

ZOO 4513 ANIMAL BEHAVIOR
Spring 2005 Reading Report Instructions

Outside Readings

Each report is limited to **three double-spaced, typed pages**. They are to be turned in before or on the assigned date (by 4:00 PM at 309 CON) without fail (one letter grade drop for each day late). Some graded examples from past classes are available for you to examine on reserve at Dirac. Reports I, II, III will be critiqued, graded, and returned after which you have the option of revising and requesting re-evaluation/regrading – your official grade will be the average of the grade on the original and revised copy. (Keep your original as an electronic copy!)

Reading I. Classic ethological research. (TU Jan. 25)

Choose **one** paper from the two classic papers by Niko Tinbergen **on reserve** at Dirac Library (digger wasp orientation or gull egg-shell removal). Write a report according to these guidelines. 1) State the objective(s) of the study, the main hypothesis and the alternative hypotheses (one paragr.). Summarize how the study was done (method; one paragr.). 3) State the conclusions and explain how well they were supported by the data (~ one page).

Readings II. Contemporary study of behavioral mechanisms. (TU Feb. 22)

Set of four papers at Dirac on lobster orientation. Read in order as arranged. Report to include: 1) Statement of the basic goal of the *set* of papers (one paragr.). Give a brief description of the methods used in each paper and summarize the main contribution of each paper to the basic goal (one paragr. each paper). 2) Explain how the papers relate to one another (one paragraph).

Readings III. Contemporary research in sociobiology. (TU Mar. 22)

Study by Emlen and Wrege consisting of two papers on reserve plus one more recent paper (1995 or later) which draws upon the conclusions from the first two, which you will find using a web literature search*. The third paper does not have to be authored by Emlen & Wrege. Read oldest paper first. Report to include: 1) Statement of the basic goal of the E&W study (one paragr.) and how the study was conducted (one paragr.). 2) Summarize the main contribution of each E&W paper to the basic goal (one paragr. each paper). 3) Statement of the basic goal of the paper you looked up (one paragr.) and how that study was conducted (one paragr.). 4) Explain how the three papers relate to one another (one paragraph).

Readings IV. Your Choice. (TU Apr. 19)

Do a web literature search* for **three** papers on **a single topic** of your choice. Report to include: 1) Explain the main question of interest. 2) Summarize the main contribution of each paper to an increased understanding of the topic.

* We will schedule an introduction to performing a web literature search using the "Web of Science" a few weeks before the third reading assignment is due. The time and date of this introduction will be announced in class.