

# Postgraduate Certificate

## Non-Conventional Animal-Assisted Intervention





## Postgraduate Certificate Non-Conventional Animal-Assisted Intervention

- » Modality: online
- » Duration: 6 weeks
- » Certificate: TECH Global University
- » Credits: 6 ECTS
- » Schedule: at your own pace
- » Exams: online

Website: [www.techtute.com/us/psychology/postgraduate-certificate/non-conventional-animal-assisted-intervention](http://www.techtute.com/us/psychology/postgraduate-certificate/non-conventional-animal-assisted-intervention)

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# 01

# Introduction

This program offers specialized knowledge of non-conventional animals that regularly participate in Assisted Interventions, characteristics and recommendations in terms of their care, work methodologies with respect to both birds and users, the pathologies for which these animals are suited and the basic parameters that ensure their well-being. All this in a 100% online update program, which will allow students to increase their professional knowledge and grow as psychologists while balancing their studies with the rest of their activities. Thus, professionals will be able to grow and position themselves in the field without leaving aside any aspect of their life.







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*With this intensive training you will be able to offer future perspectives in the field of intervention and animal well-being”*

Animals provide people with an undeniable bond of security and emotional acceptance. At first, Animal-Assisted Interventions were mainly carried out with the participation of dogs and/or horses, and were mostly restricted to helping people with some kind of physical or psychological pathology. However, given the years of development in human-animal relations in different contexts, these interventions have been expanded to new scenarios. The pioneering species in these fields were farm animals, which were initially used as therapeutic aids for people with psychiatric pathologies.

Later, the work of zoo trainers and caretakers gave way to the first approaches using less conventional species in a controlled environment, such as marine mammals living under human care. Such animals regularly interact with people so they have developed skills that can be used in therapeutic environments to treat physical, neurological and psychoemotional pathologies.

The presence of an animal allows psychologists to have an important motivational element in establishing therapeutic alliances and in adhering to the treatment that facilitates communication and achieving objectives, which will in turn solve or improve different physical and psychological problems in multiple demographics, especially in children and the elderly.

Throughout these weeks of training, students will develop transversal competences at a theoretical and practical level, specifically in therapies conducted with different types of patients and in the handling of animals used in AAI. They will have the ability to develop Assisted Therapy methodologies based on specific patient objectives and/or a systematic methodology that guarantees learning.

This **Postgraduate Certificate in Non-Conventional Animal-Assisted Interventions** contains the most complete and up-to-date academic program on the market. The most important features of the program include:

- ♦ Practical cases presented by experts in Animal-Assisted Therapies
- ♦ The graphic, schematic, and eminently practical contents with which they are created, provide scientific and practical information on the disciplines that are essential for professional practice
- ♦ Breakthroughs in Animal-Assisted Therapies
- ♦ Practical exercises where the self-assessment process can be carried out to improve learning
- ♦ Special emphasis on innovative methodologies in Animal-Assisted Therapies
- ♦ Theoretical lessons, questions to the expert, debate forums on controversial topics, and individual reflection assignments
- ♦ Content that is accessible from any fixed or portable device with an Internet connection



*This Postgraduate Certificate is the best investment you can make when choosing a refresher program to expand your existing knowledge of animal well-being during Assisted Intervention sessions”*

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*This 100% online Postgraduate Certificate will allow you to balance your studies with your work while increasing your knowledge in the field”*

The program’s teaching staff includes professionals from the field of psychology, who bring their experience to this training program, as well as renowned specialists from leading communities and prestigious universities.

The multimedia content, developed with the latest educational technology, will provide the professional with situated and contextual learning, i.e., a simulated environment that will provide an immersive training program designed to train in real situations.

This program is designed around Problem-Based Learning, whereby the professional must try to solve the different professional practice situations that arise during the academic program. For this purpose, the professional will be assisted by an innovative, interactive video system created by renowned and experienced experts in Animal-Assisted Therapies.

*This program is the opportunity you were waiting for to take your career to the next level and become a prestigious Psychologist in a booming sector.*

*Psychologists must continue learning to adapt to new developments in the field.*





# 02

# Objectives

After completing this training, professionals will be fully capable of designing and implementing this type of interventions, offering optimal conditions for both the animals and the users participating in the therapy. This will not only increase professional competencies, but will also turn students into first level professionals, helping them understand the importance and the positive results that Animal-Assisted Interventions provide people with different types of problems.







