

interdisciplinary programmes drawing on knowledge and insights from animal behaviour, zoology, ecology, conservation biology, psychology and neuroscience field work in a variety of locations, including a week-long UK field course and field, lab and zoo practicals ranked 11th in the UK for world-leading research* strong emphasis on developing your intellectual, professional and practical skills close links with local conservation and animal welfare organisations and research groups in the UK and world-wide

KEY FACTS

Streatham Campus, Exeter

WEBSITE

www.exeter.ac.uk/psychology

EMAIL

psy-ugadmissions@exeter.ac.uk

PHONE

+44 (0)1392 264634

DEGREES

BSc Single Honours

Animal Behaviour 3 years

Biology and Animal Behaviour 3 years

FLEXIBLE COMBINED HONOURS

Animal Behaviour may also be studied under the Flexible Combined Honours Scheme. For more information, please see www.exeter.ac.uk/fch

You may also be interested in BA/BSc

Psychology – 3 years (see separate Psychology

Fact File) or BSc Biology degree programmes

– 3/4 years (see separate Biosciences prospectus)

Animal Behaviour at the University of Exeter

Anyone with a serious interest in how and why animals behave the way they do, or who is generally interested in why humans have evolved to behave as they do, would benefit greatly from our Animal Behaviour degree programmes. The discipline of animal behaviour encompasses all aspects of behaviour in wild, domestic and captive animals.

As a part of the School of Psychology, links between studies of humans and animals are made and the programmes provide a glimpse into the human evolutionary past. Scientists in this field apply the scientific method, data collection and rigorous statistical analysis to the behaviour of individuals, groups and species of animals. In addition to providing basic understanding of the basis and diversity of life, the study of animal behaviour plays an important role in informing key issues such as

conservation and animal welfare – data collected are often used by governments to inform policy and by conservation organisations to maintain the health of endangered animal populations. You will be poised to make further contributions to any of these fields when you finish your degree.

No matter what path you follow after your degree, you will have an excellent understanding of animal behaviour, and also how to make logical and correct scientific deductions about behaviour. This will give you an advantage in any subsequent career where a science background is appreciated, even if you decide not to pursue animal behaviour as a career.

Our programmes cover a wide range of species and topics including animal behaviour diversity, sociality, cognition, sensory ecology and the evolution of behaviour. An interdisciplinary approach is encouraged; you can study related topics such as cognitive psychology, drawing on human and animal examples. You will become familiar with applying the scientific method, data collection, use of the latest software, and statistical analysis of the behaviour of individuals, groups and species of animals in the field and laboratory. These techniques can be used to study animal behaviour and applied in your own research projects.

The School of Psychology offers undergraduate degree programmes in Animal Behaviour, Biology and Animal Behaviour, and Psychology, and our postgraduate programmes include the well-established MSc in Animal Behaviour. We have active programmes of research into many fascinating areas. The staff responsible for the programmes are known both nationally and internationally in their own research fields. As an undergraduate, you'll benefit directly from their research interests as they feed directly into your degree programme.

We're a fairly large yet very friendly and informal School, with excellent student-staff relations. We place a strong emphasis on your personal and professional development, as well as academic performance. Throughout your degree programme you will be supported by a personal tutor who will look after your interests. Our degree programmes have been specially designed to help you develop transferable skills that will be sought after by employers in your future working life.

“The Animal Behaviour course is perfect for anyone with an interest in the natural world that they want to further. The staff are approachable and eager to answer any questions you have ever wanted to know about the causation, functions and diversity of animals and their behaviour! The course is hugely enjoyable and will set you up for a variety of careers working with and around animals across the world.”

Andrew Ferris, 2nd year BSc Animal Behaviour

* RAE 2008 based on percentage of research categorised as 4*

ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR



DEGREEFACTS

For full details of all our degrees, including information about the individual modules, check the undergraduate section of our website at www.exeter.ac.uk/psychology

How your degree is structured

Your degree is made up of a series of modules, each of which has a credit value, which range from 15 to 30 credits each. Each year you'll take modules totalling 120 credits. Some of these modules will be core modules, meaning that they're compulsory and others will be chosen from a range of options.

