

# Postgraduate Certificate

## Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies





## Postgraduate Certificate Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies

- » Modality: online
- » Duration: 12 weeks
- » Certificate: TECH Technological University
- » Dedication: 16h/week
- » Schedule: at your own pace
- » Exams: online

Website: [www.techtute.com/us/veterinary-medicine/postgraduate-certificate/psychology-learning-animal-assisted-therapies](http://www.techtute.com/us/veterinary-medicine/postgraduate-certificate/psychology-learning-animal-assisted-therapies)

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# 01

# Introduction

Animal-Assisted Therapies are currently experiencing great growth. This is because dogs, horses and some farm animals have ceased to be simple food or companion animals to become an active part in synergic and more balanced relationships within work teams, contributing to the training processes of the people with whom they intervene. Aware of this, TECH's team of professionals has designed this academic program that aims to teach veterinarians the correct way to implement these types of therapies and how to obtain excellent results.





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*You will only need twelve weeks of intensive study to gain a profound understanding of Animal-Assisted Intervention”*

The study of behavior is one of the main human interests since the beginning of their relationship with the world. As children, curiosity serves as fuel to motivate exploration to try to understand the phenomena around us. In Animal-Assisted Therapies, learning takes center stage to facilitate adaptation processes demanded by the environment in which organisms gradually develop during their life cycle, and which provides them with the tools to build relationships with every surrounding element (objects, animals, people, etc.), as well as to understand how to act in different situations and scenarios.

Learning goes beyond memorizing data or concepts; it means to stop having certain events present in order to incorporate others, that is, to constantly rewrite the information in order to update it. Therefore, there are many variables involved in learning: physiological, physical, neurological, emotional, motivational characteristics, as well as circumstantial aspects that may be mediated by the context.

This will also allow students to analyze the theoretical background of learning, the types and mechanisms that enable it, the programs that contribute to its development and updating, as well as its relationship with other processes.

The compendium of contents designed by TECH will be the student's main weapon to understand the fundamentals of Animal-Assisted Interventions. Thus, an in-depth review will allow students to learn about the most relevant research that proves the efficacy of these therapies, their potential benefits and the areas where they have the greatest impact.

All this, in a 100% online updating program, which will allow students to increase their professional knowledge and grow as veterinarians, while balancing their studies with the rest of their activities. Thus, professionals will be able to grow and position themselves in the field without leaving aside any aspect of their life.

This **Postgraduate Certificate in Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies** offers the characteristics of a high-level scientific, teaching, and technological program. These are some of its most notable features:

- Practical cases presented by experts in Animal-Assisted Therapies
- The graphic, schematic, and eminently practical contents with which they are created, provide scientific and practical information on the disciplines that are essential for professional practice
- Breakthroughs in Animal-Assisted Therapies
- Practical exercises where self-assessment can be used to improve learning
- Special emphasis on innovative methodologies in Animal-Assisted Therapies
- Theoretical lessons, questions to the expert, debate forums on controversial topics, and individual reflection assignments
- Content that is accessible from any fixed or portable device with an Internet connection



*This Postgraduate Certificate is the opportunity you were waiting for to take your career to the next level and become a prestigious veterinarian”*

“ *Invest in knowledge and differentiate yourself from the competition by taking this complete academic program”*

*This training comes with the best didactic material, providing you with a contextual approach that will facilitate your learning.*

*This 100% online Postgraduate Certificate will allow you to combine your studies with your professional work while increasing your knowledge in this field.*

The program's teaching staff includes professionals from the field of Veterinary Medicine, who bring their experience to this training program, as well as renowned specialists from leading communities and prestigious universities.

The multimedia content, developed with the latest educational technology, will provide the professional with situated and contextual learning, i.e., a simulated environment that will provide an immersive training program designed to train in real situations.

This program is designed around Problem-Based Learning, whereby the professional must try to solve the different professional practice situations that arise during the program. For this purpose, the professional will be assisted by an innovative, interactive video system created by renowned and extensively experienced experts in Animal-Assisted Therapies.



# 02 Objectives

The main objective of this academic program is to help veterinarians understand the importance and the promising results that Animal-Assisted Interventions provide to people with various types of problems. Thus, after completing this training, professionals will be fully capable of designing and implementing this type of interventions, offering optimal conditions for both the animals and the users participating in the therapy. This will not only increase their professional skills, but will also turn them into first level practitioners.







