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?
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