

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

### Relevance for society

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

### Internationality

The Master's Studies are conducted (mainly) in the English language and place 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, languages and traditions
- Ability to participate in interdisciplinary research projects
- Specialized knowledge of one field of human-animal interactions
- Ability in ethical evaluation and systemic reflection of topics of human-animal interactions that are relevant to society
- Independent conduct of research projects

### Personal Attention

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

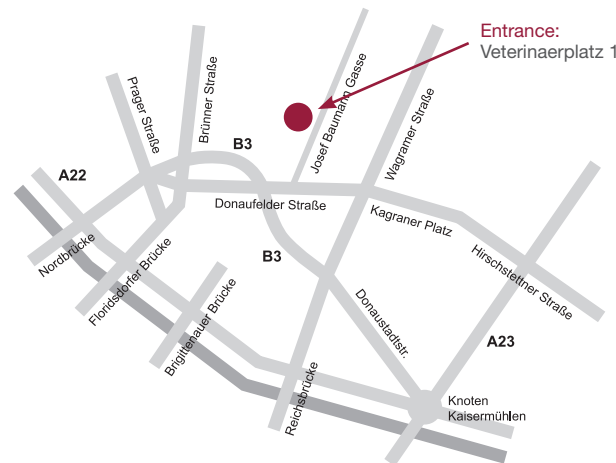
### Qualifications

The Master's Studies aims at educating the next generation of experts, providing students with the necessary scientific skills and ethical background to assume responsibility for structuring human-animal interactions.

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

To **exchange information** with experienced students please contact:

**Students' Association of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna, Student Representation**  
 T +43 1 25077-1700  
[verwaltung@hvu.vetmeduni.ac.at](mailto:verwaltung@hvu.vetmeduni.ac.at)  
[www.hvu.vu-wien.ac.at](http://www.hvu.vu-wien.ac.at)



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## Interdisciplinary Master Human-Animal Interactions



## Studies

Vetmeduni Vienna launches a new, interdisciplinary master programme in the academic year **2012/13**. It will be taught mainly in English by members of the new **Messerli Research Institute** which was founded under the aegis of Vetmeduni Vienna, in cooperation with the Medical University of Vienna and the University of Vienna. Students will receive comprehensive, research-oriented training in many areas of **human-animal interactions**. By providing students with theoretical and methodological expertise in the relevant fields of the humanities and natural sciences and by equipping them with the ability to consider information they acquire, the course will improve interactions and relationships between humans and non-human animals.

### Admission procedure

See details on our website: [www.vetmeduni.ac.at](http://www.vetmeduni.ac.at)

### Structure and Duration of Studies

**Duration:** 4 Semester  
(120 ECTS-points, about 70 semester hours)

**Places:** 20 every winter semester

Conclusion with **Master's Thesis**

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



## Curriculum

The master is composed of the following modules:

### ■ 4 main (compulsory) modules

– altogether 78 ECTS

- Animal behaviour and cognition
- Comparative Medicine
- Animal husbandry and welfare, as well as the legal foundations of human-animal interactions
- Philosophy, philosophy of science and ethics

### ■ 2 elective compulsory modules

– altogether 12 ECTS

- General scientific abilities and soft skills
- Courses to accompany the master thesis

### ■ Master thesis – 30 ECTS

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 philosophy, philosophy of science and ethics
- Advanced courses in animal behavior and cognition; comparative medicine, animal husbandry and animal welfare ethics
- Legal basis of human-animal interactions, animal protection and experimentation laws
- Further, detailed courses to help students acquire specialist knowledge
- Transfer and acquisition of general skills required for academic careers (such as presentation and publication techniques, scientific English, PR skills, acquisition of third-party funding, project management, marketing skills etc.)

## Professional Fields

Graduates will find opportunities in a number of fields:

- Academic (scientific) careers in the life sciences, especially PhD positions
- Managerial positions in institutions related to animal husbandry (zoos, game parks, pet shops, sanctuaries, animal shelters, animal hostels, institutions that house laboratory animals, animal breeding facilities)
- Coaching for animal keepers, both private persons and persons attached to institutes
- Managerial positions in companies offering products or services related to animals
- Positions in authorities, agencies, commissions, counselling centres, animal-related organizations
- Positions in various associations and societies
- Trainers of animal trainers