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*Your goals are our goals. If you grow, so do we”*



## General Objectives

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- Analyze the holistic change people undergo through Animal-Assisted Therapies (AAT)
- Determine the need for a multidisciplinary team in Animal-Assisted Interventions (AAI)
- Develop the legal framework to create an AAI entity
- Develop learning processes
- Examine the theoretical and practical bases of learning
- Review the main mechanisms involved in a change in learning
- Present the current status and future outlook of learning studies

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*A path to achieve training and professional growth that will propel you towards a greater level of competitiveness in the employment market"*





## Specific Objectives

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### Module 1. Animal-Assisted Therapies

- ◆ Determine the differences between AAI, AAA, and PAR
- ◆ Analyze the past of Animal-Assisted Therapies to develop future research
- ◆ Establish Animal-Assisted *Coaching* and psychotherapy as an important part of Animal-Assisted Therapies
- ◆ Examine relevant legislation to establish an AAI entity
- ◆ Learn how to prevent and respond to accidents

### Module 2. Psychology of Learning

- ◆ Develop the main paradigms in learning processes
- ◆ Determine behavior as the main axis of learning
- ◆ Analyze the concepts of reinforcement and punishment
- ◆ Examine the main reinforcement programs
- ◆ Understand the importance of forgetting as a learning process
- ◆ Explore the neurobiological basis of learning
- ◆ Distinguish the importance of cognition in the learning process



03

# Course Management

The program includes in its teaching staff experts from different areas related to Animal-Assisted Therapy. Thus, if students decide to take this update program, they will have the experience and prestige of professionals from the fields of Veterinary Medicine, Psychology and Psychology Therapy, who will help them to better understand how Animal-Assisted Therapies work from a multidisciplinary approach by becoming more familiar with the conditions and characteristics for which these interventions have a higher success rate.



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*A prestigious teaching staff will be in charge of bringing you the latest developments in the field”*

## Management



### Mr. Alarcón Rodríguez, Óscar Fabián

- Veterinary ethologist in charge of consultations within the specialty, and dog selection evaluator for Assisted Interventions Red Cross Canine Center
- Training and veterinary care for day care dogs Canino Gopet Center
- Care and management of horses and birds of prey Served as support in animal interventions for people with functional diversities Teanima Association
- Care, training and management of the zoo's birds of prey Weltvogelpark
- Planning and execution of Canine and Equine Assisted Therapies Colombian Center for Neurosensory Stimulation (CECOEN)
- Master's Degree in Animal-Assisted Intervention and Applied Ethology Autonomous University of Madrid
- Diploma in Clinical Ethology Center for Veterinary Medical Specialties (CEMV) 2015 - 2017 Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Veterinarian and Zootechnician. San Martín University Foundation 2001 – 2006 Bogotá, Colombia
- T.A.C. Norte Canine-Assisted Intervention Specialty Course Trainings
- Red Cross Canine Center Courses in canine training and Canine-Assisted Intervention AMKA Dog Day Care Center Courses in Ethology and Canine Training



### **Ms. Fernández Puyot, Marisol**

- Animal-Assisted Therapy Coordinator
- Therapy Session Coordinator; around 120 monthly therapies with dogs, horses, birds of prey and small mammals
- Leads a multidisciplinary team of nine made up of psychologists, physiotherapists, animal-assisted therapy technicians, equestrian guides, trainers, stable hands, etc.
- Collaborator and volunteer at the PE&CO Association
- Founder and creator of the Teanima Association
- Animal-Assisted Therapy, Complutense University of Madrid
- Trainee Instructor at Teanima Association for graduates in TAFAD and TECO from different institutes of the Community of Madrid and for graduates in Sociology and Pedagogy from the Complutense University of Madrid

# 04

## Structure and Content

The content structure has been designed by the best professionals in the Animal-Assisted Therapy sector, with extensive experience and recognized prestige in the profession, backed by the volume of cases reviewed, studied, and diagnosed, and with extensive knowledge of new technologies applied to veterinary medicine. This ensures that after completing the program, veterinarians will be fully qualified to work in Animal-Assisted Interventions from a multidisciplinary approach that favors both humans and animals.