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*You will have at your disposal a complete compendium of materials in multimedia format that will facilitate your learning”*



## General Objectives

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- ◆ Determine which are the unconventional animals in assisted interventions
- ◆ Analyze their basic behavior and biology
- ◆ Develop the most recommended training and work techniques
- ◆ Evaluate the most notable problems for their involvement

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*Leading professionals in the field have come together to teach you the latest advances in training animals for Assisted Interventions”*







## Specific Objectives

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- ♦ Determine the intervention scenarios with unconventional animals
- ♦ Delimit the field of intervention for each species of animal
- ♦ Explore relevant training strategies
- ♦ Evaluate the mechanisms of such interventions
- ♦ Promote awareness of the responsible use of these animals in AAls
- ♦ Educate on the importance of ensuring animal well-being
- ♦ Propose future perspectives in the field of intervention and animal well-being



03

# Course Management

The program includes in its teaching staff experts from different areas related to Animal-Assisted Therapy. Thus, those who decide to take the program will benefit from the professional experience and prestige our professors have in the area of psychology, who will help students better understand how Animal-Assisted Therapies work from a multidisciplinary approach by becoming more familiar with the conditions and characteristics for which these interventions have a higher success rate.





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*A unique specialization meticulously designed by professionals with years of experience in the field”*



## Management



### Mr. Alarcón Rodríguez, Óscar Fabián

- ♦ Veterinary ethologist in charge of consultations within the specialty, and dog selection evaluator for Assisted Interventions Red Cross Canine Center
- ♦ Training and veterinary care for day care dogs Canino Gopet Center
- ♦ Care and management of horses and birds of prey Served as support in animal interventions for people with functional diversities Teanima Association
- ♦ Care, training and handling of birds of prey at Weltvogelpark Zoo
- ♦ Planning and execution of Canine and Equine Assisted Therapies Colombian Center for Neurosensory Stimulation (CECOEN)
- ♦ Master's Degree in Animal-Assisted Intervention and Applied Ethology Autonomous University of Madrid
- ♦ Diploma in Clinical Ethology Center for Veterinary Medical Specialties (CEMV) (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
- ♦ Veterinarian and Zootechnician. San Martín University Foundation (Bogotá, Colombia)
- ♦ TAC Norte Canine-Assisted Intervention Specialty Course Trainings
- ♦ Red Cross Canine Center Courses in canine training and Canine-Assisted Intervention AMKA Dog Day Care Center Courses in Ethology and Canine Training





**Ms. Fernández Puyot, Marisol**

- ♦ Animal-Assisted Therapy Coordinator
- ♦ Therapy Session Coordinator; around 120 monthly therapies with dogs, horses, birds of prey and small mammals
- ♦ Leads a multidisciplinary team of nine made up of psychologists, physiotherapists, animal-assisted therapy technicians, equestrian guides, trainers, stable hands, etc
- ♦ Collaborator and volunteer at the PE&CO Association
- ♦ Founder and creator of the Teanima Association
- ♦ Animal-Assisted Therapy, Complutense University of Madrid
- ♦ Trainee Instructor at Teanima Association for graduates in TAFAD and TECO from different institutes of the Community of Madrid and for graduates in Sociology and Pedagogy from the Complutense University of Madrid

# 04

## Structure and Content

The content structure has been designed by the best professionals in the Animal-Assisted Therapy sector, with extensive experience and recognized prestige in the profession, backed by the volume of cases reviewed, studied, and diagnosed, and with extensive knowledge of new technologies applied to veterinary medicine. This ensures that after completing the program, Psychologists will be fully qualified to work in Animal-Assisted Interventions from a multidisciplinary approach that favors both humans and animals.