BSc Animal Behaviour

This programme is designed to introduce you to Animal Behaviour, provide fundamental concepts, facts and methods in the discipline and encourage you to apply your knowledge and acquired methods with wild or captive animals. Topics include: behavioural ecology (ecological basis and reasons for behaviour); biodiversity and animal behaviour (how animals differ and how divergent behaviour evolves); cognition (including memory and problem solving); ethology (recording and describing behaviour objectively); neuroethology (neural basis of behaviour); sensory ecology (influences of sensory systems on behaviour and their relationships to ecology); and sociobiology (ecological, genetic and evolutionary reasons for social behaviour). Practical classes will give you training in quantitative, field and laboratory-based observational and experimental methodology covering the broad range of subject areas across the core modules.

Year 1: An introduction to the empirical and conceptual basis of the field. Core modules include: Introduction to Animal Behaviour (and its sub-disciplines, including ethics and animal welfare); Animal Diversity and Behaviour; Introduction to the Biological Basis of Animal Behaviour; Introduction to the Evolution of Behaviour; Introduction to Statistics. You will also take at least one from: Introduction to Cognitive and Developmental Psychology; Introduction to Biological Psychology; Animal and Plant Physiology; General Ecology; Genetics; and a further 30 credits from other Schools in the University, including Psychology. Not all optional modules will be available in all years.

Year 2: Central ideas and methods in Animal Behaviour. Core modules include: Sensory Ecology and Behaviour; Neuroethology; Evolution and Behaviour; Laboratory and Field Methods in Animal Behaviour (including a residential Animal Behaviour field course); Methods and Statistics in Psychology; and 30 credits of modules selected from Psychology or other Schools in the University, subject to the agreement of the programme director.

There is a much greater emphasis on original work in Year 2 and you will start to design and carry out your own investigations. Practical work includes studies of the behaviour of animals on the campus and on the integrated residential field course.

Year 3: Learning how to apply your knowledge. You choose two seminar options, most of which are in areas where the seminar leader has an active research programme. The general subject areas include: Ethology and Behavioural Ecology; Sensory Ecology and Neuroethology; Behaviour and Evolution; Animal Cognition and Decision-making; or Cognitive and Comparative Psychology.

Practical work is carried out in the form of a supervised research project followed by an independent research report. Topics are chosen from a wide range of staff research interests and you will work closely with your supervisor. All students must take Animal Behaviour Applications; Research Proposal in Animal Behaviour; and either Research Project in Animal Behaviour or Animal Behaviour Dissertation.

You will also meet invited practitioners of Animal Behaviour from the media, conservation, zoos, welfare etc in a series of organised discussions where you quiz them and tackle problems of animal behaviour in the real world.

BSc Biology and Animal Behaviour

This programme is designed to introduce you to Animal Behaviour and Biology, provide fundamental concepts, facts and methods in the disciplines and encourage you to apply your knowledge and acquired methods with wild or captive animals. The programme is taught jointly by the School of Psychology and the School of Biosciences and provides a good foundation for any student who is interested in the biological basis of behaviour. Practical classes will give you training in quantitative, field and laboratory-based observational and experimental methodology. This program is very similar to the BSc Animal Behaviour, but contains more genetics, physiology and general ecology.

Year 1: An introduction to the empirical and conceptual basis of Biology and Animal Behaviour. Core modules include: Fundamental Skills for Biosciences; Genetics; Introduction to Ecology; Animal and Plant Physiology; Introduction to Animal Behaviour; Animal Diversity and Behaviour; Introduction to Evolution of Behaviour; Statistics.

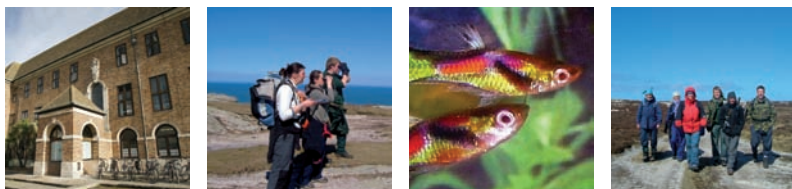
Year 2: Central ideas and methods in Biology and Animal Behaviour. Core modules include: Research Skills and Bioethics; Evolution and Informatics; Laboratory and Field Methods (including a residential Animal Behaviour

field course); options from: Ecology and Environment; Marine Biology; Evolutionary Ecology; Animal Ecophysiology; Biodiversity Field Course; Sensory Ecology and Behaviour; Neuroethology; Evolution and Behaviour.

Year 3: Learning how to apply your knowledge. Core modules include: Research project (either Biology or Animal Behaviour) or two dissertations; one module from Tropical Marine Biology; Mammalian Biology; Ecology of Environmental Change; or Ecotoxicology; one module from the Animal Behaviour seminar series (including Behavioural Ecology; Sensory Ecology; Neuroethology), and a choice of additional modules selected from the School of Biosciences and the School of Psychology.