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*This Postgraduate Certificate contains the most complete and up-to-date program on the market”*

## Module 1. Animal-Assisted Therapies

- 1.1. Animal-Assisted Therapies
  - 1.1.1. Animal-Assisted Interventions (AAI), Animal-Assisted Therapies (AAT), Animal-Assisted Education (AAE), Animal-Resident Program (ARP)
  - 1.1.2. Animal-Assisted Activity (AAA)
  - 1.1.3. User Terminology
  - 1.1.4. Co-Therapist Animals
  - 1.1.5. Research
- 1.2. Multidisciplinary team
  - 1.2.1. Occupational Therapists
  - 1.2.2. Psychologist
  - 1.2.3. Pedagogue
  - 1.2.4. Physiotherapist
  - 1.2.5. Technical Trainer, Equestrian Guide
- 1.3. History of Animal-Assisted Interventions
  - 1.3.1. Chronology
  - 1.3.2. Using AAT
  - 1.3.3. Future Prospects
- 1.4. Animal-Assisted *Coaching*
  - 1.4.1. Differences between *Coaching* and Psychotherapy
  - 1.4.2. Animals for *Coaching*
  - 1.4.3. *Equine-Assisted Coaching* Objectives
  - 1.4.4. *Avian-Assisted Coaching* Objectives
- 1.5. Legislation
  - 1.5.1. The Need for Regulation in AAT
  - 1.5.2. The Need for Certified Training
  - 1.5.3. Legislation in Europe
  - 1.5.4. Legislation in American
- 1.6. Creating an AAI Entity





- 1.6.1. Legal Form
- 1.6.2. Recruiting Multidisciplinary Teams and Customers
- 1.6.3. Customer Loyalty
- 1.6.4. Facilities and Head Office
- 1.7. Volunteer and Internship Programs
  - 1.7.1. Volunteer Contracts/Agreements with Universities
  - 1.7.2. Volunteer Loyalty
  - 1.7.3. Training
  - 1.7.4. Insurance
- 1.8. Occupational Hazard Prevention
  - 1.8.1. Work Clothes
  - 1.8.2. Information Signs
  - 1.8.3. Covid Protocol
  - 1.8.4. Fire Extinguishers
  - 1.8.5. First Aid
- 1.9. Licenses and Permits
  - 1.9.1. Livestock Farming Registry (REGA in Spanish), Zoological Nucleus
  - 1.9.2. Data Protection Law
  - 1.9.3. Socio-Health Licenses
  - 1.9.4. Federal Licenses
- 1.10. Animal-Assisted Therapy Regulations
  - 1.10.1. Civil and Criminal Liability
  - 1.10.2. Animal Abuse
  - 1.10.3. Animal Well-being during Transport
  - 1.10.4. Veterinary Inspection
  - 1.10.5. Carcass Processing

## Module 2. Psychology of Learning

- 2.1. Psychology of Learning
  - 2.1.1. Historical Background: From the Study of the Mind to Reflexes
  - 2.1.2. What Makes Us Intelligent? The Importance of Comparative Studies between Animals and Humans
    - 2.1.2.1. Animal Models: Types and Reasons for Use
    - 2.1.2.2. Assessment and Measurement Paradigms
  - 2.1.3. Learning and Cognition: Commonalities and Distinctions
- 2.2. Behavior as a Learning Axis
  - 2.2.1. The Nature of Reflexes
  - 2.2.2. Habituation vs. Sensitization
    - 2.2.2.1. Dual Process Theory
  - 2.2.3. Emotions: Dual Process Theory
- 2.3. Classical Conditioning: The Study of Learning
  - 2.3.1. Pavlov and His Contributions
    - 2.3.1.1. Excitatory Conditioning
    - 2.3.1.2. Inhibitory Conditioning
  - 2.3.2. Mechanisms of action
    - 2.3.2.1. Intensity, Salience, Relevance, and Pertinence
    - 2.3.2.2. Biological Forcing Theory
    - 2.3.2.3. Stimulus Substitution Model
    - 2.3.2.4. Blocking Effect
    - 2.3.2.5. Rescorla and Wagner: Model and Application
- 2.4. Operant Conditioning: The Instrumentalization of Behavior
  - 2.4.1. Instrumental Procedure
    - 2.4.1.1. Reinforcement
    - 2.4.1.2. Punishment
    - 2.4.1.3. Stimulus and Response
    - 2.4.1.4. Contingency
  - 2.4.2. Motivational Mechanisms
    - 2.4.2.1. Association and Law of Effect
    - 2.4.2.2. Reward and Expectations
    - 2.4.2.3. Behavioral Regulation
  - 2.4.3. Skinner's Contributions to Learning and Behavioral Studies
- 2.5. The Relevance of Stimuli
  - 2.5.1. Discrimination and Differential Response
  - 2.5.2. Generalization and Gradients
  - 2.5.3. Stimulus Control
    - 2.5.3.1. Sensory Capacity and Stimulus Orientation
    - 2.5.3.2. Stimulus Equivalence
    - 2.5.3.3. Context Cues and Conditional Relationships
- 2.6. Respiratory Muscles in Operant Conditioning
  - 2.6.1. Reward Training
    - 2.6.1.1. Simple
      - 2.6.1.1.1. Fixed Ratio
      - 2.6.1.1.2. Variable Ratio
      - 2.6.1.1.3. Fixed Interval
      - 2.6.1.1.4. Variable Interval
    - 2.6.1.2. Complex
    - 2.6.1.3. Concurrent
  - 2.6.2. Punishment Training
  - 2.6.3. Escape and Avoidance Training
  - 2.6.4. Omission (Punishment) Training
- 2.7. Learning to Unlearn: Extinction
  - 2.7.1. Effects of Extinction Procedures
    - 2.7.1.1. Spontaneous Recovery
    - 2.7.1.2. Renovation
    - 2.7.1.3. Restoration and Reinstallation
  - 2.7.2. Inhibitory Associations and Paradoxical Effects
  - 2.7.3. Impact of Partial Reinforcement
  - 2.7.4. Resistance to Change



