

THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY & NATURAL RESOURCES PRESENTS

SPRING 2024 SEMINAR SERIES

WEDNESDAY MARCH 20, 2024

WSLR 116 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

JOIN US FOR A LECTURE AND CONVERSATION WITH

DR. DANIEL RUBENSTEIN



Dr. Rubenstein is the Class of 1877 Professor of Zoology at Princeton University. He has served as Director of Princeton's Programs in African Studies and in Environmental Studies.

This series aims to stimulate discussion and create opportunities for collaborations. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Zebras: Seen one stripe, seen them all? And why isn't a zebra just a horse in striped pajamas?

Equids—horses, zebras and wild asses—exhibit two seemingly distinct social and mating systems with plains zebras adopting one, Grevy's zebras adopting the other. In addition, plains zebras nuance its traditional core social system by adding an additional layer. So, the short answer to both questions posed is 'No'. But why not? Ultimately, differences in zebra physiological and ecology matter. Physiology accounts for why zebra patterns of sociality differ from those of most other grazing mammals, and helps explain why zebra species adopt different patterns of sociality. But in the end, it is ecology that selects for, and generates, behavioral variability. In my talk I'll connect the dots, revealing how behavioral, physiological, and ecological factors shape zebra sociality and how patterns of behavioral flexibility are enabling zebras to cope with human impacts that are changing their landscapes and impacting their population dynamics and survival prospects. I'll conclude by closing the circle, suggesting how emerging conservation knowledge can, and should be, used to improve human livelihoods as well.

LOCATED AT 170 S UNIVERSITY STREET, WEST LAFAYETTE, IN 47907

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MEETING WITH DR. RUBENSTEIN PLEASE CONTACT
DR. GUREVITCH AT JPGUREVI@PURDUE.EDU



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