



Enriching their lives and ours

Academic Catalog, 2010-11

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Animal Behavior Institute, Inc.
4711 Hope Valley Road
Suite 4F-332
Durham, NC 27707

Enriching their lives and ours



Our Mission

Our mission is to improve animal welfare by promoting a greater understanding of animals' behavioral and physical needs and by strengthening the human-animal bond. We help to achieve that goal by providing affordable, quality education and training in the field of applied animal behavior and husbandry. Our courses are all offered *online* to maximize flexibility and availability to our students.

Philosophy and Values

1. Our fundamental goal is to promote an improved understanding of animals' behavioral needs. This understanding will lead to improved relationships between humans and animals, for both animal professionals and individual pet owners.
2. All animals deserve to be treated with respect and compassion. We address this value by helping to insure that human professionals using animals are properly trained and knowledgeable.
3. Our students also deserve to be treated with respect and compassion. Students should have more than one opportunity to demonstrate mastery in a subject area and must have access to ongoing professional assistance.
4. We have a mutual obligation, together with related institutions, to share information on animal care and to support research and public education to improve the quality of life for captive animals.

The Founders

ABI was founded in 2004 by Dr. Gary Fortier and Dr. Janis Hammer. Over the last decade, these award-winning college faculty have designed and created college majors in Animal Behavior, Training, & Enrichment, Animal-Assisted Therapy & Activities, and Zoo & Aquarium Science. These programs have become extremely popular with students and obviously fill a strong need in higher education. However, it became clear that traditional college courses, requiring full-time attendance and travel to campus, were not available to many students. This is particularly true for non-traditional students that are restricted to evening classes or distance education.

Drs. Fortier and Hammer founded the Animal Behavior Institute in order to offer behavioral courses and training **online**. Web-based, interactive courses allow students of all ages to obtain professional quality instruction without travel, anywhere at any time. The courses and programs offered through the Animal Behavior Institute provide individualized instruction, certification, and continuing education credits for animal professionals and all those that wish to develop a better understanding of animals, their care and behavior, and the human-animal bond.

Location and contact information

Our administration offices are located in Durham, North Carolina. Our address and contact information is listed below. However, our faculty work from locations across the United States. All classes are held online, fostering student participation from around the world.

Animal Behavior Institute, Inc.
4711 Hope Valley Road
Suite 4F-332
Durham, NC 27707

Telephone: (866) 755-0448 (toll free)
E-mail: support@animaledu.com
Webpage: <http://animaledu.com>

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Admission, Tuition and Fees **Admission Requirements**

The Animal Behavior Institute does not discriminate with respect to sex, race, age or ethnicity in the admission of students to our programs.

Applying for Admission

The requirements for application to any ABI certificate program are:

1. A High School diploma issued by a U.S. Department of Education or State recognized secondary school institution or a General Equivalency Diploma (GED) or its equivalent.

2. A \$40 application fee payable online via credit or debit card (U.S.D.).
3. Reliable access to a computer and the Internet.

Continuing Education

Students may elect to enroll in individual courses to complete their professional continuing education requirements. If a student chooses to register for a course without formally applying to a certificate program there are no requirements other than providing basic individual and billing information.

Registration

ABI is open to all students with a high school diploma (or equivalent) wishing to pursue an education in the applied animal sciences. We recommend completing a strong high school or college biology course prior to enrolling in our programs.

Prospective students must submit a complete enrollment application and be accepted for admission prior to enrolling in any course at ABI. Once a student is accepted registration may be completed online at: <http://animaledu.com/courses/registration.htm>.

Tuition and Fees

Tuition at ABI is \$370 per credit; all courses are 3 credits. Thus, the total cost of a typical course, not including specific class material (such as the textbook), would be:

Tuition (\$370/credit hour): \$1,110

The total cost of a Certificate program, which requires completion of five classes, is \$5,550 (U.S.D.) International students are welcome; foreign currency will be valued at the current exchange rate.

