BIOL 358

Term: SPRING 2016  
Course No. & Section: BIOL 358-01, 02

Course Title: HORMONES & BEHAVIOR  
Professor: DR. HEATHER WATTS

Course Description (principal topics covered):

Objectives:

- To develop an understanding of the complex relationship between the endocrine system and behavior
- To examine the endocrine basis of a variety of behaviors
- To become familiar and gain experience with the methods used to study behavioral endocrinology

Content:

The course will examine the interaction of hormones and behavior (i.e., the effects of hormones on behavior and vice versa). We will use a comparative approach, focusing on the vertebrates. Topics will include: an overview of the endocrine system & mechanisms of action of hormones, organization & activational effects of hormones, sex differences in behavior, reproductive behavior, parental behavior, social behavior, and stress. In lab, students will gain experience with research methods used in the study of behavioral endocrinology.

Prerequisites/Recommended Background:

BIOL 101, 102, 111,112 & 201  
CHEM 111, 112 & 220

Required Texts/References:

Nelson, R.J. An Introduction to Behavioral Endocrinology, (4th edition), Sinaur  
Selected paper from the literature

Course Work/Expectations:

2 lectures + 1 (4 hr) lab per week  
Exams  
Lab experiments with written reports/presentations  
Homework, in-class assignments, presentations & discussions

Comments: