

# Certificate in Animal Welfare Investigations

## Additional Programme Information 2018

The *Certificate in Animal Welfare Investigations* is a 1-year full time, 120 credit, Level 4 programme that has been developed for people involved in, or wishing to work in, the Animal Welfare Investigation industry. This programme prepares people for the role of Animal Welfare Inspector. It includes a full understanding of the requirements, procedures and powers of an Animal Welfare Inspector, as well as the ability to perform the technical, physical and communication responsibilities required of the position.

Prospective students of this programme may be school leavers, individuals looking to retrain for a new career in an animal related occupation, or current Animal Welfare Inspectors needing to complete this qualification as part of their obligations under the Animal Welfare Act 1999. This programme includes 5 compulsory courses. There is only one intake per year. The academic year starts in February.

The *Certificate in Animal Welfare Investigations* consists of a mixture of on-site and off-site learning, structured in 3 x 6-day block courses. The block courses are intensive in nature and provide lectures, discussions, handling practice, applied practical skills, and formative and summative practical assessment. As a student, you will be required to attend **all** 3 block courses held at Unitec (Mt Albert, Auckland - map attached).

Each block course lasts 6 days (Monday-Saturday) and the dates for 2018 are:

- Block course 1: 19 – 24 February 2018
- Block course 2: 2 – 7 July 2018
- Block course 3: 8 – 13 October 2018

Block course days start at 8:30am and as such, it is advised that if travelling from outside Auckland, students 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 on a Saturday at 4:00pm at the latest. Please be aware that it is important that students do not arrive late since all the information delivered at these courses is vital to the success of students. Be mindful of other students - arriving late can influence their learning as well. Failure to attend any or part of these block courses will seriously jeopardize the chances of students passing. Food outlets may be found on campus although the block courses are held outside usual on-campus semester time and thus food may be limited. At block courses, students require pen and paper for note taking and will be issued with a number of resources at the first block course, including a Programme Handbook and a schedule of assignments and their due dates for the year.

Prospective students must have easy access to a computer with consistent, reliable internet availability, and with appropriate word processing software and capability. **As this is primarily a distance delivery programme, you must be computer literate by the time the programme starts. Unitec offers free computer courses if you are based in Auckland.**

## Certificate in Animal Welfare Law Courses

This programme consists of the following five compulsory courses, all of which you must pass in order to receive the *Certificate in Animal Welfare Investigations*:

### 1. NSCI 4010 Animal Welfare Law (30 credits)

Purpose: To promote an understanding of the general principles of legislation as they apply to Animal Welfare. Explain the Animal Welfare Act 1999 as it applies to the compliance officer's powers and the rights of the public. To develop competency in a range of generic and transferable skills necessary to being an Animal Welfare Investigator.

Topics include: Sources of law, court precedents, parties to offences, attempts, history of animal protection legislation, duty of care of animals, appointment and powers of inspectors, powers, laboratory animals, provisions & proceedings in animal welfare legislation.

### 2. NSCI 4020 Animal Welfare Investigations (30 credits)

Purpose: To enable students to respond appropriately to a complaint, carry out an investigation and/or a patrol in a compliance context, collect and record evidence that may be used in court.

Topics include: Complaints process, legal grounds for investigation, criminal process, investigation techniques, collecting evidence, law of evidence, searching for and seizing evidence without a search warrant, procedures for obtaining and executing search warrants, interviewing witnesses, interviewing suspects, polemics and kinesics, New Zealand Bill of Rights Act, writing investigation reports, forensic science, forensic photography, chain of evidence, compliance breaches.

### 3. NSCI 4030 Animal Welfare Prosecutions (15 credits)

Purpose: To develop an understanding of the roles and expectations for the participation in District Court criminal proceedings and discuss the preparation of a prosecution file for a hearing.

Topics include: Criminal proceedings, court procedures, summary of case facts, briefing evidence, hearsay evidence and the exclusion rule, law of evidence, chain of evidence.

### 4. NSCI 4040 Communication & Study Skills for Animal Welfare Investigators (15 credits)

Purpose: To establish effective communication that can be applied in an animal related setting by equipping students with the understanding and basic skills for good communication practice in a range of situations.

Topics include: The communication process; the basic elements and theories of communication; aspects of interpersonal, bicultural and intercultural communication; barriers to effective communication; introduction to communication in groups and teams; plagiarism identification, Moodle, MSWord, Email, time and project management.

## 5. NSCI 4050 Animal Health & Husbandry for Animal Welfare Investigators (30 credits)

Purpose: To promote an understanding of the concepts of health and its indicators, potential causes and the signs of abnormal health and treatment protocols in relation to the work of an animal welfare investigator.

Topics include: Behaviour, OSH: Safe working practices, Handling, Restraint, Transport, Disease: physical and behaviour indicators of health, Indicators of health status, Health assessment procedures. Health care programmes. Preliminary examination, Preventative health care, Housing, Emergency first aid, Euthanasia.

Students are assessed in a number of different ways. For example, written short assignments, projects, practical skills, oral assessments, written exams, group work, presentations and case studies. Provided that students pass all five the courses they will graduate in April the following year with the Certificate in Animal Welfare Investigations.