Textbooks typically cost \$30-80 per course.

Textbooks

ABI does not sell textbooks. We provide contact information for online book vendors but students can purchase books from any place they choose, locally or online. Tuition refunds do not include the cost of any textbooks purchased elsewhere.

Transfer Credits

Up to 6 credits may be transferred to ABI from another educational institution to be used in place of a required ABI course. The student must send a request to the ABI registrar with an official transcript and the \$75.00 (U.S.D.) processing fee per course. Approval is at the discretion of the registrars' office and the ABI course professor. Additional information (course description, syllabus) may be required in some cases. ABI does not provide academic credit for prior experience.

Grading and Student Status Grading System

Grading Scale:

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = less than 60%

Standards for Satisfactory Progress

Students must achieve a 70% or better overall to pass the course and receive credit towards a certificate. Each quiz must be passed with a minimum score of 80%, however, quizzes may be repeated until this score is achieved. Participation in the weekly discussion is also required and is part of the grade. Each student has a different schedule and obligations, thus, participation is required in only 9 of the 10 discussions. Weekly

deadlines for participation in each discussion are determined by the course instructor, within these deadlines the participation may take place at the convenience of the student. The student must provide at least one original response to the discussion topic and a comment or reply to the posting of another student. Work must be completed within the week assigned; there is no make-up work for missed assignments.

Academic Probation, Suspension and Termination

The Animal Behavior Institute provides academic assistance to students through course mechanisms and direct student-faculty interaction. Students that are contemplating withdrawal from a course, or that may fail to satisfactorily complete all requirements, are encouraged to seek additional help from their instructor or the director. Students may retake courses as necessary to receive a passing grade; we do not put students on academic probation or suspension nor do we terminate students unless they are dismissed due to inappropriate conduct.

Student Conduct and Conditions for Dismissal

ABI champions active and open discussion among our members. All we ask is that it's done in a lawful and civil manner - be it posting on our boards or using our system to email a poster directly. Accordingly, you agree

to use ABI for lawful purposes only. You may not use or allow others to use your ABI membership to:

- * Post or transmit any content that is abusive, vulgar, obscene, hateful, fraudulent, threatening, harassing, defamatory, or which discloses private or personal matters concerning any person;
- * Post or transmit any material that you don't have the right to transmit under law (such as copyright, trade secret or securities) or under contractual or fiduciary relationships (such as nondisclosure agreements);
- * Post, transmit, or link to sexually explicit material;
- * Impersonate any person, or falsely state or otherwise misrepresent your affiliation with a person or entity;
- * Post or transmit any advertising, promotional materials, or other forms of solicitation including chain letters and pyramid schemes;
- * Intentionally violate any other applicable law or regulation while accessing and using our site;
- * Intentionally post or transmit any file that contains viruses, corrupted files, "Trojan Horses," or any other contaminating or destructive features that may damage someone else's computer.

You agree to indemnify ABI and hold us harmless from any actions, claims, proceedings, or liabilities arising out of your violation of these terms and conditions. You are responsible for all statements made and acts that occur through the use of your user name and password; please don't disclose

your password to anyone. If it has been lost or stolen, let us know immediately.

Violating the above provisions is cause for immediate dismissal from the school without a refund.

Attendance Requirements & Leaves of Absence

Participation in the weekly discussion is also required and is part of the grade. Each student has a different schedule and obligations, thus, participation is required in only 9 of the 10 discussions. Weekly deadlines for participation in each discussion are determined by the course instructor, within these deadlines the participation may take place at the convenience of the student. The student must provide at least one original response to the discussion topic and a comment or reply to the posting of another student.

Graduation Requirements

Graduation from any certificate program requires completion of 15 credit hours, which includes five certificate courses required for the program. Within each course students must maintain a minimum cumulative average of 70%.

In addition, effective June 1, 2010 there will be a Field Requirement of 40 hours of employment or volunteer work with a relevant institution. Forms for position approval and

documenting hours are available at <http://www.animaledu.com>.

