

MRC Primate Behavior & Ecology Sample Itinerary for Summer Session 3 (July 19 – August 14)

DAY	DATE	Field	Lecture	Readings	NOTES
	7/19				Arrive in San Jose
1	7/20	Forest Walks	Introductions; Orientation, rules, and guidelines Syllabus Review, course format & expectations Intro Lecture: Monkey identification		Travel to La Suerte from San Jose
2	7/21	Forest walks, navigating the field site, noting monkey locations and counting them	Lecture 1: Introduction to Primate Diversity	Strier: Ch. 1 & 2 Paterson: Ch. 1, 2, 3	
3	7/22	Field Techniques/Exercises Noting monkeys and counting them; Animal Identification, Ad libitum sampling, ethogram	Lecture 2: Field Methods in Primatology	Strier: Ch. 1 & 2 Paterson: Ch. 1, 2, 3	
4	7/23	Field Techniques/Exercises point sampling, focal animal sampling	Lecture 3: Scientific Method and Research Design	Strier: Ch. 3 Paterson: Ch. 1, 2, 3	
5	7/24	Field Techniques/Exercises Scan sampling, one-zero sampling	Lecture 4: Tropical Ecology	Strier: Ch. 7 & 8	MAP Quiz (first day to write it)
6	7/25	Field Techniques/Exercises Point sampling, all-occurrences sampling	Lecture 5: New World Monkeys	Howler and Capuchin chapters from PIP	
7	7/26	Field Techniques/Exercises Vegetation transect exercise	Lecture 6: Primate Social Systems	Strier: Ch. 6 & 11	
8	7/27	Field Techniques/Exercises Pilot data	Lecture 7: Primate Cognition and Feeding Ecology	Strier: Ch. 4 & 5	MAP Quiz (last day to write it)
9	7/28	Field Techniques/Exercises Pilot data/Data collection	Lecture 8: Dr. Bolt's research	Strier: Ch. 10	Due: Research Proposal (REQUIRED) Get cleared to collect data
10	7/29	Field Techniques/Exercises Data Collection	EXAM (REQUIRED)		
11	7/30	Field Techniques/Exercises Data Collection			
12	7/31	Data Collection			
13	8/01	Data Collection	Article Presentations (Required)		

14	8/02	Data Collection			
15	8/03	Data Collection	Renee guest lecture: History of MRC		
16	8/04	Data Collection			
17	8/05	Data Collection			
18	8/06	Data Collection			
19	8/07	Data Collection			
20	8/08		Work on Research Paper and Presentations		
21	8/09		Work on Research Paper and Presentations		
22	8/10		Primate Behavior & Ecology Symposium (Student Presentations)		Due: Final Research Paper (REQUIRED); Give Presentation (REQUIRED)
23	8/11	Trip to Tortuguero	Visit town; go ziplining and kayaking; free time		Sleep in Tortuguero
24	8/12	Trip to Tortuguero	Visit town; go ziplining and kayaking; free time		Sleep in La Suerte
25	8/13	Travel to San Jose	Trip to craft market; free time		Sleep in San Jose
26	8/14	Leave Costa Rica			Fly home from San Jose

*Note: There is **flexibility in this schedule!** Things will likely change as we go – you will learn quickly that one of the most important things when working in the field is to be flexible – lots of unknowns come up, and we will revise accordingly as needed.