### Cross Credits

Students that have completed any courses that are similar to those described above are able to submit a cross-credit application by completing an application form and providing the required evidence. Cross-credit applications are reviewed by the Environmental and Animal Sciences Programme Committee and students are informed of the outcome in writing. Please note that cross-credit applications must be submitted as soon as possible, usually when you apply for the programme, and will only be accepted up until 2 weeks after the programme starts.

Common cross-credits include qualified vet nurses cross-crediting NSCI 4050 Animal Health & Husbandry and Police Officers cross-crediting NSCI 4020 Animal Welfare Investigations, NSCI 4030 Animal Welfare Prosecutions & NSCI 4040 Communications & Study Skills for Animal Welfare Investigators. Please note that a requirement of a cross-credit for NSCI 4050 Animal Health & Husbandry (30 credits) is that the student enrolls & passes the NSCI S500 Short Course in Animal Euthanasia (6 credits).

### Work Experience

The programme also requires that students obtain a minimum of 20 hours work experience with a fully-warranted and experienced Animal Welfare Inspector. This starts after the second block course and cannot be done earlier without special permission. Students will be given information regarding the work experience component of the course during the first block course. It is the student's responsibility to arrange their own work placements, however, we are here to assist students should they experience any issues or problems.

There is a further 8 hours work experience required in a district court.

## Distance Learning

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, 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. Some students also work whilst studying. In order to do this successfully the student must be very good at time management.

## Accommodation

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide accommodation for those travelling from outside of Auckland. There is limited on-campus [student accommodation](#) available that needs to be booked in advance by contacting on [unitec@clv.co.nz](mailto:unitec@clv.co.nz). Otherwise there is plenty of accommodation available within the West Auckland area.

## Entry Criteria

Entry is open to anyone aged 16 years or over as at February 1<sup>st</sup> in the year of study, and who meets the General Admission and English Language requirements for the *Certificate in Animal Welfare Investigations*. This can be found either in our Practice Pathway Information Brochure or on the Unitec website. It strongly assists an application if the prospective student is already working or volunteering at an SPCA or comes from an animal or compliance background. It is advisable to get your application in as soon as possible.

## Costs

Approximately \$6,216\* (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. Cross-crediting of more than one course within the programme may change your eligibility for student allowance. Some students are MPI-sponsored SPCA employees. MPI covers their fees and associated programme costs.

Please discuss any questions that you have regarding this directly with Tristin Wilcox from the RNZSPCA.

## Job prospects

The majority of the graduates gain employment after graduating in the field of animal welfare, both as animal welfare investigators, in shelters, in welfare support roles, or go on to do further education.

## Contact Information

If this programme is of interest to you & you have general questions or would like to apply, please contact **Student Central** on:

Email: [study@unitec.ac.nz](mailto:study@unitec.ac.nz)

Phone: 0800 10 95 10 or +64 9 815 2945

If you have any specific queries regarding this programme, please contact the Programme Coordinator:

**Peggy Link**, MVSc (Vet Forensics), BSc Ed, Cert, AWI Lecturer in Animal Welfare | Environmental and Animal Sciences, *Certificate in Animal Welfare Investigations*, Coordinator

Email: [PLink@unitec.ac.nz](mailto:PLink@unitec.ac.nz)

## Environmental and Animal Sciences Pathway Building 115, Unitec New Zealand, Carrington Rd, Mt Albert

How to find us:

1. Enter Gate 4 off Carrington Rd.
2. Department of Natural Sciences is in **Building 115** - first building of the line of buildings straight ahead.
3. Parking available in "Pay-and-display" areas.
4. Room numbers indicate their level - '1000's are 1st (Ground) level, '2000's are 2nd level, '3000's are 3rd level.

**Prior to the programme starting it is recommended that students prepare themselves by reading the following:**

- Animal Welfare Act 1999. The Act can be accessed [electronically](#).
- [The Codes of Welfare](#).
- [Animal Welfare Regulations](#).

**Additional recommended reading: (in no particular order of priority)**

### Reports:

- Codes of Animal Welfare: The codes of welfare and their associated National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee report can be accessed electronically [here](#).
- National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) reports can be accessed electronically [here](#).
- National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) reports can be accessed electronically [here](#).

### Journals:

- Animal Law Review (Lewis & Clerk Law School, Portland, Oregon, USA). This can be accessed electronically [here](#).
- Journal of Animal Law (Michigan State University College of Law, Michigan, USA). This can be accessed electronically [here](#).
- Journal of Animal Law & Ethics (University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, USA). This can be accessed electronically [here](#).
- Stanford Journal of Animal Law & Policy (Stanford University, California, USA). This can be accessed electronically [here](#).
- Reform Issue 91 Summer 2007-08 'Animals' (Australian Law Reform Commission). This can be accessed electronically [here](#).

