**Herpetology**

**Class Program for [date]**

*To be completed before class!*

1. **Venomous Heroes & Villains Assignment** [Approximate work time: 20-30 minutes outside of class]

*See Venomous Heroes & Villains Assignment for details.*

**Presentations will be at the start of class [date].**

**You will upload slides after your presentation next week.**

***WORTH XX CLASS POINTS***

1. **Revised Primary Literature Assignment #1** [Approximate work time: 2-3 hours]

*See Primary Literature Assignment #1 for details.*

**Due before class [date]. \*Note that you do not need to re-submit anything, since you’ve already shared the link to your Google Doc with the original submission.**

***WORTH XX CLASS POINTS***

**Today’s Course Learning Outcomes**

**Students will understand how complex adaptive traits like venom evolve across biological scales and be able to evaluate evolutionary hypotheses for how complex traits emerge.**

You will identify homologous structures underlying convergent evolution of venoms.

You will understand characteristics associated with the early divergence of the reptile venom system.

You will interpret and evaluate evidence and arguments for defining reptile lineages as venomous.

**Students will have a broad understanding about how genetic variation shapes organismal diversity, with a focus on unique aspects of reptile and amphibian genomes.**

You will understand the genetic mechanisms that mediate venom evolution.

**Students will be able to effectively use visual and written language to communicate species’ natural history and adaptive traits.**

You will research a venomous species of special interest and present information about their biology and unique characteristics.