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*This Postgraduate Certificate contains the most complete and up-to-date program on the market”*



## Module 1. Non-Conventional Animal-Assisted Interventions

- 1.1. Unconventional Animals
  - 1.1.1. Unconventional Animals
  - 1.1.2. Types of Unconventional Animals
    - 1.1.2.1. Marine Mammals
    - 1.1.2.2. Farm Animals
    - 1.1.2.3. Others
  - 1.1.3. Intervention Contexts and Scope
    - 1.1.3.1. Physical and Neuronal
    - 1.1.3.2. Psychomotor
    - 1.1.3.3. Emotional
    - 1.1.3.4. Cognitive
- 1.2. Unconventional Animals: Marine Mammals
  - 1.2.1. Organization and Ethology
    - 1.2.1.1. Cetaceans (Dolphins)
    - 1.2.1.2. Pinnipeds (Sea Lions and Seals)
  - 1.2.2. Dolphin Therapy (DAT) and Otarian-Assisted Therapy (OAT)
- 1.3. Unconventional Animals: Farm Animals
  - 1.3.1. Organization and Ethology
    - 1.3.1.1. Bovine: Cattle and Sheep
    - 1.3.1.2. Birds: Hens and Poultry
    - 1.3.1.3. Rodents and Rabbits
  - 1.3.2. Farm Schools and Therapeutic Environments
- 1.4. Parameters for Human-Animal Interaction in Non-Conventional Animal-Assisted Interventions
  - 1.4.1. Animal Requirements: Health Status and Zoonosis
  - 1.4.2. Education and Preparation
    - 1.4.2.1. Professionals and Therapists
    - 1.4.2.2. Trainers
    - 1.4.2.3. Users
    - 1.4.2.4. Environment and Tools
  - 1.4.3. Scope and Limitations
- 1.5. Non-Conventional Animal Training for Assisted Interventions
  - 1.5.1. Habitat Considerations vs. Natural Environment
  - 1.5.2. Veterinary Behavior and Therapeutic Uses
  - 1.5.3. Training Techniques
    - 1.5.3.1. Positive Reinforcement (Primary and Secondary Reinforcement)
    - 1.5.3.2. *Timing and Bridging*
    - 1.5.3.3. Least Reinforcing Scenario (LRS)
    - 1.5.3.4. *Time Out*
    - 1.5.3.5. Systematic Desensitization
- 1.6. Theories on the Effectiveness of Non-Conventional Animal-Assisted Interventions
  - 1.6.1. Mechanisms of action
    - 1.6.1.1. Stress Buffering Value
    - 1.6.1.2. Wampold's Contextual Model
  - 1.6.2. Mechanisms of Change in Dolphin Therapy
    - 1.6.2.1. Cavitation Hypothesis
    - 1.6.2.2. Resonance Hypothesis
  - 1.6.3. Positive Healing Bond Hypothesis
- 1.7. Non-Conventional Animal-Assisted Interventions for Physical and Neurological Disabilities
  - 1.7.1. Dolphin Therapy and Otariid-Assisted Therapy (OAT) in People with Brain Damage
  - 1.7.2. Dolphin Therapy and OAT in Children and Adults with Autism Spectrum Diagnosis
  - 1.7.3. Farm Animals in Older Adults Diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease
- 1.8. Non-Conventional Animal-Assisted Interventions in Emotional and Psychological Disturbances
  - 1.8.1. Therapeutic Farm in People Diagnosed with Mental Illness
  - 1.8.2. Impact of Otolaryngeal-Assisted Therapy on Caregiver Overload
  - 1.8.3. Dolphin Therapy in People with Mood and Affect Disorders



- 1.9. Ethical Considerations and Animal Well-Being Indicators
  - 1.9.1. Perspectives in Europe and Spain
  - 1.9.2. Measurement Tools and Parameters
  - 1.9.3. Environmental Enrichment
    - 1.9.3.1. Human-Animal Interaction as an Enrichment Tool
    - 1.9.3.2. Visitor Effect Incidence
- 1.10. Current Status and Future Recommendations in Non-Conventional Animal-Assisted Interventions
  - 1.10.1. The Importance of the Work Done by Keepers and Trainers with Zoo Animals in Assisted Interventions
  - 1.10.2. Work Parameters in Field Practice: Trials and Single Cases
  - 1.10.3. Reflections on the Impact of Interventions on the Well-Being of Unconventional Animals

“*An academic experience that will lay the foundation for your professional growth*”

05

# Methodology

This academic program offers students a different way of learning. Our methodology uses a cyclical learning approach: **Relearning**.

This teaching system is used, for example, in the most prestigious medical schools in the world, and major publications such as the **New England Journal of Medicine** have considered it to be one of the most effective.