### Websites:

- [www.MPI.govt.nz](http://www.MPI.govt.nz)
- [www.rspcanz.org.nz](http://www.rspcanz.org.nz)
- [www.voiceless.org.au](http://www.voiceless.org.au)
- [www.arlan.org.nz](http://www.arlan.org.nz)
- [www.safe.org.nz](http://www.safe.org.nz)
- [www.wspa.org.au](http://www.wspa.org.au)
- [www.ciwf.org.uk](http://www.ciwf.org.uk)
- [www.hsus.org](http://www.hsus.org)
- [www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org)
- [www.animalsasia.org](http://www.animalsasia.org)
- [www.peta.org](http://www.peta.org)

### Books:

- Balcombe, Jonathan, *Pleasurable Kingdom*, Macmillan(2006)
- Bekoff, Marc and Goodall, Jane (forward), *The Emotional Lives of Animals: A Leading Scientist Explores Animal Joy, Sorrow, and Empathy - and Why They Matter*, New World Library; First Trade Paper Edition (2008)
- Bekoff, Marc and Goodall, Jane (forward), *Animals Matter: A Biologist Explains Why We Should Treat Animals with Compassion and Respect*, Shambhala (2007)
- Bryant, Taimie L., Huss, Deborah J., Cassuto David N., (eds), *Animal Law and the Courts: A Reader*, Thomson, (2008)
- Caulfield, Malcolm, *Handbook of Australian Animal Cruelty Law*, Animals Australia, 2008
- Casey, M. E., & Garrow, J. M. E. (1996). *Garrow and Casey's principles of the law of evidence* (8th ed.). Wellington N.Z.:Butterworths.

- Coetzee, J. M., *The Lives of Animals*, Princeton University Press (1999)
- Colville, T. P., & Bassert, J. M. (2002). *Clinical anatomy and physiology for veterinary technicians*. St. Louis: Mosby.
- Cross, R., Mathieson, D. L., France, S., Long, J., & Robertson, B. (2005). *Cross on evidence* (8th ed.). Wellington, NZ: Butterworths.
- Davies, J. W. 2001. *Communication skills: a guide for engineering and applied science studies* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Harlow: Prentice Hall.
- Dawkins, Marian Stamp and Bonney, Roland, *The Future of Animal Farming*
- (foreword by Peter Singer), Blackwell (2008)
- Eadie, Edward N., *Animal Suffering and the Law: National, Regional and International*, Seaview Press 2009
- Favre, David, *Animal Law: Welfare, Interests and Rights*, Aspen Publishers (2008)
- Francione, Gary L. *Animals, Property, and the Law*, Temple University Press 1995
- Huscroft, G., & Rishworth, P. (1995). *Rights and freedoms: The New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 and the Human Rights Act 1993*. Wellington, N.Z.: Brooker's.
- Lewis, G., & Slade, C. M. (2000). *Critical communication* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Sydney: Prentice Hall Australia.
- Manning, A., & Dawkins, M. S. (1998). *An introduction to animal behaviour*. (5th Ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Martin, P. R., & Bateson, P. (1993). *Measuring behaviour: An introductory guide*. (2nd Ed.). New York: Cambridge University Press.
- McCurnin, D. M., & Bassert, J. M. (2006). *Clinical textbook for veterinary technicians* (6th ed.). St. Louis, Missouri: Elsevier Saunders.
- McGreevy, P. (2007). *Carrots and sticks: Principles of animal training*: Cambridge University Press.
- Midson, B., & Ball, W. (2004). *Butterworths questions and answers: Criminal*. Wellington: LexisNexis.
- Moore, M. C. (1999). *BSAVA manual of veterinary nursing*. Quedgeley, Gloucester: British Small Animal Veterinary Association.
- *New Zealand law reports*. Wellington, N.Z.: Edwards and Green.
- Paul, W. 2004. *How to Study in College*, 8<sup>th</sup> Ed. Houghton Mifflin College Div.

- Phillips, Clive. *The Welfare of Animals: The Silent Majority*, Springer; 1 edition (2008)
- Radostits, O. M., & Blood, D. C. (2007). *Veterinary medicine: A textbook of the diseases of cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and horses* (10th ed.). London: W.B. Saunders.
- Robertson, B. (1995). *Interpreting evidence: evaluating forensic science in the courtroom*: Chancery Law Publ Ltd.
- Robertson, J. B., Adams, F. B., Finn, J. N., Orchard, G., & Mahoney, R. (2001). *Adams on criminal law* (3rd student ed.). Wellington, N.Z.: Brooker's.
- Sainsbury, D. (1998). *Animal health: health, disease, and welfare of farm livestock* (2nd ed.). Malden, MA: Blackwell Science.
- Sankoff, Peter., and White, Steven, (eds), *Animal Law in Australasia: A New Dialogue*, Federation Press, 2009
- Singer, Peter, *In Defense of Animals: The Second Wave*, Blackwell Publishing (2005)
- Varner, I. (2005). *Intercultural communication in the global workplace* (1<sup>st</sup> ed.). McGraw-Hill.
- Webster, John, *Animal Welfare: Limping towards Eden*, Wiley-Blackwell; 2 edition (2005)

This document was last updated on Tuesday 12 December 2017.



## Mt Albert campus map