The Field Requirement only applies to students admitted after June 1, 2010.

Continuing Education Credits

The Animal Behavior Institute (ABI) is licensed by the North Carolina State Board of Community College having met the requirements of Article 8 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes of North Carolina. Please note that the NC State Board of Community Colleges is not an accrediting agency.

ABI provides classes for professional development and continuing education credits. ABI is not an undergraduate or graduate degree granting institution. Our classes are used to meet the continuing education requirements for professional associations.

The Animal Behavior Institute is an approved provider for The International Association for Continuing Education and Training, a non-profit association dedicated to quality continuing education and training programs. As a result of our Authorized Provider status, ABI is authorized to offer IACET Continuing Education Units (CEUs). Each course at ABI provides 6 CEU's that can be used for maintenance of professional affiliation with an institution or professional advancement in related organizations. IACET criteria are the core of thousands of educational programs worldwide. Acceptance as

an authorized provider recognizes that an institution:

1. Demonstrates compliance with proven, research-based standards.
2. Is dedicated to high standards for quality in continuing education and training.
3. Awards the IACET CEU, the hallmark for quality in continuing education and training.

For more information on the IACET CEU contact:

International Association for
 Continuing Education & Training
 1760 Old Meadow Road, Suite 500
 McLean, VA 22102
 Phone: (703) 506-3275

The Animal Behavior Institute has also been reviewed and approved by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards' Registry of Approved Continuing Education. (ABI provider number = 238) Selected courses meet the requirements for 10 hours of continuing education credit for veterinarians and veterinary technicians in all jurisdictions that recognize AAVSB RACE approval. Participants should be aware that some boards have limitation on the number of hours accepted in certain categories and/or restrictions of certain methods of delivery of continuing education.

The Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers (CCPDT) has also pre-approved the ABI Animal Training program at the Animal Behavior Institute for CCPDT

Continuing Education Units (CEUs). The CCPDT is an international testing and certification program for professional dog trainers.

In addition, ABI classes are preapproved for continuing education credit with numerous other professional associations, such as the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council and the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science.

Accreditation is a voluntary process, for both degree-granting institutions and professional schools offering continuing education. Check with your own association if you will be using our courses for licensing or continuing education credit.

Student Records

Student records are permanently retained on location. A formal transcript may be obtained at no cost, via written request.

School Calendar

Classes at the Animal Behavior Institute are taught on a quarterly basis and run for ten weeks, followed by a comprehensive final exam. Start dates for this year's academic semesters are as follows.

Fall 2010 Semester

Start date: 9/16/10

Last day to register: 9/9/10

Winter 2011 Semester

Start date: 1/6/11

Last day to register: 12/31/10

Spring 2011 Semester

Start date: 3/31/11

Last day to register: 3/24/11

Summer 2011 Semester

Start date: 6/23/11

Last day to register: 6/16/11

Students may complete their assignments during any time of their choosing during each week. Thus, students may elect not to participate on any given day; we do not formerly observe any religious or secular holidays.

Financial Aid Student Financing

To facilitate payment and financial planning, ABI offers payment plans and convenient monthly payments. Our payment plan offers:

1. Low down payment (\$300 per course).
2. No interest.
3. Payment plans over 12 months. For example one course financed over 12 months requires a monthly payment of less than \$80.
4. Quick and easy application processing.
5. Easy refinancing for each semester, you can finance a single course or your entire program.

Fees

If a student elects a payment plan a \$50 processing fee will be added to the financed amount.

Employer Payment/Reimbursement

Many professions (veterinarian, vet technician, nurse, educator, therapist) require annual continuing education credits for practitioners to stay current and maintain their license. Most of the courses at ABI qualify for CE credits. Furthermore, the knowledge and skills you gain through ABI may enable you to provide new services to your clients, such as a new animal assisted activities program, enrichment, or animal training. Consequently, many employers offer tuition payment or reimbursement for their employees.

