



Course Title: **Animal Training: Understanding and Managing Animal Behaviour**

Tutors: Dr. Kirstin Andersson Hansen, Marine Biological Research Centre, The University of Southern Denmark; Advisor, EAZA Animal Training Working Group
Annette Pedersen, Animal Training Coordinator, Copenhagen Zoo; Chair, EAZA Animal Training Working Group

Aimed at: Keepers, Curators and Veterinarians. No previous animal training experience necessary.

Language taught in: English

Taught hours: 28 (4 days)

Extra hours for study etc.: See the note below relating to possible additional reading

Cost: EAZA members: €360 Non-members: €450

Minimum group size: 10

Dates: 22-25 October 2019

Delivery Method: Face to face

Location(s): Attica Park Zoo, Athens, Greece

Links to other courses: Complements Re-Evaluating Animal Training Course. Covers material linked to EPZQF topic 2.7 Animal Training

Course Aim(s):

This course provides zoo and aquarium staff with a background in animal behavior and animal training science and methodology, as well as a comprehensive understanding of the skills necessary to train animals. It includes an overview of training techniques and terminology. Participants will have the opportunity to develop their training skills via hands-on practical work, animal demonstrations, group activities and individual development opportunities.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course you will:

1. Have investigated animal behaviour and animal training theory, terminology and methodology
2. Explored how animal behaviour and training knowledge can be applied to daily handling, husbandry, behaviour management, public education and problem-solving with focus on exotic animals in zoological and aquarium settings
3. Be able to create appropriate training plans that take into account the safety of animals and trainers

Content:

- Relationship between animal training and animal welfare
- Understanding animal's natural behaviour and individual histories
- Learning theory and concepts
- Understanding motivation and communication
- Husbandry and management training
- Reinforcement strategies
- Shaping
- Training with social groups or groups of animals
- How to create a Training Plan and record keeping
- Problem solving
- Understanding animal aggression
- Animal and keeper safety

Assessment:

There may be a short quiz to check understanding if it can be accommodated within the schedule.

Additional information:

It is recommended, but not required, that participants read 'Don't Shoot the Dog' by Karen Pryor before attending the course.

Full book details: Pryor, K. (2002) *Don't Shoot the Dog!: The New Art of Teaching and Training*. Gloucestershire, Ringpress Books Ltd. ISBN I 86054 232 7

How to apply:

Contact EAZA Academy Manager Laura Myers (laura.myers@eaza.net) for instruction on how to apply for the course, putting the course title in the subject line.