

Things You Need to Know Before Applying

Overview

The Certificate in Animal Management – Captive Wild Animals has been delivered since 2004 predominantly as a full-time one-year distance-learning programme, although a part-time two-year programme may be available at the discretion of the Programme/Curriculum Leader, for people already working full-time in the zoo industry. The National Certificate in Captive Wild Animals is **no longer** offered.



A distance-learning programme requires students to be self-motivated and committed, and to have excellent time-management skills. The time required to attend block courses, exams, practical assessments, work experience and to adequately cover self-directed study (research, reading, revision) and assignment writing, is **equivalent** to a full-time on-campus programme even though it is distance-learning. If studying full-time, students are eligible for student loans and allowances, however, cross crediting of more than one course within the programme may change your eligibility for student allowance.

Prospective students **MUST** have consistent, easy access to a computer with broadband (preferably) or fast dial-up, and with appropriate word processing and slide presentation software (MS Word 97-2003 or above, and MS Powerpoint 97-2003 or above) and be proficient at word processing, web browsing and e-mail communication.

Entry is open to anyone of 16 years old as at February 1st in the year of study, and who meets the General Admission and English Language requirements and Programme Admission requirements for the Certificate in Animal Management. These can be found either in our Department Information Brochure or on the Unitec website http://www.unitec.ac.nz/social-health-sciences/natural-sciences/programmes_natu/animal-health-and-welfare/certificate-in-animal-management-captive-wild-animals.cfm?c3=yes

Programme Courses

The programme consists of seven courses see Table 1 below, all of which you must pass in order to receive the Certificate.

Level	Course No.	Course Name	Credits	Pre-requisites	Co-requisites
Level 4					
4	NSCI 4700	Vertebrate Anatomy and Physiology	15	NIL	NIL
4	NSCI 4730	Captive Wild Animal Practicum	30	NIL	NIL
4	NSCI 4731	The Captive Wild Animal Industry	15	NIL	NIL
4	NSCI 4704	Conservation and Animal Management	15	NIL	NIL
4	NSCI 4732	Captive Wild Animal Behaviour, Training and Enrichment	15	NIL	NIL
Level 5					
5	NSCI 4733	Contemporary Issues in Animal management	15	NIL	NIL
5	NSCI 5741	Principles of Captive Wild Animal Husbandry	15	NIL	NIL

Table 1: Courses for CAM Captive Wild Animals – all courses are compulsory.

The courses contain a range of subject matter covering the following:

In-situ and Ex-situ Conservation	Records and Recording Systems
Practical Zoo keeping Skills	The Zoo Industry and Associated Organisations
Communication skills	General Animal Health and Hygiene
Animal Behaviour	Tertiary Study Skills
Breeding and nutrition	Housing, Enclosures and their Maintenance
Animal Law and Ethics	Emergency Procedures
Enrichment and Conditioning	Vertebrate Anatomy and Physiology

Block Courses

As a student, you will be required to attend 3 block courses per year held at Unitec (Auckland). Each block course will last 5 days and have in the past run in early February, mid June and mid September*. The block courses are intensive in nature and provide lectures, debates, handling practice, applied practical skills, and formative and summative practical assessment. It is essential that you attend **all** block courses within your term of study.

Block courses start early on the first day and as such it is advised that if travelling from way outside Auckland, you arrive the day before the start of the block course to account for any travel delays (late flights, traffic congestion etc). Each block course ends at 5.45pm latest on the last day.

Tea/coffee is provided for throughout each block course, however, no food is provided. Food outlets may be found on campus although block course 1 occurs outside usual on-campus semester time and thus food may be limited.

Accommodation is also **NOT** provided. There is limited on-campus student accommodation available (<http://www.unitec.ac.nz/?1D04B316-145E-6A3C-6ECF-576819688778>) that needs to be booked in advance through the accommodation manager (accommodation@unitec.ac.nz). Otherwise there is plenty of accommodation available within the West Auckland area.

*these dates may vary from year to year



Work Experience

The programme requires that you obtain 280 hours structured work experience at an **approved** facility **in the year of study**, or within the first year of study if taken over two years (**only available to full-time zoo keeping staff with support from employer**). The 280 hours are further split into 3 minimum requirements on certain animal groups (see table 2).

Animal Group	Invertebrates, Fish, Amphibians or Reptiles	Birds	Mammals*	Minimum Total required for course
Minimum Hours Work Experience	40	40	80	280

Table 2: Work Experience Requirements for Certificate in Captive Wild Animals

***NB** Work experience with mammals must include a minimum of 16 hours with at least one highly dangerous animal species – i.e. where keepers would under no circumstances enter the enclosure with the unrestrained animal.



The approved facility has an obligation with Unitec to instruct you in the practical skills of zoo keeping during your work experience up to a maximum of 280 hours. The facility in which you gain your work experience will depend largely on where you live or where you are based during your study period. Facilities that have a working relationship with Unitec

at present are listed in Table 3 along with contacts. If you wish to gain work experience at any other facility not listed below, you must contact the Curriculum Leader at Unitec first, to discuss options and suitability. Each zoo will have different cut-off dates for work experience applications. Some are as early as July. There are around 40 placements given across New Zealand each year and gaining a placement is highly competitive. Please contact zoos as soon as possible to express interest.

