

# Postgraduate Certificate Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies





## Postgraduate Certificate Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies

- » Modality: online
- » Duration: 12 weeks
- » Certificate: TECH Global University
- » Credits: 12 ECTS
- » Schedule: at your own pace
- » Exams: online

Website: [www.techtute.com/us/psychology/postgraduate-certificate/psychology-learning-animal-assisted-therapies](http://www.techtute.com/us/psychology/postgraduate-certificate/psychology-learning-animal-assisted-therapies)

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# 01

# Introduction

In Animal-Assisted Therapies, learning takes center stage to facilitate adaptation processes demanded by the environment in which organisms gradually develop during their life cycle, and which provides them with the tools to build relationships with every surrounding element (objects, animals, people, etc.), as well as to understand how to act in different situations and scenarios. Students will develop transversal competences at a theoretical and practical level, specifically in the therapy conducted with different types of patients and in the handling of the most common animals used in AAI.





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*This program contains the most complete and up-to-date program on the market. Don't miss the opportunity to train with the best contents and most prestigious professors in the sector”*

Learning goes beyond memorizing data or concepts; it means to stop having certain events present in order to incorporate others, that is, to constantly rewrite the information in order to update it. Therefore, there are many variables involved in learning: physiological, physical, neurological, emotional, motivational characteristics, as well as circumstantial aspects that may be mediated by the context.

The intrinsic enigmas in human and animal behavior have been better demonstrated with the comparative experiments using animal models that were conducted by Pavlov and Skinner, which proved significantly relevant to the study of the principles of learning and behavior.

This will also allow students to analyze the theoretical background of learning, the types and mechanisms that enable it, the programs that contribute to its development and updating, as well as its relationship with other processes. Likewise, the program addresses the fundamental differences between Animal-Assisted Interventions (AAI) or Animal Assisted-Therapies (AAT) as opposed to Animal-Assisted Activities (AAA) in professional practice.

Delve into the current legislation regarding AAI. Animal protection is becoming more and more prominent in countries around the world, and the legal framework lays the foundations for respect in human / animal relationships.

With this high-level specialization, students will learn how to develop Assisted Therapy methodologies based on specific patient objectives or a systematic methodology that guarantees learning.

This **Postgraduate Certificate in Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies** contains the most complete and up-to-date scientific 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



*Your goals are our goals.  
If you grow, so do we"*

“

*This Postgraduate Certificate is the best investment you can make when choosing a refresher program to expand your existing knowledge of Animal-Assisted Therapies from the point of view of occupational therapy”*

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 extensively experienced experts in Animal-Assisted Therapies.

*A premium academic opportunity designed to train the best psychologists in the field.*

*You will only need twelve weeks of intensive study to gain a profound understanding of Animal-Assisted Intervention.*



# 02

# Objectives

The main objective of this academic program is to help psychologists understand the importance and the positive results that Animal-Assisted Interventions provide to people with various types of problems. Thus, 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 their professional skills, but will also turn them into first level practitioners.







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*Invest in knowledge and differentiate yourself from the competition by taking this complete academic program”*



## General Objectives

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- Analyze the holistic change people undergo through Animal-Assisted Therapies (AAT)
- Determine the need for a multidisciplinary team in Animal-Assisted Interventions (AAI)
- Develop the legal framework to create an AAI entity
- Develop learning processes
- Examine the theoretical and practical bases of learning
- Review the main mechanisms involved in a change in learning
- Present the current status and future outlook of learning studies

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*A premium academic opportunity designed to train the best psychologists in the field”*





## Specific Objectives

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- ♦ Determine the differences between AAI, AAA, and PAR
- ♦ Analyze the past of Animal-Assisted Therapies to develop future research
- ♦ Establish animal-assisted coaching and psychotherapy as an important part of Animal-Assisted Therapies
- ♦ Examine relevant legislation to establish an AAI entity
- ♦ Learn how to prevent and respond to accidents
- ♦ Develop the main paradigms in learning processes
- ♦ Determine behavior as the main axis of learning
- ♦ Analyze the concepts of reinforcement and punishment
- ♦ Examine the main reinforcement programs
- ♦ Understand the importance of forgetting as a learning process
- ♦ Explore the neurobiological basis of learning
- ♦ Distinguish the importance of cognition in the learning process

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.