To find out more:

1. Ask your employer if they have a training program or if they reimburse expenses for career or job skills training. You may need to contact your Human Resources department at larger institutions.
2. Determine what documents are needed to obtain funding up front or reimbursement after the class is completed. ABI will gladly furnish course information or other documentation to assist in this process.
3. If you are using your coursework to satisfy continuing

education credits, determine whether your certification agency already accepts ABI classes. If not, we can assist you with necessary documentation to pursue acceptance.

If you have further questions, please contact financialaid@animaledu.com or call (866) 755-0448.

Refund Policy

Students who withdraw before class begins or within seven (7) calendar days of the start of class will receive a full refund of all tuition and fees. The cost of books purchased outside ABI is not refunded.

Students that withdraw after the first full week of class will receive a prorated refund as follows.

Proportion taught by withdrawal date	Tuition Refund
More than 7 days but less than 25%	75% of program cost
25% up to but less than 50%	50% of program cost
50% up to but less than 75%	25% of program cost
75% or more	No refund

Students withdrawing after the first week of class will receive a W on their transcript. To withdraw, a student must contact the registrar in writing at registrar@animaledu.com.

Student Grievance Procedures

Any student that has a problem or grievance with the school should contact the faculty member of their course, or the executive director on any issue that is not course related. If a resolution is not reached with the faculty member, the student should then submit a written complaint to the school director requesting a written response. Grievances may be directed to:

Executive Director
 Animal Behavior Institute, Inc.
 4711 Hope Valley Road
 Suite 4F-332
 Durham, NC 27707
 Phone: (866) 755-0448

If a satisfactory resolution is still not obtained, the student may contact:

NC Community College System
 Academic and Student Services
 Office of Proprietary School Licensing and Services
 5061 Mail Service Center
 Raleigh, NC 27699-5016
 Phone: (919) 807-7148
 Fax: (919) 807-7164

SUPPORT SERVICES

Academic Support

Throughout the course students have access to their professor via the dis-

cussion board and direct email. Weekly discussions are posted in each module on a topic or problem relevant to the week's content. Students receive feedback from both the professor and their student colleagues and are encouraged to ask follow up questions or continue the dialog directly with their instructor. Students experiencing academic difficulty may contact their instructor or program director for additional assistance. Students may also contact individual faculty members to discuss topics in more detail, ask questions, or explore a problem or issue from their own professional experience.

Online/Technical Support

Our online classroom technology is provided by Moodle. If you have any problems, you can contact us at moodlehelp@animaledu.com or by calling 866-755-0448 ext 4, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern time.

Career Services

Upon completion of each course the student will receive an official letter documenting successful completion of the course(s) taken. Once all requirements are met for the certification, the student will receive an official certificate (with the state and institutional seals), and a copy of the student's official transcript.

ABI also provides job search assistance, including resume writing, constructing cover letters, practicing for

interviews and finding appropriate job leads. Current students and graduates have access to these resources and assistance.

PROGRAMS & COURSES

General Requirements Certificate Requirements

ABI offers Certificates in Animal Assisted Therapy, Animal Training and Enrichment, Zoo and Aquarium Science, Wildlife Rehabilitation and Laboratory Animal Behavior. Students may also elect to take individual courses to meet their specific needs without completing the full certificate. Each certificate requires the completion of five courses for a total of 15 credits.

Many classes have been developed to stand alone, without prerequisites. Other classes require one or more prerequisites as listed in the catalog.

Multiple Certificates

Students that wish to pursue more than one certification are welcome to do so. The student must meet the requirements for each certification program. Each certificate requires the completion of 15 credits. However, there is some course overlap due to the nature of the material. If the same course is required for more than one certificate, the student is required to take the course only once. For example, if you wish to receive Certification in both Animal Assisted

Therapy and Animal Training & Enrichment, successful completion of ABI 331 Animal Behavior will be counted towards both certificates. In this example, the student would only need to take seven courses total to receive dual certification, since ABI 331 Animal Behavior, ABI 233 Animal Training, and ABI 232 The Human-Animal Bond would be included in both certificates.

