Grading Scheme for Biology 261 Time Budget

Criteria for grade of A (Must in satisfy ALL these)

- Many different levels of analysis done. Includes the basic overall summary of proportion of time spent on all behaviors by combining data from all subjects. At least two other analyses that take different views of the data. Examples:
  1. functional categories
  2. time of day
  3. weather effect on data
  4. Transition Matrix

- Figure legends provide sufficient information to understand the data presented. For example, if you don’t say it anywhere else, it is useful to the reader to know method you used for collecting the data.

- Discussion of patterns should reference your data and your figures directly (as in the papers you read for this class). Consideration of how the patterns might have been influenced by the conditions you had while collecting data (i.e., weather, observer, etc.) or other factors. In general, some deeper thinking about what the data tell you about your animal.

- All parts of the assignment presented in an easily accessible, logical order.

- Writing should be clear and thorough.

- Well documented that the required time and effort was completed.

Criteria for grade of B
Presented only the basic analysis of the behaviors – summary of all behaviors. Pattern discussion not extensive. All other attributes listed under A are acceptable.

OR

Present more than one analysis, but the other attributes listed under A are not well done.

Criteria for grade of C
Incomplete data analysis, little discussion of patterns, unclear presentation. You did put in the effort to record the data, but didn’t put as much effort into analyzing/presenting the data.

D or F
Little or no effort shown

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Grades with “+” or “-” represent gradations in how well each of the attributes listed under “A” were executed.