“

*A prestigious teaching staff will be in charge of bringing you the latest developments 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

## Professors

### Mr. Castellanos Jiménez, Jevrahym

- ♦ Pet specialist at Tiendanimal (Madrid, Spain)
- ♦ Pet caregiver and trainer at Salvatierra Veterinary Clinic (Madrid, Spain)
- ♦ Assistant trainer of marine mammals at Oceanogràfic (Valencia, Spain)
- ♦ Psychologist and internal internship supervisor at Clínica Universitaria Colombia, Colsanitas S.A., Grupo Sanitas Internacional (Bogotá, Colombia)
- ♦ Master's Degree in Applied Ethology and Animal-Assisted Interventions, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- ♦ Master's Degree in Zoology, Complutense University of Madrid
- ♦ Degree in Psychology, Catholic University, Colombia
- ♦ Teacher in Companion Species module, On-line Diploma in Animal Behavior and Welfare, Unisalle (Bogotá, Colombia)
- ♦ Teacher and tutor of Psychology practices at Clínica Universitaria Colombia, Grupo Sanitas Internacional (Bogotá, Colombia)
- ♦ Teacher in bioethics and mental health at Fundación Olga Forero de Olaya (Bogotá, Colombia)

# 04

## Structure and Content

The compendium of contents designed by TECH will be students' main weapon to understand the fundamentals of Animal-Assisted Therapeutic Intervention from a psychology point of view. Thus, an in-depth historical review will allow students to learn the most relevant research that proves the efficacy of these therapies, their potential benefits and the areas where they have the greatest impact.







“

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

## Module 1. Animal-Assisted Therapies

- 1.1. Animal-Assisted Therapies
  - 1.1.1. Animal-Assisted Interventions (AAI), Animal-Assisted Therapies (AAT), Animal-Assisted Education (AAE), Animal-Resident Program (ARP)
  - 1.1.2. Animal-Assisted Activity (AAA)
  - 1.1.3. User Terminology
  - 1.1.4. Co-Therapist Animals
  - 1.1.5. Research
- 1.2. Multidisciplinary team
  - 1.2.1. Occupational Therapists
  - 1.2.2. Psychologist
  - 1.2.3. Pedagogue
  - 1.2.4. Physiotherapist
  - 1.2.5. Technical Trainer, Equestrian Guide
- 1.3. History of Animal-Assisted Interventions
  - 1.3.1. Chronology
  - 1.3.2. Using AAT
  - 1.3.3. Future Prospects
- 1.4. Animal-Assisted Coaching
  - 1.4.1. Differences between Coaching and Psychotherapy
  - 1.4.2. Animals for Coaching
  - 1.4.3. Equine-Assisted Coaching Objectives
  - 1.4.4. Avian-Assisted Coaching Objectives
- 1.5. Legislation
  - 1.5.1. The Need for Regulation in AAT
  - 1.5.2. The Need for Certified Training
  - 1.5.3. Legislation in Europe
  - 1.5.4. Legislation in American





- 1.6. Creating an AAI Entity
  - 1.6.1. Legal Form
  - 1.6.2. Recruiting Multidisciplinary Teams and Customers
  - 1.6.3. Customer Loyalty
  - 1.6.4. Facilities and Head Office
- 1.7. Volunteer and Internship Programs
  - 1.7.1. Volunteer Contracts / Agreements with Universities
  - 1.7.2. Volunteer Loyalty
  - 1.7.3. Training
  - 1.7.4. Insurance
- 1.8. Occupational Hazard Prevention
  - 1.8.1. Work Clothes
  - 1.8.2. Information Signs
  - 1.8.3. Covid Protocol
  - 1.8.4. Fire Extinguishers
  - 1.8.5. First Aid
- 1.9. Licenses and Permits
  - 1.9.1. Livestock Farming Registry (REGA in Spanish), Zoological Nucleus
  - 1.9.2. Data Protection Law
  - 1.9.3. Socio-Health Licenses
  - 1.9.4. Federal Licenses
- 1.10. Animal-Assisted Therapy Regulations
  - 1.10.1. Civil and Criminal Liability
  - 1.10.2. Animal Abuse
  - 1.10.3. Animal Well-being during Transport
  - 1.10.4. Veterinary Inspection
  - 1.10.5. Carcass Processing

