 (Fungi: Don Pfister)

Elena Kramer



Pete Girguis



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- Research

- Leave of Absence

AUG

10
2020

Crimson Cart opens to allow shopping
for courses

(⌚ 12:00am)

AUG

17
2020

FAS course registration opens to allow
enrolling in courses

(⌚ 12:00am)

AUG

26
2020

Fall full term course registration for
all students due

(⌚ 11:59pm)

AUG

27
2020

Add/Drop Period Begins

(⌚ 12:00am)

SEP

2
2020

Fall Session 1 Starts

(⌚ 12:00am)

SEP

2
2020

First Day of Classes

(⌚ 12:00am)



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AUG 10 2020	Crimson Cart opens to allow shopping for courses ① 12:00am
AUG 17 2020	FAS course registration opens to allow enrolling in courses ① 12:00am
AUG 26 2020	Fall full term course registration for all students due ① 11:59pm
AUG 27 2020	Add/Drop Period Begins ① 12:00am
SEP 2 2020	Fall Session 1 Starts ① 12:00am
SEP 2 2020	First Day of Classes ① 12:00am

Add/Drop extends as normal to the fifth Monday of the semester:

FIFTH MONDAY

October 5, Monday

- No full-semester or year-long course may be dropped from or added to a student's record after this date.
- No course may be changed from letter-graded to Pass/Fail or from Pass/Fail to letter-graded status for the Fall term after this date.



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Rationale:

- Enrollments are especially unpredictable this year, partly because we don't know how many students will be taking leaves of absence. The enrollment of a course is what determines how many TFs are assigned to it.
- Importantly, getting enrollment information early will also give us a chance to configure teaching schedules to accommodate the full range of time zones represented among a course's students.
- The idea is that everyone has plenty of access to what the College is calling "synchronous instruction" (ie live, interactive sessions), rather than just a heap of "asynchronous" materials such as pre-recorded videos. Thus a large course with students in very disparate time zones might offer two separate lecture sessions.



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Critical

- Leave of Absence



If you don't have access to a good environment for online learning (your internet is lousy or non-existent; where you're living doesn't permit a quiet work/study space; etc), you should submit today Harvard's Learning Environment Questionnaire.

The idea is to accommodate on campus all those students for whom online learning elsewhere is impractical

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- Online learning does not mean that you have to remain at home, though I appreciate that it can be reassuring to be with family in traumatic times like these.
- Some students are reconstituting rooming groups in rented apartments in the Boston area or elsewhere. That's the joy of online learning -- you can in principle live anywhere [think a beach house on the Oregon coast rather than an apartment in Somerville!]
- Financial Aid will support your living costs to the tune of \$5000/semester, depending both on your needs and your financial aid status. Check with your financial aid officer for specifics.
- Note too that, if you've been online all year, you qualify for two free summer school courses over summer '21. You could take an alternative approach to the school year: for example, you could take three courses a semester to free up space for a part time internship or the like, and then you could catch up to your 4 courses/semester requirement with those two summer school courses.

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Critical

If you are a rising Senior writing a Senior Thesis, and need access to on-campus facilities (eg a lab), you should submit **today** Harvard’s **Learning Environment Questionnaire**.



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• If you're not living on campus, you will *not* have access to labs. Even if you live locally and are, say, a Junior who's already working in a lab, you will not be able to access lab spaces. This is a public health measure: students living on campus will be subject to regular testing so the situation can be monitored closely. Students coming in from outside therefore represent an infection risk.

[https://projects.iq.harvard.edu/coronavirus/
fall-2020-guidance](https://projects.iq.harvard.edu/coronavirus/fall-2020-guidance)

• Similarly, as also indicated on the above webpage, students who are On Leave are required to suspend Harvard-related research activities (but exceptions may be granted via Ad Board petition). This is unrelated to coronavirus; it is part of the longstanding regulations for students on leave of absence:

[https://handbook.fas.harvard.edu/book/leaves-
absence](https://handbook.fas.harvard.edu/book/leaves-absence)



SEAS & FAS Division of Science: Coronavirus FAQs



Home

Submit a Question

Research Reboot

Information Sources

On Campus Meetings

Remote Instruction

Fall 2020 Guidance

For Faculty

For Depts., Areas &
Concentrations

Research Programs & Lab
Operations

Social and Community
Aspects

Travel

COVID-19 Research Funding

Fall 2020: Undergraduate Teaching & Research

▼ Can undergraduates participate in research on campus?