Learning and teaching

- Our academic staff are all actively involved in the latest research in the field and teaching is research-led throughout.
- The programmes use a range of teaching methods including lectures, seminars, academic tutorials, laboratory classes and field work, as well as directed private study. There is progression in learning and teaching over the three years of the programmes leading to more small group work in seminars and practical work in the final year. Our aim is to prepare you for lifelong independent learning in your chosen career.
- Emphasis is placed on the need to analyse, discuss and deploy scientific evidence in a variety of settings and not simply on the ability to memorise.
- You'll have on average between one and three teaching hours per module per week and will need to allow for up to nine additional hours of private study per module. You should expect your total workload to average about 40 hours per week during term time.
- As well as attending lectures and writing essays and assignments, you'll be expected to make presentations in seminars or tutorials. We encourage your presentation work, because it involves you actively in the teaching and learning process and develops important life skills such as good verbal and visual communication and effective interaction with other people.
- We're committed to enhancing and developing your key personal and transferable skills. You'll develop a range of professional skills, for example, time management and team working. You'll gain valuable critical, analytical and communication skills. Technical skills will include accurate note taking from presentations, research and IT skills, and you'll learn subject-specific skills, for example, using scientific evidence or identifying ethical issues.



- You'll have a Personal Tutor who's there to help with any academic or personal problems that you may have.

Assessment

Your final degree mark is composed of both examination-based and coursework-based assessment in the second and third year, with coursework contributing approximately 50 per cent.

You must pass your first year assessment in order to progress to the second year, but the results do not count towards your degree classification. For three-year programmes, the assessments in the second and third years all contribute to your final degree classification.

For full details of the assessment criteria for each module, check the undergraduate section of our website at www.exeter.ac.uk/psychology

Extra value

- We have state-of-the-art learning, teaching and research facilities, including specialist laboratories and an audio/video recording suite.
- Field work is an important component of the programmes and you will study wild and captive animal behaviour in a variety of locations including Paignton Zoo, the National Marine Aquarium and the Streatham Campus at the University. The department will subsidise the cost of field work, but you will be expected to make a contribution to the cost of residential field trips. The UK field course costs on average £70 per student.

Careers

A degree in Animal Behaviour from Exeter will provide you with a wide range of skills which will be useful in your future study or employment. Our students develop skills in scientific methods of data collection, researching, analysing and assessing sources, written and verbal communication, managing and interpreting information and developing

ideas and arguments. We admitted our first students in 2007 and anticipate that some of our graduates will choose to follow their interest in their degree studies with further study, while others will use the skills gained on their programme to enter a wide variety of careers.

The third year module Animal Behaviour Applications will introduce you to current practitioners of Animal Behaviour in academia, conservation, welfare, policy and production, where you will be able to question them about job opportunities and establish networks of contacts.

A career in animal behaviour is both challenging and enjoyable. Graduates will be able to apply their knowledge in a research career, or to the management, conservation and welfare of wild, captive and domestic animals.

Opportunities for employment are diverse, including:

- **University teaching and research** – advanced scientific research and teaching; research into production, management, conservation, and/or care of domestic animals; research assistant.
- **Government and private institutions** – similar jobs as in universities.
- **Conservation groups, museums** – long term field research; maintenance and improvement to natural populations; reintroduction of extirpated species; design of nature reserves; public education.
- **Zoos and aquariums** – research and management to increase health and reproduction, reduce stress; design of animal housing and care protocols; public education.
- **Veterinary assistant**
- **Companion animal behaviourist**
- **Animal control**

The discipline also provides a good foundation for any number of careers where data collection, analysis, diligence and self-discipline are valued.

For further details on Animal Behaviour careers, see www.animalbehavior.org/ABS/Guides/Careers.pdf

Exeter has an excellent reputation with graduate recruiters and our students and graduates compete very successfully in the employment market. Many employers target the University when recruiting new graduates. Six months after graduation 92 per cent of Exeter's first-degree graduates were in employment or further study.*

For further information about what the Careers and Employment Service offers at Exeter visit www.exeter.ac.uk/employability

Entry requirements

For the Animal Behaviour programme you will need three A level passes with a minimum of Grade B in an empirical science, preferably Biology or Psychology. You will also need GCSE Mathematics at Grade B or a pass in AS or A2 Mathematics. Typical offers for Animal Behaviour are in the range of: A level ABB-BBB (or equivalent for international students), International Baccalaureate 32-29.