## Module 2. Psychology of Learning

- 2.1. Psychology of Learning
  - 2.1.1. Historical Background: From the Study of the Mind to Reflexes
  - 2.1.2. What Makes Us Intelligent? The Importance of Comparative Studies between Animals and Humans
    - 2.1.2.1. Animal Models: Types and Reasons for Use
    - 2.1.2.2. Assessment and Measurement Paradigms
  - 2.1.3. Learning and Cognition: Commonalities and Distinctions
- 2.2. Behavior as a Learning Axis
  - 2.2.1. The Nature of Reflexes
  - 2.2.2. Habituation vs. Sensitization
    - 2.2.2.1. Dual Process Theory
  - 2.2.3. Emotions: Dual Process Theory
- 2.3. Classical Conditioning: The Study of Learning
  - 2.3.1. Pavlov and His Contributions
    - 2.3.1.1. Excitatory Conditioning
    - 2.3.1.2. Inhibitory Conditioning
  - 2.3.2. Mechanisms of action
    - 2.3.2.1. Intensity, Salience, Relevance, and Pertinence
    - 2.3.2.2. Biological Forcing Theory
    - 2.3.2.3. Stimulus Substitution Model
    - 2.3.2.4. Blocking Effect
    - 2.3.2.5. Rescorla and Wagner: Model and Application
- 2.4. Operant Conditioning: The Instrumentalization of Behavior
  - 2.4.1. Instrumental Procedure
    - 2.4.1.1. Reinforcement
    - 2.4.1.2. Punishment
    - 2.4.1.3. Stimulus and Response
    - 2.4.1.4. Contingency
  - 2.4.2. Motivational Mechanisms
    - 2.4.2.1. Association and Law of Effect
    - 2.4.2.2. Reward and Expectations
    - 2.4.2.3. Behavioral Regulation
  - 2.4.3. Skinner's Contributions to Learning and Behavioral Studies
- 2.5. The Relevance of Stimuli
  - 2.5.1. Discrimination and Differential Response
  - 2.5.2. Generalization and Gradients
  - 2.5.3. Stimulus Control
    - 2.5.3.1. Sensory Capacity and Stimulus Orientation
    - 2.5.3.2. Stimulus Equivalence
    - 2.5.3.3. Context Cues and Conditional Relationships
- 2.6. Respiratory Muscles in Operant Conditioning
  - 2.6.1. Reward Training
    - 2.6.1.1. Simple
      - 2.6.1.1.1. Fixed Ratio
      - 2.6.1.1.2. Variable Ratio
      - 2.6.1.1.3. Fixed Interval
      - 2.6.1.1.4. Variable Interval
    - 2.6.1.2. Complex
    - 2.6.1.3. Concurrent
  - 2.6.2. Punishment Training
  - 2.6.3. Escape and Avoidance Training
  - 2.6.4. Omission (Punishment) Training

- 2.7. Learning to Unlearn: Extinction
  - 2.7.1. Effects of Extinction Procedures
    - 2.7.1.1. Spontaneous Recovery
    - 2.7.1.2. Renovation
    - 2.7.1.3. Restoration and Reinstallation
  - 2.7.2. Inhibitory Associations and Paradoxical Effects
  - 2.7.3. Impact of Partial Reinforcement
  - 2.7.4. Resistance to Change
- 2.8. The Role of Cognition in Learning
  - 2.8.1. Memory Paradigms and Mechanisms
    - 2.8.1.1. Working Memory
    - 2.8.1.2. Reference Memory
    - 2.8.1.3. Spatial Memory
    - 2.8.1.4. Acquisition and Encoding
    - 2.8.1.5. Retention and Retrieval
  - 2.8.2. Forgetfulness
    - 2.8.2.1. Proactive Interference
    - 2.8.2.2. Retroactive Interference
    - 2.8.2.3. Retrograde Amnesia
  - 2.8.3. Cognition Learning Categorization
- 2.9. Neuroscience Foundations in Learning
  - 2.9.1. Sensitive Periods
  - 2.9.2. The Brain and the Areas Responsible for Learning
  - 2.9.3. The Role of Executive Functions
    - 2.9.3.1. Inhibitory Control
    - 2.9.3.2. Working Memory
  - 2.9.4. Neuronal Plasticity and Cognitive Flexibility
  - 2.9.5. The Role of Emotions
- 2.10. Current State of Research on Learning and Future Perspectives
  - 2.10.1. The Impact of Learning on the Development of Psychological and Behavioral Problems in Humans and Animals
  - 2.10.2. Paradigms of Learning and Behavior vs. Medical and Pharmacological Models
  - 2.10.3. The Study of Learning and Its Applications in Therapeutic and Care Settings



*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.



