

Cogs 143 \* Animal Cognition \* Winter 2020  
**GUIDELINES FOR FINAL PAPER**

**GUIDELINES:** Paper can be on ANY topic related to **ANIMAL COGNITION**

- Does **NOT** have to focus on cetaceans and/or primates (but can!); any species is ok
- You can focus on brain, behavior, lab, field, one or multiple species, data, theory, or any combination thereof, as long as...
- Paper **MUST**...
  1. Incorporate issues & facts from class
    - Show evidence that Cogs 143 has influenced your thinking on your chosen topic!
    - You may (and should!) cite the Readings from this class as additional sources
  2. Integrate multiple sources
    - Do not just report on one paper, integrate 5 new sources w/class material
    - All sources must be properly cited, referenced, and quoted (see RULES below)
  3. Go beyond your reading
    - Include insights you have gained, ideas for new work, additional questions, etc.

**RULES FOR CITING OTHERS' WORK**

- **Citations** - All sources must be cited within body of text
  - e.g. "As Johnson (2001) discussed, cognition can be taken as..."
  - e.g. "Research shows that dogs fail at Invisible Displacement tasks (Fiset & LeBlanc, 2007)."
  - Information from class notes can be cited as... (Johnson, Cogs 143)
- **References** - All sources, including both novel and assigned readings, must be included in REFERENCE section
  - References must be consistently formatted
    - You can use APA Guidelines for formatting, or pick a style from one of your readings
    - e.g. Johnson, C. (2001) Distributed primate cognition. *Animal Cognition*, 4:167-183.
- **Quotes** - You can paraphrase your sources, or use direct quotes
  - If quote is short, put in quotation marks and cite: e.g. Dolphin cognition is "impossibly complex" (Dunder, 2010).
  - If quote is long, put in separate, fully indented paragraph, italicize, and cite, including page number.
  - **Plagiarism** (passing someone else's words off as your own) is UNETHICAL and ILLEGAL! Don't do it!

**HINTS for effective paper writing**

- Make an **Outline!**
  - I cannot stress enough how helpful this can be! Once you have a good outline, the rest is just sentences!
- **Keep it simple!**
  - Small words and fewer of them is always better than high-flown, convoluted language. Just recount and explain.
- Pick a topic you are actually *interested* in!
  - Something that struck you during lecture or reading that you want to know more about...

**Tips on Finding Sources**

- Use the bibliographies of the papers in the Readings, and the Refs provided in the lecture notes
  - NOTE: It is *unethical* to cite a source in your paper that you have not read...
    - Thus, for example, if you cite an entire book, you will need to note which pages you read
- Use the "Web Of Science" - Allows you to find all recent papers that cite an older (esp. an important) paper!
- **Online** sources are ok as links to scientific material, but their credibility can be dubious!
- **Edited books** are a good source for some chapters, but even these require a very *critical* reading...
- Come see the professor! I have an extensive library on these topics and am happy to direct your search!

**A few useful, peer-reviewed journals (There are many others!):**

*Journal of Comparative Psychology*    *Journal of Experimental Psych:Animal Behavior Processes (JEP:ABP)*  
*Animal Cognition*    *International Journal of Comparative Psychology*    *Primates*  
*International Journal of Primatology*    *American Journal of Primatology*    *Animal Behaviour*

**DUE:** Paper Proposal and Refs - **Thursday March 5 (Week 9)** 10 points

- One page. Includes brief overview of topic & at least five new references, (i.e. not Readings assigned for class)
  - At least 4 of these should be from peer-reviewed journals; All must be consistently formatted
- If you would like **FEEDBACK** on your proposal, email it to Dr. Johnson early (by Monday, March 2)

**DUE:** Final Paper - **Thursday, March 17 (Finals Week) or Before** 100 points

- Paper should be ~10 pages long; Must include well-formatted references (see above)
  - Extra Credit for early papers! **No** papers will be accepted after Thursday, March 17