- 2.8. The Role of Cognition in Learning
  - 2.8.1. Memory Paradigms and Mechanisms
    - 2.8.1.1. Working Memory
    - 2.8.1.2. Reference Memory
    - 2.8.1.3. Spatial Memory
    - 2.8.1.4. Acquisition and Encoding
    - 2.8.1.5. Retention and Retrieval
  - 2.8.2. Forgetfulness
    - 2.8.2.1. Proactive Interference
    - 2.8.2.2. Retroactive Interference
    - 2.8.2.3. Retrograde Amnesia
  - 2.8.3. Cognition Learning Categorization
- 2.9. Neuroscience Foundations in Learning
  - 2.9.1. Sensitive Periods
  - 2.9.2. The Brain and the Areas Responsible for Learning
  - 2.9.3. The Role of Executive Functions
    - 2.9.3.1. Inhibitory Control
    - 2.9.3.2. Working Memory
  - 2.9.4. Neuronal Plasticity and Cognitive Flexibility
  - 2.9.5. The Role of Emotions
- 2.10. Current State of Research on Learning and Future Perspectives
  - 2.10.1. The Impact of Learning on the Development of Psychological and Behavioral Problems in Humans and Animals
  - 2.10.2. Paradigms of Learning and Behavior vs. Medical and Pharmacological Models
  - 2.10.3. The Study of Learning and Its Applications in Therapeutic and Care Settings

# 05 Methodology

This academic program offers students a different way of learning. Our methodology uses a cyclical learning approach: **Relearning**.

This teaching system is used, for example, in the most prestigious medical schools in the world, and major publications such as the **New England Journal of Medicine** have considered it to be one of the most effective.





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*Discover Relearning, a system that abandons conventional linear learning, to take you through cyclical teaching systems: a way of learning that has proven to be extremely effective, especially in subjects that require memorization"*

## At TECH we use the Case Method

What should a professional do in a given situation? Throughout the program you will be presented with multiple simulated clinical cases based on real patients, where you will have to investigate, establish hypotheses and, finally, resolve the situation. There is an abundance of scientific evidence on the effectiveness of the method. Specialists learn better, faster, and more sustainably over time.

*With TECH you will experience a way of learning that is shaking the foundations of traditional universities around the world.*



According to Dr. Gervas, the clinical case is the annotated presentation of a patient, or group of patients, which becomes a "case", an example or model that illustrates some peculiar clinical component, either because of its teaching power or because of its uniqueness or rarity. It is essential that the case is based on current professional life, in an attempt to recreate the actual conditions in a veterinarian's professional practice.



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*Did you know that this method was developed in 1912, at Harvard, for law students? The case method consisted of presenting students with real-life, complex situations for them to make decisions and justify their decisions on how to solve them. In 1924, Harvard adopted it as a standard teaching method”*

The effectiveness of the method is justified by four fundamental achievements:

1. Veterinarians who follow this method not only manage to assimilate concepts, but also develop their mental capacity through exercises to evaluate real situations and knowledge application
2. Learning is solidly translated into practical skills that allow the student to better integrate into the real world.
3. Ideas and concepts are understood more efficiently, given that the example situations are based on real-life.
4. The feeling that the effort invested is effective becomes a very important motivation for veterinarians, which translates into a greater interest in learning and an increase in the time dedicated to working on the course.