Certificate Requirements and Descriptions

Certificate in Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) (15 credits)

Individuals that wish to work or volunteer in the field of animal assisted activities, therapy and/or education need a broad based understanding of the health and behavior of both humans and animals. Our multidisciplinary program studies the interactions between people and their pets. We review the health benefits of the human-animal bond for both people and animals. Students learn what is involved in the development and running of an AAA/T/E program from both the human and the animal perspective. The program was developed to provide the student with the knowledge and skills to successfully and safely organize, implement, and manage an AAA/T/E program.

The classes needed to complete the Certificate in Animal Assisted Therapy include four required courses and one elective.

Required Courses

1. ABI 211 Animal Assisted Therapy
2. ABI 232 The Human Animal Bond
3. ABI 233 Animal Training
4. ABI 116 Practical Psychology

Choose one of the following electives

1. ABI 272 Feline Behavior & Enrichment
2. ABI 271 Canine Behavior & Enrichment
3. ABI 331 Animal Behavior
4. ABI 251 Behavior & Training of Marine Mammals

Certificate in Animal Training and Enrichment (ATE) (15 credits)

The Animal Training and Enrichment program at ABI is geared towards animal caregivers and trainers. This certification program is ideal for those interested in a more comprehensive approach to animal training, including emphasis on environmental enrichment, animal cognition, and emotions. We emphasize a broad approach to training, preparing students to take their animals beyond mere obedience. Courses cover many species and many types of skills. We discuss working with a very wide variety of animals: rats, dogs, cats, parrots, primates, wildlife - the principles are the same regardless of the species. Our program does not emphasize the training of specific behaviors but rather the integration of multiple disciplines in behavior. Thus, our graduates can effectively deal with a broad range of training applications, such as the skills required in therapy animals, show performance, assistance animals, and

more. The program also stresses behavioral and environmental enrichment, which is particularly important in the captive management of wildlife and animals in restricted environments.

The classes needed to complete the Certificate in Animal Training and Enrichment include four required courses and one elective.

Required Courses

1. ABI 233 Animal Training
2. ABI 222 Animal Enrichment
3. ABI 331 Animal Behavior
4. ABI 126 Animal Minds & Emotions

Choose one of the following electives

1. ABI 272 Feline Behavior & Enrichment
2. ABI 271 Canine Behavior & Enrichment
3. ABI 232 The Human-Animal Bond
4. ABI 251 Behavior & Training of Marine Mammals

Certificate in Laboratory Animal Behavior (LAB) (15 credits)

The Laboratory Animal Behavior program is designed for students that care for animals in a clinical or laboratory setting. Maximizing the welfare of the animals in your care requires detailed training in animal behavior, training and enrichment. The program combines comprehensive classes in animal training & enrichment with more specialized courses exploring the behavior of common laboratory species. You can choose from our detailed courses on

primates, dogs, cats, rodents and rabbits.

The classes needed to complete the Certificate in Laboratory Animal Behavior include two required courses and three electives.

Required Courses

1. ABI 233 Animal Training
2. ABI 222 Animal Enrichment

Choose three of the following electives

1. ABI 271 Canine Behavior & Enrichment
2. ABI 272 Feline Behavior & Enrichment
3. ABI 378 Behavior & Enrichment of Primates
4. ABI 375 Behavior of Rabbits & Rodents

Certificate in Wildlife Rehabilitation (WR) (15 credits)

Wildlife rehabilitators are responsible for the care and treatment of injured, orphaned or displaced wildlife. The ultimate goal is to return healthy animals to the wild by fostering their release into appropriate habitats. Animals that cannot be released may be used for educational programs and outreach when appropriate. Consequently, those interested in rehabilitation careers should be knowledgeable in public speaking and environmental education, as well as animal care, nutrition, and disease. Professionals in wildlife rehab may work in a number of different institutions with a wide variety of species. Our program was developed for those

individuals interested in wildlife rehabilitation and to prepare students for the certification exam administered by the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council.

