Animal Behavior, PhD

LAANBPHD

This interdisciplinary animal behavior program --- one of the few in the world --- encompasses several areas, and coursework includes field- and lab-based research and student-driven seminars covering emerging science. If you want to create an integrative research niche in animal behavior, this program is ideal.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: PHD Animal Behavior
The PhD program in animal behavior is a transdisciplinary graduate degree program that provides doctoral-level training in mechanistic and functional approaches to understanding behavior in a variety of animal taxa.

The study of behavior is at the interface of several scientific disciplines, including physiology, anatomy, neuroscience, ecology and evolution. This program offers the diverse but specialized array of skills and knowledge needed to produce excellent research in animal behavior.

Students gain knowledge and skills with applied scientific value in areas such as veterinary science and mental and behavioral health in humans. The ecological focus of the program feeds into local, state and global priorities in biological conservation and ecosystem sustainability.

At a Glance

- College/School: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Location: Tempe campus or Online

Degree Requirements

84 credit hours, a oral and written exam, a prospectus and a dissertation
Required Core (8 credit hours)
ANB 601 Research Strategies in Animal Behavior (4)
ANB 602 Current Issues in Animal Behavior (4)

Electives or Research (64 credit hours)
The department and the student's advisor determine these courses in conjunction with the student.

Culminating Experience (12 credit hours)
dissertation (12)

Additional Curriculum Information
Core courses ANB 601 and ANB 602 are one credit hour courses, each taken four times.

Admission Requirements
Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree, in a related discipline, from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

Applicants must submit the following:
1. graduate admissions application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. academic record form
4. personal statement
5. curriculum vitae or resume
6. three letters of recommendation
7. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

Career Opportunities
A doctorate in animal behavior provides strong preparation for academic careers at every level, from community colleges to research universities. The skills and knowledge obtained in this program are also
valuable for government careers in federal and state agencies responsible for wildlife management and conservation and for conservation-related careers in nongovernmental organizations.

Career examples include:

- animal scientist
- biology professor
- conservation biologist
- postsecondary biology teacher
- wildlife biologist

Contact Information

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