Animal Capacities: pain, emotion, consciousness

M. Mendl and E.S. Paul, "Consciousness, Emotion and Animal Welfare: Insights from Cognitive Science."
- Understanding the role of "self-concept, language, and **theory of mind**"
- The role of metacognition and blindsight (74)
- behavioural components of the emotional response…escape behavior, elevations in heart rate or 'stress hormones' such as cortisol…and high levels of defecation are all…indicators of 'fear' or 'anxiety'

Sandra D. Mitchell, "Anthropomorphism and Cross-Species Modeling" [see passage on bottom of 92]
- Why is **anthropomorphism** a bad word in science? (what's wrong with the argument from analogy?)
- Darwin claims that "there can, I think, be no doubt that a dog feels shame…and something very like modesty when begging too often for food."

Daniel C. Dennett, "Animal Consciousness: What Matters and Why?"
- How do "hidden and not so hidden agendas distort discussion and impede research"? (see Dennett on the case of Descartes' legacy in relation to animals)
- On Thomas Nagel's famous essay, "What is it Like to be a Bat?" (1991)
- The example of analogies from robot 'intelligence' (114) (Dennett's lesson being that "feelings are too easy to provoke for them to count for much here.")
- The role of *Moby Dick* and the whale's eyes (and 'interocular transfer of learning')
- Dennett's thesis: bottom of 116 and top of 118—and revisiting the pain-suffering distinction (118-9)

Marian Stamp Dawkins, "Animal Minds and Animal Emotions"
- Functional v. mechanistic approaches to understanding emotion (121), and the shortcomings of being too general and of "expecting emotions to be reflected in obvious autonomic measures" (122)
- The limits (and utility) of **choice tests**, and the use of 'anticipatory mechanisms' and refined reward-punishment systems (123)

Bernard E. Rollin, "Animal Pain"
- What does Rollin mean when he says that: ironically, "Cartesianism has been its own undoing"? (135)
- What different kinds of evidence does Rollin give that 'animals feel pain'?

Marc Bekoff, "Wild Justice and Fair Play: Cooperation, Forgiveness, and Morality in Animals" (Kalof)
- "By being anthropomorphic we can more readily understand and explain the emotions of feelings of other animals...Of course, I cannot be absolutely certain that my late dog, Jethro, was happy, sad, angry, upset, or in love, but these words serve to explain what he might have been feeling...so, when I study dogs, for example, I try to be a dog-ocentrist- and practice dogomorphism...This is a very important stance for it stresses that there are important species and individual differences in behavior, cognitive capacities, and emotions, and it is wrong and simplistic to claim that if animal joy is not like our joy than they do not have it."
- On the discussion of the evolutionary roots of morality...
- The case of animal play (and the potential risks of **confirmation bias** at work...)
  - How do animals know they are playing? What are the benefits of play?
- Curious hypothetical: 'what if Darwin had been a woman?' (Why is this mentioned here?)