Classes required for a Certificate in Wildlife Rehabilitation include four required courses and one elective.

Required Courses

1. ABI 214 Principles of Wildlife Rehabilitation
2. ABI 262 Wildlife Management
3. ABI 311 Animal Nutrition, Health & Disease
4. ABI 142 Environmental Education & Outreach

Choose one of the following electives

1. ABI 233 Animal Training
2. ABI 222 Animal Enrichment
3. ABI 331 Animal Behavior

Certificate in Zoo and Aquarium Science (ZAS) (15 credits)

The objective of the Zoo and Aquarium Science program is to provide training in the care and conservation of wildlife. Our program includes a comprehensive approach to the proper care and management of wild animals, including exotics and native wildlife. It is the ideal complement to a degree in biology or animal sciences - where coverage of husbandry, care and behavior is often limited to domestic species. Our certificate consists of five courses (15 credits) in conservation, husbandry, nutrition, behavior, training, and

public education. Certification demonstrates mastery of all material in the program. There are no prerequisites; courses may be taken in any order.

Classes required for a Certificate in Zoo and Aquarium Science include four required courses and one elective.

Required Courses

1. ABI 242 Exotic Animal Conservation & Management
2. ABI 221 Husbandry & Record Keeping
3. ABI 311 Animal Nutrition, Health & Disease
4. ABI 142 Environmental Education & Outreach

Choose one of the following electives

1. ABI 233 Animal Training
2. ABI 222 Animal Enrichment
3. ABI 251 Behavior & Training of Marine Mammals

Course Descriptions and Objectives

ABI 211 Animal Assisted Therapy

There is a rapidly growing movement to incorporate animals as part of the therapeutic setting. Students will learn about the difference between animal assisted activities, therapy and education (AAA/T/E), working animals and assistance animals. The course will cover working with animals and children, adults, the elderly, and the disabled in various settings including

hospitals, nursing homes, schools and prisons. We will also review what is required to start and run a safe and effective program.

Course outcomes

1. Learn the diverse ways AAA/T/E can be incorporated into health care and education settings.
2. View AAA/T/E from the client, handler and animal perspectives.
3. Build the components of a safe and effective AAA/T/E program.
4. Acquire the skills necessary to participate in an AAA/T/E program.
5. Understand the benefits and concerns of AAA/T/E.

Texts (2): "Wanted! Animal Volunteers" by M.R. Burch and "Starting a Visiting-Animal Group" by A.R. Howie.

60 clock hours

3 credits

ABI 331 Animal Behavior

This course builds an evolutionary framework for understanding why animals exhibit particular patterns of behavior. Animal behavior is investigated through both the ecological processes that have driven the evolution of behavior and the physiological mechanisms that allow behaviors to be performed. Topics covered include genetics and behavior, learning, organization of behavior, communication, mating systems, paternal behavior and cooperation. The principle objective of this course is to understand how natural selection has shaped animal behavior.

Course outcomes

1. Describe how evolution shapes behavior.
2. Understand the relationship between genetics and behavior.
3. Contrast different animal foraging and anti-predatory strategies.
4. Recognize different modes of animal communication.
5. Define and describe animal reproductive and parental behaviors.
6. Understand how social behavior and cooperation can evolve.

Text: "Animal Behavior: an Evolutionary Approach" by J. Alcock (8th edition).

60 clock hours

3 credits

ABI 222 Animal Enrichment

Behavioral and environmental enrichment will be explored in a comprehensive approach. This will include an overview of animals' psychological needs, a systematic approach for coupling enrichment solutions to animal problems, practical suggestions on design and application, and a discussion of assessment and long-term application. Major components of enrichment will be reviewed with respect to the Animal Welfare Act and the principles of animal management.