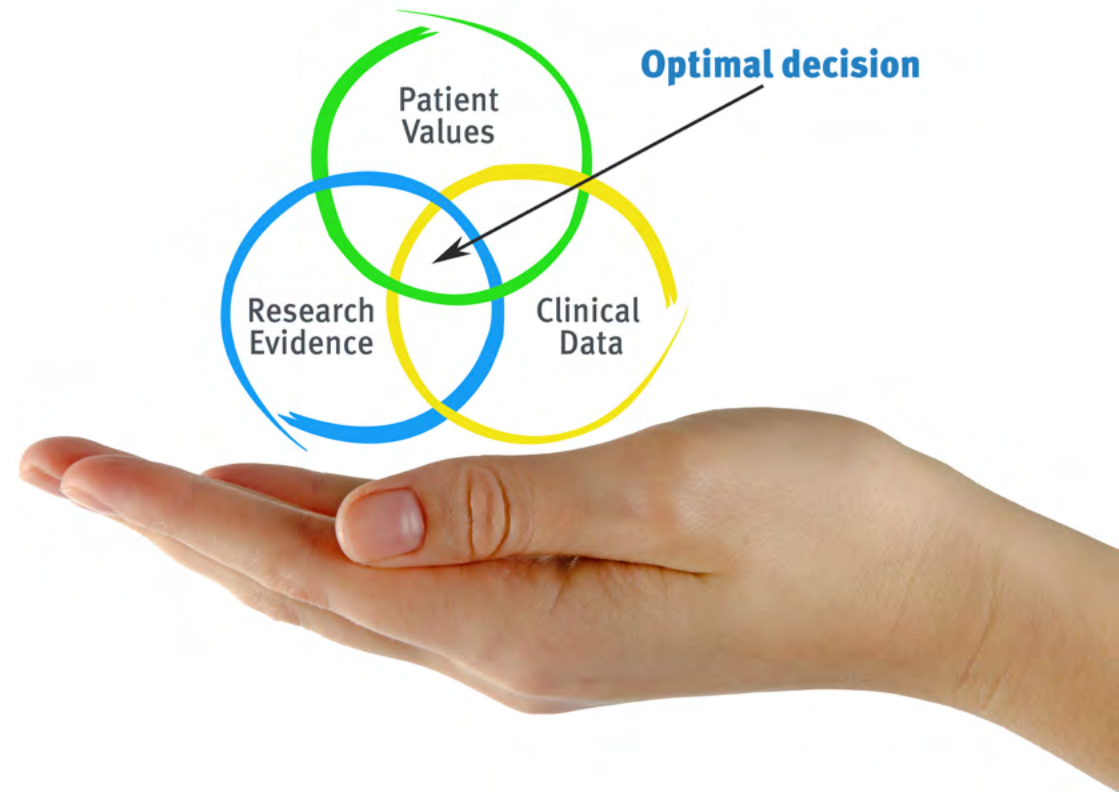
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*Discover Relearning, a system that abandons conventional linear learning, to take you through cyclical teaching systems: a way of learning that has proven to be extremely effective, especially in subjects that require memorization"*

## At TECH we use the Case Method

What should a professional do in a given situation? Throughout the program, students will face multiple simulated clinical cases, based on real patients, in which they will have to do research, establish hypotheses, and ultimately resolve the situation. There is an abundance of scientific evidence on the effectiveness of the method. Specialists learn better, faster, and more sustainably over time.

*With TECH the psychologist experiences a way of learning that is shaking the foundations of traditional universities around the world.*



According to Dr. Gérvas, the clinical case is the annotated presentation of a patient, or group of patients, which becomes a "case", an example or model that illustrates some peculiar clinical component, either because of its teaching power or because of its uniqueness or rarity. It is essential that the case is based on current professional life, trying to recreate the real conditions in the psychologist's professional practice.

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*Did you know that this method was developed in 1912, at Harvard, for law students? The case method consisted of presenting students with real-life, complex situations for them to make decisions and justify their decisions on how to solve them. In 1924, Harvard adopted it as a standard teaching method.*

The effectiveness of the method is justified by four fundamental achievements:

1. Psychologists who follow this method not only master the assimilation of concepts, but also develop their mental capacity by means of exercises to evaluate real situations and apply their knowledge.
2. Learning is solidly translated into practical skills that allow the psychologist to better integrate knowledge into clinical practice.
3. Ideas and concepts are understood more efficiently, given that the example situations are based on real-life.
4. Students like to feel that the effort they put into their studies is worthwhile. This then translates into a greater interest in learning and more time dedicated to working on the course.





