

A close-up photograph of a woman on the left and a bird of prey on the right, both looking towards each other. The woman has a gentle smile and is looking slightly down. The bird has a sharp, dark beak and is looking towards the woman. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

vetmeduni

**Want an  
upgrade?**

**MASTER'S PROGRAMME (MSc)**

**Human-Animal  
Interactions**

**in Vienna**

# Why ...

## **... Interdisciplinary Master's Programme in Human-Animal Interactions?**

### **Relevance for society**

In view of the fact that the status of animals in (human) society changes, a scientific, research-centred approach to human-animal interactions takes on greater significance.

### **Internationality**

The master's programme is conducted in the English language and places a particular focus on an international context in the field of human-animal interactions, as well as connecting students worldwide.

### **Resulting competences**

- Detailed knowledge and understanding of fundamental issues
- Ability to cope with different scientific practices and traditions
- Ability to conduct interdisciplinary research projects
- Critical assessment of methods for measuring attitudes, interactions and their results
- Understanding of the philosophical approaches to human-animal interactions
- Dealing with humans, animals and nature in an ethically reflected way

### **Personal Attention**

Due to the low number of students, intensive support by faculty is guaranteed.

### **Qualifications**

The master's programme aims to educate the next generation of experts, providing students with the necessary research skills and ethical background to conduct interdisciplinary projects about human-animal interactions.

# Studies

Vetmeduni has launched a new unique interdisciplinary research-oriented master's programme in the academic year 2021/22. It combines the fields of animal behaviour, cognition, welfare, comparative medicine, animal ethics and philosophy, psychology and sociology.

The programme is competency-oriented and supports research-based and evidence-based development and the expansion of relevant skills. By providing theoretical and methodological expertise, graduates are capable of describing, investigating, analyzing, and shaping human-animal relationships on a scientific basis, in an ethically reflected manner and in different academic and societal contexts.

**Requirement for admission:** Completion of a related (bachelor's) degree programme at a university or Fachhochschule (university of applied sciences) with a workload of at least 180 ECTS credits (preferably in veterinary or human medicine, biology or agricultural sciences with a specialisation in zoology).

## Structure and Duration of Studies

**Duration:** 4 semesters

(120 ECTS credits, about 55 semester hours)

**Study places:** 20 every winter semester

Conclusion with **Master's Thesis**

**Academic grade:** Master of Science (MSc)

**Language of instruction:** English

**Tuition fee per semester:**

EU/EEA/CH citizens € 363,36 with temporary exemption | third country nationals € 726,72



Research on Ethics and Human-Animal Studies  
Photo: Thomas Suchanek | Vetmeduni

# Curriculum

**The master is composed of the following modules:**

4 introductory modules – altogether 30 ECTS credits:

**Foundations of Human-Animal Interactions** (Human Perspectives, Animal Perspectives, Ethical and Societal Perspectives, Human-Animal Interactions in Practice)

**Research Methods** – 20 ECTS credits

**Research Projects I and II** – altogether 21 ECTS credits

**Interdisciplinary Journal Clubs and Thesis Seminar, IMHAI Symposium** – altogether 9 ECTS credits

**Electives** – altogether 10 ECTS credits

**Master Thesis** – 30 ECTS credits

The interdisciplinary approach to issues of high societal and ethical relevance is a novel challenge for all students. To help them meet the demands of the course, students will enjoy the benefits of an attractive research infrastructure, an excellent learning environment and an up-to-date curriculum:

- Introductory courses in the various involved disciplines
- Extensive methods courses and training
- Transfer and acquisition of general skills required for academic careers (presentation and publication techniques, scientific English, PR skills, acquisition of third-party funding, project management, marketing skills etc.)
- 2 research projects of self-chosen topics + master project

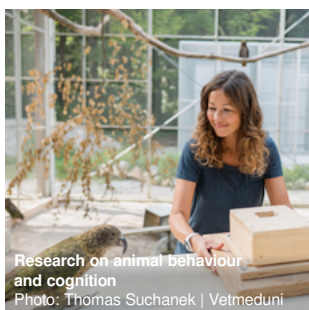


The Messerli Research Institute is host of the international master's programme  
Photo: Michael Bernkopf | Vetmeduni

# Professional Fields

**Graduates can work primarily in the following areas:**

- Research and/or teaching at universities and other post-secondary educational institutions
- Research institutions in the pharmaceutical and biomedical industry
- NGOs or public institutions with a focus on animal welfare and protection or animal assisted therapy
- Non-university research institutions
- Public and private sector institutions (e.g. ministries, authorities, commissions)
- Managerial functions in facilities with animal husbandry
- Expert activity and science journalism



MASTER'S PROGRAMME (MSc)

# Human-Animal Interactions in Vienna

- 4 semesters
- Research on humans, dogs, kea, goffins and farm animals
- Combines animal behaviour, cognition, welfare with ethics/philosophy and comparative medicine
- 20 students, mentoring system

In the event of **questions concerning studies**, please contact:  
[zulassung@vetmeduni.ac.at](mailto:zulassung@vetmeduni.ac.at)



Or visit our website for further information about the **Master's programme**:  
<https://www.vetmeduni.ac.at/imhai>

Studying at the Vetmeduni, general information:  
<https://www.vetmeduni.ac.at/en/studies/prospective-students>



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