Course outcomes

1. Establish effective goals/objectives for an animal enrichment program.
2. Develop a process (or potential process) for creating and approving

new animal enrichment items at your institution.

3. Measure or evaluate the effectiveness of enrichment items or methods.
4. Understand the role that sociality and training play in the enrichment process.
5. Design effective enrichment and evaluate items for safety hazards
6. Learn multiple methods to address enrichment issues, including furniture, caging setup, foraging opportunities, etc.

Text: "Environmental Enrichment for Captive Animals" by R. Young. Optional but recommended: "Second Nature: Environmental Enrichment for Captive Animals", D.J. Shepherdson (ed.)

60 clock hours

3 credits

ABI 126 Animal Minds & Emotions

Animal lovers and pet owners have long known what behaviorists have only recently acknowledged: that animals are sentient beings, possessing minds, emotions, and immense cognitive abilities. We will explore the evidence for animal cognition and emotions, particularly with respect to animal training, enrichment, and improving their quality of life.

Course outcomes

1. Compare and contrast the differences between human vs. animal perception, including

4. Use enrichment to improve the quality of life for small mammals.
5. Understand and interpret the results of common behavioral tests.

Text: No text is required.
 60 clock hours 3 credits

ABI 271 Canine Behavior and Enrichment

The effective training and husbandry of dogs requires that we understand their communication signals, recognize signs of stress and aggression, and take a proactive stance in preventing the development of stereotypical or self-destructive behavior. This course will focus on canine body language, communication and behavior. We will review how enrichment and socialization can be used to address behavioral issues in a variety of captive settings from laboratories to dog day care.

Course outcomes

1. Understand the social organization and mental development of young dogs.
2. Categorize breeds according to their behavioral needs and enrichment them accordingly.
3. Treat or prevent the development of canine fears and phobias.
4. Create effective enrichment plans that will meet the needs of dogs based on breed and housing.
5. Distinguish different forms of aggression and form effective plans for management.

6. Understand the different sexual and maternal behaviors in dogs and how to maximize breeding success.

Text: "The Dog's Mind: Understanding Your Dog's Behavior" by Bruce Fogle.
 60 clock hours 3 credits

ABI 142 Environmental Education and Outreach

Gone is the day when animal care staff could work in isolation, ignoring the public and leaving educational efforts to others. Today's keepers are a vital part of environmental education. Through keeper talks, shadowing, and formal presentations the animal care staff at nearly all institutions contribute to the public's understanding of animal care and conservation. This course will provide guidance in producing effective talks, presentations and graphics - helping you to effectively reach your audience.

Course outcomes

1. Determine and employ the most effective methods to communicate and network with different audiences (*i.e.*, news releases, workshops, exhibits).
2. Build environmentally responsible behavior through a variety of educational techniques.
3. Evaluate conservation programs in relation to their objectives; design effective questionnaires and methodologies.
4. Modify programs based on pilot testing.

6. Understand the different sexual and maternal behaviors in cats and how to maximize breeding success.

Text: "Feline Behavior" (2nd Edition)
 by Bonnie Beaver.
 60 clock hours 3 credits

ABI 232 The Human-Animal Bond

This course explores the history and psychology of human relationships with animals and nature. The student will learn about the relationship between people and animals by discussing domestication, socialization, religion, culture, farming, research, and pets. Other topics include pet overpopulation, relinquishment, bonding, and health benefits from the bond (for people and animals). The principal objective is to gain an understanding of the various roles animals play in our lives.

Course outcomes

1. Understand the complexity of the human-animal bond and how it has changed over time.
2. Describe the ethical issues surrounding animals in society.
3. Describe the benefits of human-animal interaction to both animals and people.
4. Understand legal standing of animals in society and how it impacts their use.
5. Become aware of potential problems in human-animal interaction.
6. Manage the human component of human-animal interactions.

