



ZOOPSYCHOLOGY

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| Credit points | 3 CP | | |
| Study course annotation | The given course provides knowledge about the psychic form of reflection, about origin and evolution of psychic reflection. This course provides an insight into the levels of the animal psyche, into the similarities and differences between animal and human psyche. The relationship between the level of psychic development and the level of movement, as a condition of adaptation in changing circumstances, is emphasized. The essence of instinctive behavior is explained, and the possibility to change the behavior in the way of learning, is shown. Issues related to animal's communication, rational behavior, ontogenesis and biosociality are addressed. | | |
| Aim of the study course | To form an adequate understanding of the regularities of the animal psyche and the causes of animal behavior. | | |
| Objectives of the course | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explain the differences of animal and human levels of psychic reflection. • To familiarize with a range of directions in behaviour research. • Provide insight into the types and causes of animal behavior. • Explain the mechanism of impact of learning on instinctive behavior. • To develop observation skills and competence of critical analysis. | | |
| Study course results | Knowledge | Skills | Competences |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of the origins and evolution of the animal psychic levels, and animal psychology research methods. Knowledge about • the structure of instinctive behavior. • Notion of the animal language. Understanding of animal ontogenesis, biocommunity, and family types. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take the animal's behavior observation as planned. Provide interpretation of observed behavior. Obtain the necessary scientific information. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to perform animal behavior analysis in a structured environment, to distinguish the observed behavior of the animal from learning. • Ability to find the similarity between animal and human behavior, learning and communication; • ability to identify the biological basis of human behavior and communication. |
| Study course content | Topics | | |
| | 1 | Forms of psychic reflection, sensory, perceptual, intellectual and conscious psyche. | |
| | 2 | Origin and level of human psyche, comparison with animal psyche. | |
| | 3 | Animal behavioral patterns according to basic biological needs. | |
| | 4 | Structure of the act of instinctive behavior. Mechanism of motivation. | |
| | 5 | Types and types of animal learning, the importance of operand learning. | |
| | 6 | Intra-species and inter-species communication, animal and human languages. | |
| | 7 | Development of animal psychological activity in ontogenesis, age periodization. | |
| | 8 | Rational behavior, probabilistic forecasting capabilities, generalization operations. | |
| 9 | Biosociality - open and closed societies, features and structure of real societies, animal family types. | | |
| Form of assessment: | Exam | | |
| Obligatory literature: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wyatt, Tristram. (2017). Animal Behaviour: A Very Short Introduction. Oxford University Press. 2. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/309529808_Animal_Behaviour_A_Very_Short_Introduction | | |



3. Zorenko T.A. Dzīvnieku uzvedība: etoloģijas, zoopsiholoģijas un salīdzinošās psiholoģijas pamati. - Rīga: "Strig", 2001.*
4. Gray, Peter. Psychology / Peter Gray. – 5 th ed. – Worth publishers, 2007. – 654 p. (Chapter 6 Mechanisms of Motivation and Emotion).*
5. Motivation. Theory, Research, and Applications. / Herbert L. Petri, John M. Govern. -5th ed. – Thomson, Wadsworth. (Chapter 6 Learned Motives: Classical, Instrumental, and Observational Learning pp.155-191).*

Further reading list:

1. Lorenc K. (2009) Agressiya. «Rimis»
2. Lorenc K. (2011). Kol'co carya Solomona. «Rimis»
3. Prajor K. (2016). Ne rychite na sobaku! Kniga o dressirovke lyudej, zhivotnyh i samogosebya! M.: Eksmo.
4. Sotskaya, M. N. (2016). Zoopsihologiya i sravnitel'naya psihologiya v 2 ch. CHast' 2 :uchebnik i praktikum dlya akademicheskogo bakalavriata. M. : Izdatel'stvo YUrajt.

Other sources of information (electronic journals):

1. Animal Behaviour
2. Applied Animal behaviour Science
3. Journal of Experimental Psychology: Animal Learning and Cognition

Changes and additions to the program and literature list are possible during the study process