## 9.20

## Class 22: Video showings on domestic cats

## Study questions:

- 1. Studies of farm cats by David MacDonald of Oxford University have resulted in changes in how domestic cat sociality is viewed. What has been the major change?
- 2. How are domestic male cats similar to male lions in their social behavior?
- 3. Describe fixed action patterns of domestic cats that are very similar to those of large, wild cats engaged in mating, in predation, and in scent marking.
- 4. Describe altruistic behavior in cats.
- 5. How did a British high school biology teacher, a few years ago, make a significant contribution to the study of domestic cats in England?
- 6. Concerning the scene where kittens are shown playing with a small rodent brought to them alive by their mother, is it true that the kittens are "too inexperienced to deliver the fatal bite"?
- 7. How did the domestic cat expand its range from Europe to America?
- 8. Where have originally domestic cats become feral and are endangering the survival of native species?

MIT OpenCourseWare http://ocw.mit.edu

9.20 Animal Behavior Fall 2013

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: http://ocw.mit.edu/terms.