7. Manage the animal component of human-animal interactions.

Text: "The Powerful Bond between People and Pets" by P. Elizabeth Anderson.
 60 clock hours 3 credits

ABI 221 Husbandry and Record Keeping

Proper management of wild animals in captivity requires a thorough understanding of both general principles of care and specific husbandry practices. Furthermore, proper communication, often via record keeping, is also a key component of animal care and welfare. We will review methods of tracking and maintaining quality data on all aspects of husbandry.

Course outcomes

1. Communicate the principles of safety in zoo and aquarium environments.
2. Facilitate good communication in a zoo/aquarium environment.
3. Manage behavior to maximize breeding success.
4. Implement sound sanitation practices.
5. Formulate the correct diet for a zoo animal.
6. Know the basics of record keeping and be familiar with related software.

Text: "Wild Mammals in Captivity" by D.G. Kleiman, M.E. Allen, K.V.

Thompson, and S. Lumpkin
 60 clock hours 3 credits

ABI 116 Practical Psychology

Careers working with animals also require working with people. Understanding people and interpersonal relationships is critical to a successful career of any kind. The focus of this course is to provide a basic understanding of how people relate to each other, and how to work successfully with others. Topics to be discussed include emotions, learning, motivation, perception and body language.

Course outcomes

1. Correctly interpret body language.
2. Develop a basic understanding of different personality types.
3. Understand how to work with different personality types.
4. Motivate others and encourage desired behaviors.
5. Deal more effectively with difficult people.

Text: "Reading People" by Jo-Ellan Dimitrius and "The Everything Psychology Book" by Lynda L. Warwick.
 60 clock hours 3 credits

ABI 214 Principles of Wildlife Rehabilitation

A comprehensive course covering rehabilitation methods, physiology, housing, treatment, and husbandry of terrestrial vertebrate wildlife

(mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians). Nutrition and disease will be reviewed only briefly as these topics are covered in detail in a separate course. Ethics and standards will also be included and will be an integral part of class discussions.

Course outcomes

1. Recognize and deal with emergency situations, such as shock.
2. Calculate fluid needs for an animal and select the best route of administration.
3. Identify and treat different types of wounds in wildlife.
4. Establish good sanitation practices to reduce the risk of disease; recognize symptoms of common zoonoses.
5. Determine the nutrient requirements for an animal and formulate the proper diet.
6. Determine correct size for wildlife housing under a variety of health conditions.
7. Assess wildlife prior to release and determine status.

Text: "Practical Wildlife Care" (2nd edition) by Les Stocker.
 60 clock hours 3 credits

ABI 262 Wildlife Management

Proper management of wild animals in captivity requires a thorough knowledge of natural history, population management, and habitat management. We will cover these areas with particular emphasis on

topics relevant to the release and reintroduction of wildlife, including habitat assessment, carrying capacity and human-wildlife conflict.

Course outcomes

1. Use an integrated approach to the different techniques of wildlife management.
2. Manage human-wildlife conflict in suburban neighborhoods.
3. Mitigate or reduce the impact of wildlife on agriculture.
4. Understand the differences between diversion, exclusion and habitat manipulation.
5. Compare and contrast different estimators for population size and choose the most effective estimator.
6. Assess habitat for its potential value for wildlife release or reintroduction.

Text: "Resolving Human-Wildlife Conflicts: The Science of Wildlife Damage Management" by Michael R. Conover.

60 clock hours

3 credits

FACULTY AND STAFF

Executive Director

Gary Fortier, Ph.D.

Executive Director

Education: BA Cornell University, Ph.D. Boston University

Dr. Fortier has extensive experience as both a researcher and an educator. He has over 20 years of experience as

a college professor, teaching wildlife management, animal behavior, animal training, and enrichment. He has long championed active learning strategies and promoted the development of online courses. He chaired an animal science department at a distinguished private college for many years where he continues to hold a tenured faculty position. He has also served as Director of Behavioral Enrichment at the Elmwood Park Zoo and is active in research on the behavioral enrichment of wildlife, companion animals and laboratory animals.

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