For Biology and Animal Behaviour, your three A levels should include Biology and preferably another science subject. You will also need GCSE Mathematics at Grade B or a pass in AS or A2 Mathematics. Typical offers for Biology and Animal Behaviour are in the range of: A level AAB-BBB (or equivalent for international students), International Baccalaureate 34-29.

For full entry requirements, details on how to apply and examples of a typical offer, please check our entry listed under Animal Behaviour on the undergraduate website at www.exeter.ac.uk/undergraduate

International applicants can find details of equivalent international entry requirements for individual countries, by following the links to 'Your Country' at www.exeter.ac.uk/international

“ Studying Animal Behaviour at Exeter is such a good choice – the classes are small so you all get to know each other really well and the lecturers are nice and friendly and massively well informed on the subject. There is also Wildsoc, the society for animal behaviourists at Exeter, which was recently set up and provides support for the students, as well as a number of high-spirited socials! I absolutely love Animal Behaviour at Exeter and would recommend it to anyone who wants to learn something fascinating at a brilliant uni! ”

Lauren Watts, 2nd year BSc Animal Behaviour

*(Figures as at Jan. 2009, as a percentage of those respondents available for employment or study)



Post-Offer Open Days

Once you receive confirmation of an offer we'll contact you with an invitation to visit the School on a Post-Offer Open Day. While this opportunity to visit includes a campus tour and formal introduction to the School, much emphasis is placed on (and time allocated to) a more informal period for questions and answers, both as a group, and on a personal basis. A number of our current students also take part on these days, leading tours and giving you the opportunity to ask them what studying at Exeter is really like!

Scholarships

The Vice-Chancellor's Excellence Scholarship is worth £5,000 per year and is available to students of exceptional quality. Jubilee Science Scholarships of £2,000-£3,000 p.a. are also available. Full details of these and Music and Sports Scholarships can be found at www.exeter.ac.uk/scholarships

Experience for life

Studying at the University of Exeter is about more than getting a degree – there's a wealth of opportunities open to you to develop personally as well as professionally. Exeter offers an exceptionally wide range of opportunities for you to gain the skills employers want – from management training to business placements, volunteering programmes and pre-teacher training, to a world-wide network of study abroad opportunities and careers advice from our own successful graduates.

Great reputation

Exeter is ranked 9th in the UK in the *Times Good University Guide 2010*, making it the highest ranked South West university. We score particularly highly for student satisfaction as measured by the National Student Survey, completion rates and the proportion of students getting good Honours degrees. We are also in

The Times top 10 research-intensive universities: nearly 90 per cent of our research was rated as internationally recognised in the latest (2008) Research Assessment Exercise.

Putting students first

The University has pledged more than £2.9 million in a range of means-tested bursaries and merit scholarships to attract and support talented students and recognise outstanding ability. We have invested over £140 million in the last five years in new buildings and facilities ranging from academic resources to the Students' Guild building and nightclub. The University is now looking to the future with a planned £270 million investment in campus facilities over the next three years.

Exceptional location and great atmosphere

A safe, student-friendly city, Exeter is rated one of the best places to live in the UK for the quality of its facilities, low crime rate and fantastic countryside. The University has one of the UK's most active students' unions, sees some of the top bands in the country perform on campus and is one of the UK's top sporting universities.

Explore the possibilities

Open Days

Come and visit our beautiful campuses. We hold Open Days twice a year in June and September.

Campus Tours

We run Campus Tours at the Streatham Campus every weekday at 2pm during term time. You'll be shown round by a current student, who'll give you a first-hand account of what it's like to live and study at Exeter. For full details and to book your place, contact us at:

www.exeter.ac.uk/opendays

Phone: +44 (0)1392 264043

Email: visitus@exeter.ac.uk



Useful web links

University of Exeter website: www.exeter.ac.uk

Undergraduate pages: www.exeter.ac.uk/undergraduate

Subject website: www.exeter.ac.uk/psychology

Virtual tours: www.exeter.ac.uk/virtualtours

International Office: www.exeter.ac.uk/international

Scholarships: www.exeter.ac.uk/scholarships

Bursaries: www.exeter.ac.uk/bursaries

Students' Guild: www.exeterguild.org

This document forms part of the University's Undergraduate Prospectus. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in the Prospectus is correct at the time of going to press. However, the University cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information contained within the Prospectus and reserves the right to make variations to the services offered where such action is considered to be necessary by the University. For further information, please refer to the Undergraduate Prospectus (available at www.exeter.ac.uk/undergraduate/disclaimer).