## Relearning Methodology

At TECH we enhance the case method with the best 100% online teaching methodology available: Relearning.

This university is the first in the world to combine the study of clinical cases with a 100% online learning system based on repetition, combining a minimum of 8 different elements in each lesson, a real revolution with respect to the mere study and analysis of cases.



*Veterinarians will learn through real cases and by resolving complex situations in simulated learning environments. These simulations are developed using state-of-the-art software to facilitate immersive learning.*

At the forefront of world teaching, the Relearning method has managed to improve the overall satisfaction levels of professionals who complete their studies, with respect to the quality indicators of the best online university (Columbia University).

With this methodology more than 65,000 veterinarians have been trained with unprecedented success in all clinical specialties, regardless of the surgical load. Our teaching method is developed in a highly demanding environment, where the students have a high socio-economic profile and an average age of 43.5 years.

*Relearning will allow you to learn with less effort and better performance, involving you more in your training, developing a critical mindset, defending arguments, and contrasting opinions: a direct equation for success.*

In our program, learning is not a linear process, but rather a spiral (learn, unlearn, forget, and re-learn). Therefore, we combine each of these elements concentrically.

The overall score obtained by TECH's learning system is 8.01, according to the highest international standards.



This program offers the best educational material, prepared with professionals in mind:



#### Study Material

All teaching material is produced by the specialists who teach the course, specifically for the course, so that the teaching content is highly specific and precise.

These contents are then applied to the audiovisual format, to create the TECH online working method. All this, with the latest techniques that offer high quality pieces in each and every one of the materials that are made available to the student.



#### Latest Techniques and Procedures on Video

TECH introduces students to the latest techniques, the latest educational advances and to the forefront of current and procedures of veterinary techniques. All of this in direct contact with students and explained in detail so as to aid their assimilation and understanding. And best of all, you can watch the videos as many times as you like.



#### Interactive Summaries

The TECH team presents the contents attractively and dynamically in multimedia lessons that include audio, videos, images, diagrams, and concept maps in order to reinforce knowledge.

This exclusive educational system for presenting multimedia content was awarded by Microsoft as a "European Success Story".



#### Additional Reading

Recent articles, consensus documents and international guidelines, among others. In TECH's virtual library, students will have access to everything they need to complete their course.





#### Expert-Led Case Studies and Case Analysis

Effective learning ought to be contextual. Therefore, TECH presents real cases in which the expert will guide students, focusing on and solving the different situations: a clear and direct way to achieve the highest degree of understanding.



#### Testing & Retesting

We periodically evaluate and re-evaluate students' knowledge throughout the program, through assessment and self-assessment activities and exercises, so that they can see how they are achieving their goals.



#### Classes

There is scientific evidence suggesting that observing third-party experts can be useful.

Learning from an Expert strengthens knowledge and memory, and generates confidence in future difficult decisions.



#### Quick Action Guides

TECH offers the most relevant contents of the course in the form of worksheets or quick action guides. A synthetic, practical, and effective way to help students progress in their learning.



06

# Certificate

The Postgraduate Certificate in Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies guarantees students, in addition to the most rigorous and up-to-date education, access to a Postgraduate Certificate issued by TECH Technological University.



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*Successfully complete this program and receive your university qualification without having to travel or fill out laborious paperwork”*

This **Postgraduate Certificate in Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies** contains the most complete and up-to-date program on the market.

After the student has passed the assessments, they will receive their corresponding **Postgraduate Certificate** issued by **TECH Technological University** via tracked delivery\*.

The diploma issued by **TECH Technological University** will reflect the qualification obtained in the Postgraduate Certificate, and meets the requirements commonly demanded by job markets, competitive examinations and professional career evaluation committees.

Title: **Postgraduate Certificate in Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies**

Official N° of Hours: **300 h.**



\*Apostille Convention. In the event that the student wishes to have their paper diploma issued with an apostille, TECH EDUCATION will make the necessary arrangements to obtain it, at an additional cost.



future  
health confidence people  
education information tutors  
guarantee accreditation teaching  
institutions technology learning  
community commitment  
personalized service innovation  
knowledge present  
development language  
virtual classroom

**tech** technological  
university

**Postgraduate Certificate**  
Psychology of Learning  
in Animal-Assisted  
Therapies

- » Modality: online
- » Duration: 12 weeks
- » Certificate: TECH Technological University
- » Dedication: 16h/week
- » Schedule: at your own pace
- » Exams: online

# Postgraduate Certificate

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