## Relearning Methodology

At TECH we enhance the case method with the best 100% online teaching methodology available: Relearning.

Our university is the first in the world to combine the study of clinical cases with a 100% online learning system based on repetition, combining a minimum of 8 different elements in each lesson, which is a real revolution compared to the simple study and analysis of cases.

*The psychologist will learn through real cases and by solving complex situations in simulated learning environments. These simulations are developed using state-of-the-art software to facilitate immersive learning.*



At the forefront of world teaching, the Relearning method has managed to improve the overall satisfaction levels of professionals who complete their studies, with respect to the quality indicators of the best online university (Columbia University).

This methodology has trained more than 150,000 psychologists with unprecedented success in all clinical specialties. Our pedagogical methodology is developed in a highly competitive environment, with a university student body with a strong socioeconomic profile and an average age of 43.5 years old.

*Relearning will allow you to learn with less effort and better performance, involving you more in your training, developing a critical mindset, defending arguments, and contrasting opinions: a direct equation for success.*

In our program, learning is not a linear process, but rather a spiral (learn, unlearn, forget, and re-learn). Therefore, we combine each of these elements concentrically.

The overall score obtained by our learning system is 8.01, according to the highest international standards.



This program offers the best educational material, prepared with professionals in mind:



#### Study Material

All teaching material is produced by the specialists who teach the course, specifically for the course, so that the teaching content is highly specific and precise.

These contents are then applied to the audiovisual format, to create the TECH online working method. All this, with the latest techniques that offer high quality pieces in each and every one of the materials that are made available to the student.



#### Latest Techniques and Procedures on Video

TECH introduces students to the latest techniques, to the latest educational advances, to the forefront of current psychology. All of this in direct contact with students and explained in detail so as to aid their assimilation and understanding. And best of all, you can watch the videos as many times as you like.



#### Interactive Summaries

The TECH team presents the contents attractively and dynamically in multimedia lessons that include audio, videos, images, diagrams, and concept maps in order to reinforce knowledge.

This exclusive educational system for presenting multimedia content was awarded by Microsoft as a "European Success Story".



#### Additional Reading

Recent articles, consensus documents and international guidelines, among others. In TECH's virtual library, students will have access to everything they need to complete their course.







#### Expert-Led Case Studies and Case Analysis

Effective learning ought to be contextual. Therefore, TECH presents real cases in which the expert will guide students, focusing on and solving the different situations: a clear and direct way to achieve the highest degree of understanding.



#### Testing & Retesting

We periodically evaluate and re-evaluate students' knowledge throughout the program, through assessment and self-assessment activities and exercises, so that they can see how they are achieving their goals.



#### Classes

There is scientific evidence suggesting that observing third-party experts can be useful.

Learning from an Expert strengthens knowledge and memory, and generates confidence in future difficult decisions.



#### Quick Action Guides

TECH offers the most relevant contents of the course in the form of worksheets or quick action guides. A synthetic, practical, and effective way to help students progress in their learning.



05

# Certificate

The Postgraduate Certificate in Non-Conventional Animal-Assisted Interventions guarantees students, in addition to the most rigorous and up-to-date education, access to a Postgraduate Certificate issued by TECH Global University.





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*Successfully complete this program and receive your university qualification without having to travel or fill out laborious paperwork”*



This program will allow you to obtain your **Postgraduate Certificate in Non-Conventional Animal-Assisted Interventions** endorsed by **TECH Global University**, the world's largest online university.

**TECH Global University** is an official European University publicly recognized by the Government of Andorra ([official bulletin](#)). Andorra is part of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) since 2003. The EHEA is an initiative promoted by the European Union that aims to organize the international training framework and harmonize the higher education systems of the member countries of this space. The project promotes common values, the implementation of collaborative tools and strengthening its quality assurance mechanisms to enhance collaboration and mobility among students, researchers and academics.

This **TECH Global University** title is a European program of continuing education and professional updating that guarantees the acquisition of competencies in its area of knowledge, providing a high curricular value to the student who completes the program.

Title: **Postgraduate Certificate in Non-Conventional Animal-Assisted Interventions**

Modality: **online**

Duration: **6 weeks**

Accreditation: **6 ECTS**



\*Apostille Convention. In the event that the student wishes to have their paper diploma issued with an apostille, TECH Global University will make the necessary arrangements to obtain it, at an additional cost.



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