**Homework 1: Ethogram assessment**

**Due: Sept 19th by 3pm**

After learning about Animal Behavior and Ethograms, we would like you to investigate an ethogram of your choice. **The goal of this assignment is for you to gain a deeper understanding of animal behavior research**. Using google scholar, web of science, or another scholarly article search tool, search for “Ethogram” followed by the name of a species you might be interested in (e.g. “Ethogram ant”). You might have better luck searching for the scientific name as well (e.g. “Ethogram *Zacryptocerus varians*”. Scroll through the ethograms listed until you find one that interests you. Depending on the species you choose, the article may include lots of Jargon—it’s okay if you don’t understand every word of this paper! The goal is to understand what they measured, how they measured it, and what it means. If you decide that one ethogram is too difficult to understand, you can always choose again! Often, Ethograms will have tables and figures that are the most informative for what they have studied, so focusing on understanding those, along with the methods section of the paper. You can always ask your instructor or a teaching assistant for help with things you do not understand. As you read your Ethogram, answer the following questions. Submit this document to D2L by Thursday September 19th before the start of class.

Q0: Provide a weblink to the ethogram you chose (this should link directly to the article, not a google search result). Before choosing this Ethogram, be sure that it is not a REVIEW of ethograms (summarizing multiple articles) and that the study states the frequency of the observed behaviors (some ethograms will just list them).

Q1: What is the name of the organism your ethogram covered (both the scientific name and the common name)

Q2: What were the most frequent and infrequent behaviors? Did the frequency of these behaviors surprise you? Why or why not?

Q3: How did the researchers ensure that the observations were objective and consistent?

Q4: Describe the context the Ethogram was conducted within. This may include the location (in captivity, in the wild), the environment, the time of year, or whether the authors were trying to elicit a response to certain stimuli.

Q5: What effect do you think the environment may have had on the presence and/or frequency the described behaviors? How do you think these behaviors may have been different in a different environment

Q6: Pick one of the behaviors included in the Ethogram and describe how it may or may not have been an adaptive behavior.

Q7: How does this ethogram contribute to our understanding of the species’ behavior?

Q8: What was the most interesting thing you learned about this species, ethogram collection, or animal behavior in general? Why did you find it so interesting?