New guidance for Fall 2020:

The only undergraduates allowed to enter the FAS and SEAS research lab buildings will be seniors who are living on campus and conducting research for their senior thesis or comparable "capstone" project.

Students who are living off campus (even if local) may not enter the lab. Their ID cards will be deactivated.

Students who are on leave also may not enter the lab. PIs should not hire undergraduates (enrolled or on leave) for any on-campus lab research.

This guidance applies through the end of the 2020 calendar year.

Undergraduates who are currently working in research labs who will not be part of the allowed cohort in the fall (on-campus senior thesis writers) must plan to vacate the labs by the end of August.

This guidance only applies to labs in FAS or SEAS buildings. We discourage students from working in labs at Longwood or other local institutions during Fall 2020.

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- **Leave of Absence**

You can petition for a Leave of Absence through your House Office. The final no-penalty deadline is 9 Sept (ie the end of the first week of classes) but the College, for planning purposes, is hoping that your plans will be in place by the July 24 deadline for submission of the Enrollment Confirmation Form.

<https://registrar.fas.harvard.edu/fall-2020-forms-myharvard>

Enrollment Confirmation Form

Live in my.harvard from July 6 – July 24 (closes 11:59pm EDT)

The Enrollment Confirmation Form helps the College understand whether or not students are interested in enrolling in courses for the fall 2020 semester. **Please note that this form does not replace online check-in and course enrollment.** Students still must complete online check-in and course enrollment. Online check in will be open from Monday, July 27 at 12:00am EDT to Wednesday, September 2 at 11:59pm EDT. **All undergraduate students are required to complete this form.** Students who complete the Learning Environment Questionnaire should submit the Enrollment Confirmation Form after receiving a decision from the LEQ review committee (no later than July 24 at 11:59pm).

Submit Enrollment Confirmation Form

Students' Financial Obligations in the Event . . .

Students' Financial Obligations in the Event of a Leave of Absence or Requirement to Withdraw

If Student Leaves (determined by effective date)	Tuition	S.S. Fee † Student Services	Board
Fall Term 2020			
On or before May 16	-0-	-0-	-0-
From May 17 to Sept. 9	-0-	-0-	pro-rated
From Sept. 10 to Oct. 6	6,206.63	388.63	pro-rated
From Oct. 7 to Nov. 3	12,413.25	777.25	pro-rated
From Nov. 4 to Dec. 4	18,619.88	1,165.88	pro-rated
After December 4	24,826.50	1,551.50	3,512.50
<hr/>			
Spring Term 2021			
On or before Mon., Nov. 9 (10th Monday of the term)	-0-	-0-	-0-
From Nov. 10 to Jan. 29	-0-	-0-	pro-rated

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As many of you know, I am a big fan of taking time out. It's a fantastic opportunity to step off the academic treadmill and to pause, refresh, explore. The best years of my life have been the several “gap” years I've taken.

However, some things to think about:

- What are you going to do with that leave time? Normally, if you take time out, it's a great time to find appropriate internships or travel opportunities. Now, with the economy reeling and coronavirus still very much on the march, it's likely going to be hard (or at least harder) to find constructive ways to use the time.
- You may return from leave whenever you like, but the college can't guarantee housing when you do. Harvard promises it will do everything it can to house you, of course, but there may simply not be rooms enough to accommodate a huge surge of students all returning from leaves at the same time.
- Thinking clearly about this decision also means being realistic about the future. You are hoping that, if you take a leave now, you'll be able to return--next semester, next year--to the college experience you had been expecting. But there's a very good chance that things won't be returning to normal so soon.

As always, don't hesitate to get in touch if you have questions. As many students have noted, I'm easier to get hold of now than during a regular in-person semester — no need to make that exhausting trek over to the BioLabs.

Big decisions like these warrant careful individual discussion — to figure not just what's best in general, but, rather, what's best for you.

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