“

*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

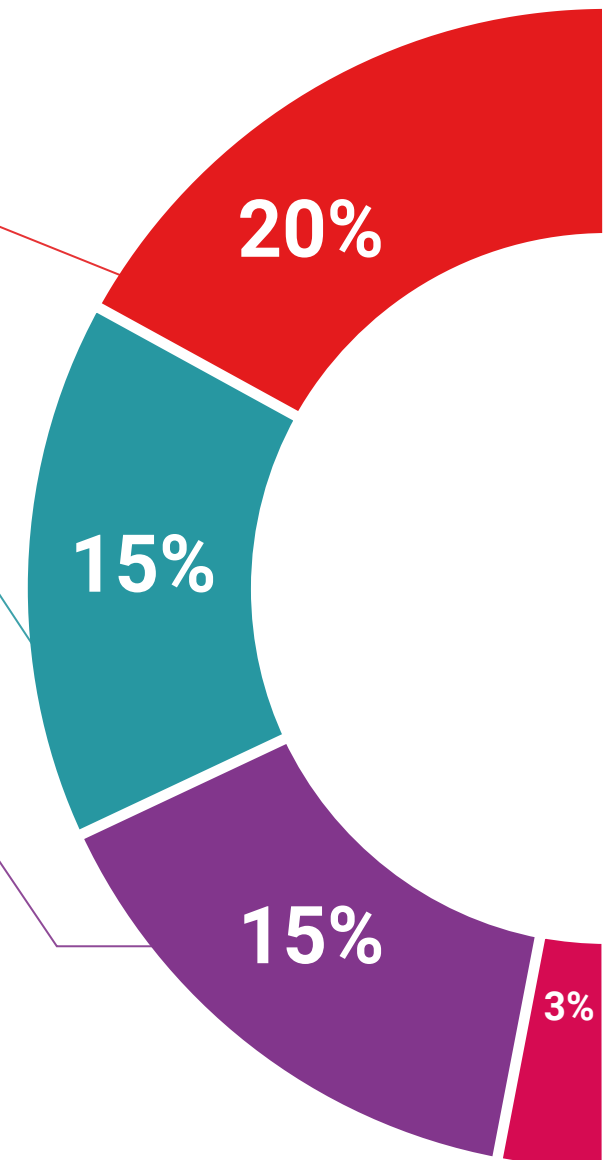
The TECH team presents the contents attractively and dynamically in multimedia lessons that include audio, videos, images, diagrams, and concept maps in order to reinforce knowledge.

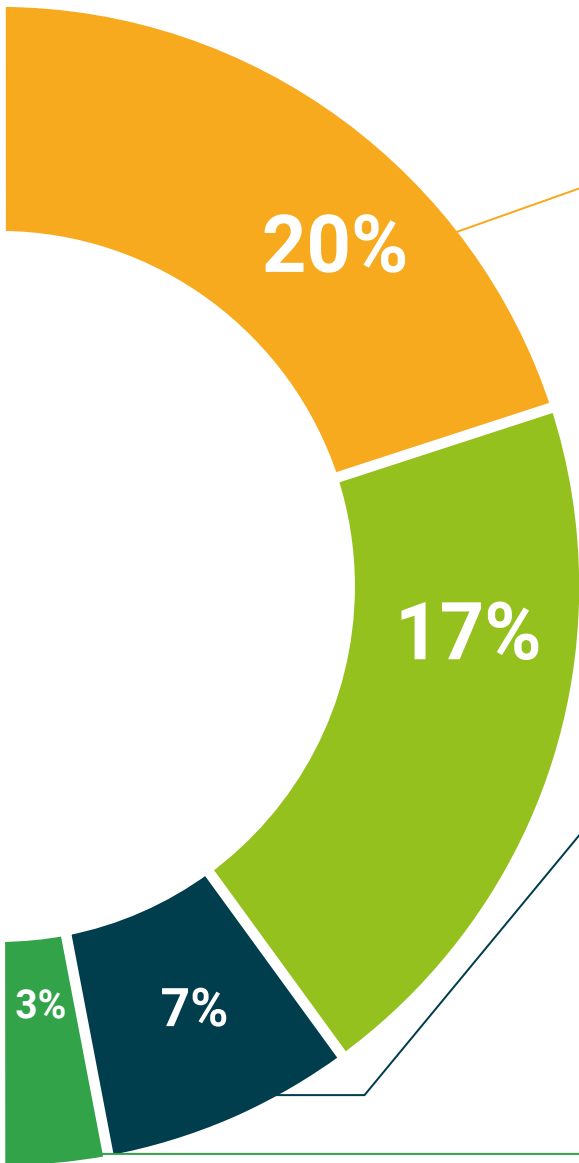
This exclusive educational system for presenting multimedia content was awarded by Microsoft as a "European Success Story".



#### 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.



06

# Certificate

The Postgraduate Certificate in Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies guarantees students, in addition to the most rigorous and up-to-date education, access to a Postgraduate Certificate issued by TECH Global University.





*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 Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies** 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 Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies**

Modality: **online**

Duration: **12 weeks**

Accreditation: **12 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.



future

health confidence people

education information tutors

guarantee accreditation teaching

institutions technology learning

community commitment

personalized service innovation

knowledge present

online training

development languages

virtual classroom

**tech** global  
university

## Postgraduate Certificate Psychology of Learning in Animal-Assisted Therapies

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