Table 3

Regions	Name	Contacts
Auckland Zoo, Auckland	Lauren Booth	Telephone: 09 3603800 Email: Lauren.booth@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz
Wellington Zoo, Wellington	David French or Harmony Wallace	Telephone: DDI: +64 4 381 6755 Address: Wellington Zoo 200 Daniell Street Newton Wellington New Zealand Email: David.French@wellingtonzoo.com Or Harmony.Wallace@wellingtonzoo.com
Orana Park, Christchurch	Hazel Stone	Telephone: 03 359 7109 x 810 Postal Address: Orana Wildlife Park P.O Box 5130 Papanui Christchurch Email hazel@oranawildlifepark.co.nz
Willowbank, Christchurch	David Fordyce	Telephone: 64 3 359 6226 Email: volunteers@willowbank.co.nz
Hamilton Zoo, Hamilton	Morel Rand	Telephone: 64 07 838 6961 Postal Address Hamilton Zoo P.O Box 15265 Hamilton New Zealand Email: morele.rand@hcc.govt.nz
National Aquarium, Napier	Rob Yarroll	Telephone: 06 834 1404 Email: rob@nationalaquarium.co.nz
Brooklands Zoo, New Plymouth	Eve Cozzi	Telephone: 06 759 6060 Cell: 027 540 0050 Email: cozzie@npdc.govt.nz
Natureland, Nelson	Gail Sutton	Ph: 03 548 6166 Email: Gail@Natureland.co.nz

IMPORTANT:

Until the 280 hours work experience has been authorised in writing by the facility/facilities concerned, you will not be eligible to enrol in this programme at Unitec.

If you live in Auckland and are wishing to obtain work experience at Auckland Zoo, please read the information at the end of this document carefully. If you are wishing to obtain a work experience position for this programme in any other zoo, you will need to contact them directly.

IMPORTANT: Regardless of where you apply for work experience, it is essential that you send in a completed Unitec enrolment form clearly stating which zoo facility/facilities you are applying to for work experience



Costs

Approximately \$5400* (not including required reading, travel and accommodation costs to and from block courses and work experience expenses). If studying full-time, students are eligible for student loans and allowance.

*(Fees have not been set for 2013. This cost is an indication only.)



If you have any queries regarding this programme, please call Student Central:

0800 10 95 10 or +64 9 815 2945
email study@unitec.ac.nz

If you have any further queries regarding this programme, please contact me by e-mail on lroberts2@unitec.ac.nz

Good luck.

Dr Lorne Roberts

Programme and Curriculum Leader, CAM Captive Wild Animals

Senior Lecturer

Unitec Institute of Technology

RECOMMENDED READING:

Highly recommended

- Zoo Biology and Management (Rees, P.A.) Wiley-Blackwell
- Zoo Animals: Behaviour, Management and Welfare (Hosey, Melfi & Pankhurst) Oxford Uni Press

Recommended

- The Welfare Ark (Margodt K.) University Press
- The Zoo Story (de Courcy C.) Penguin Books
- Second Nature (Shepherdson D.J.) Smithsonian Institute
- Ethics on the Ark (Norton B.J. et al) Smithsonian Institute
- Wild Mammals in Captivity (Kleiman D.G. et al) University of Chicago Press
- Last Animals at the Zoo (Tudge C.) Island Press
- Zoo Culture (Mullen B. and Marvin G.) University of Illinois Press
- Environmental Enrichment for Captive Animals (Young, R.) Blackwell Science Ltd
- After the Ark (Mazur N.) Melbourne University Press
- Modern Ark, The - Story of Zoos Past, Present and Future (Croake V.) Avon Books Inc.
- Different Nature, A (Hancocks D.) University of California Press
- Measuring Behaviour - An Introductory Guide. 2n Ed (Martin P. and Bateson P.) Cambridge University Press
- Zoo - A history of zoological gardens in the west (Baratay E. and Hardouin-Fugier E.) Reaktion Books Ltd
- Zoo Man (Maple T. and Archibald E.) Longstreet Press
- New Worlds, New Animals: From Menagerie to Zoological Park in the 19th Century (Hoage and Deiss)
- Building a Future for Wildlife – The World Zoo and Aquarium Conservation Strategy (Olney, P.J.S.) WAZA Executive Office
- Websites: ARAZPA (now ZAA); WAZA; IUCN; CITES; DoC (NZ); MAF and all zoo websites (with particular reference to New Zealand and Australian Zoos)

Auckland Zoo Work Experience ONLY:

Auckland Zoo accepts 16 students per year for the structured work experience relating to the Certificate in Animal Management (Captive Wild Animals). Work experience is held on either a Monday or Tuesday 8.00am-4.30pm minimum, every week from mid February through to November. To be fair to all, successful applicants cannot choose their work experience day.

Competition is high for these positions. To enable us to choose the correct students, you will be required to send an up to date CV and a letter of no more than **300 words** to:

Lauren Booth
Auckland Zoo
Private Bag
Grey Lynn

with the following information:

- 1) *What you hope to gain from the certificate and why*
- 2) *What your involvement has been with animals (or the environment) in the past. This does not have to be work oriented. It may include pets, volunteer work, previous study, association with other organisations etc.*
- 3) *Why you believe that zoos are necessary in today's society (with particular reference to New Zealand).*

These letters are reviewed in early October and interviews are timetabled for late October/early November. If you are successful in obtaining a work experience position, and fulfil Unitec's minimum requirements for the programme, you will automatically be accepted into the CAM (CWA) programme by Unitec Institute of Technology.

Please note - all Auckland Zoo work experience students must attend a 2-day introductory course usually scheduled within the week prior to the first Unitec block course. This is a requirement of Auckland Zoo only and is for the benefit and safety of all students, staff, public and animals.