Course Description: Anthropology 552 – Field Studies in Primatology

Instructors: Dr. Mary Pavelka (pavelka@ucalgary.ca)  
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Course Description: Building on concepts and knowledge attained in ANTH 553, this course provides the practical component of field primatology training. It involves intensive practice in field methods of observational primate behaviour and forest ecology. Students are immersed in the collection of behavioural and vegetation data collection.

Course Hours: F(3-3) Prerequisite(s): ANTH 311 and Consent of the Department. Corequisite(s): Anthropology 553 and 505. Notes: Normally offered during Spring Term. MAY BE REPEATED FOR CREDIT

Learning Outcomes: At the end of ANTH 552, students will:
- Have first-hand experiential knowledge of fieldwork on primate behaviour and ecology
- Have first-hand experiential knowledge of the realities of collecting data on wild primates
- Understand at a much deeper level what is involved (effort, limitations, etc.) in the collection of the data that is reported in scientific journal articles
- Be knowledgeable and versed in methods for characterizing forest habitat as it pertains to assessments of food quality and quantity
- Have developed best practice habits with respect to keeping a detailed field log
- Have a deep appreciation for the challenges of group living on extended trips
- Have a deep appreciation for the effort that is required to conduct fieldwork
- Have gained an appreciation of the need to positively represent their home country and institution while working in a foreign cultural context and benefiting from the natural heritage offered by that country

Course Requirements/Evaluation:

1. Daily data collection 20% May 19
2. Engagement in the course/fieldwork 20% May 6 – 19 During ITEC stay
3. Contribution to a positive group experience 20% May 1 – May 26
4. Field log 20% May 19
5. Final Field exam 20% May 18 ITEC