

TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR BEHAVIOR-ANALYTIC ANIMAL TRAINERS

30 ECTS | HYBRID PROGRAMME |
FINLAND & ONLINE | 2027-2028

The only international behaviour-analytic animal trainer programme in the Nordic countries

Develop advanced expertise in evidence-based animal training and behaviour analysis. This programme combines scientific knowledge, practical animal training, professional supervision, and multidisciplinary collaboration to support professionals working with animals and the people who care for them.



Who is this programme for?

The programme is designed for professionals working with animals, including:

- Animal trainers and behaviour consultants
- Veterinary professionals
- Zoo and wildlife professionals
- Working dog trainers and handlers
- Service and assistance dog professionals
- Animal-assisted intervention professionals
- Educators and instructors in animal-related fields

Why join the programme?

- Learn to apply evidence-based training methods across species and professional settings
- Strengthen your expertise in behaviour analysis and animal welfare
- Develop practical skills in animal training and client guidance
- Learn to interpret and apply scientific research in professional practice
- Build ethical and professional competence for multidisciplinary work
- Gain competencies recognised within the Nordic behaviour analysis community



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ 30 ECTS credits
- ✓ Hybrid learning format
- ✓ International student cohort
- ✓ Practical animal training
- ✓ Supervision and thesis project
- ✓ Evidence-based curriculum



STUDY LOCATIONS

Tampere, Finland:

Most part of the contact teaching takes place in Tampere, one of Finland's most attractive and dynamic cities, known for its combination of innovation, nature, culture, and high quality of life.

Korkeasaari Zoo, Helsinki

The practical training period takes place at Korkeasaari Zoo, one of the world's oldest zoos and a leading centre for wildlife conservation, education, and animal welfare.

Online teaching:

16/ 30 days online, live Zoom sessions.



Photo: Visit Tampere

SCHEDULE

Period	Date	Days	Hours	Mode of teaching
2027				
1. Period	Feb 8–11 (Mon–Thu)	4	32	Contact teaching in Tampere, Finland
2. Period	Mar 8–9 (Mon–Tue)	2	16	Online teaching on Zoom
3. Period	Apr 5–6 (Mon–Tue)	2	16	Online teaching on Zoom
4. Period	May 10–11 (Mon–Tue)	2	16	Online teaching on Zoom
5. Period	Aug 9–12 (Mon–Thu)	4	32	Contact teaching in form of practical animal training (Helsinki, Finland)
6. Period	Sep 6–7 (Mon–Tue)	2	16	Online teaching on Zoom
7. Period	Oct 11–12 (Mon–Tue)	2	16	Online teaching on Zoom
8. Period	Nov 8–9 (Mon–Tue)	2	16	Online teaching on Zoom
2028				
9. Period	Jan 10–12 (Mon–Wed)	3	24	Contact teaching in Tampere, Finland
10. Period	Feb 14–15 (Mon–Tue)	2	16	Online teaching on Zoom
11. Period	Mar 13–14 (Mon–Tue)	2	16	Online teaching on Zoom
12. Period	Apr 10–12 (Mon–Wed)	3	24	Contact teaching in Tampere, Finland
In total		30 days	240 hours	

TEACHERS

Jirka Vierimaa

M.Soc.Sc., Expert in Behaviour Analysis, Doctoral Researcher, Professional Animal Trainer
In this programme, Jirka works as Programme Director.

Laura Bernard Moon

M.Ed., Board Certified Behaviour Analyst
Laura Bernard Moon is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) from the United States

Martti T. Tuomisto

PhD, BCBA-D, Professor emeritus in clinical psychology and psychotherapy instruction

Anna Rimppi

M.Sc.(Econ & Bus. Adm.), Expert in Behavior Analysis, Specialist vocational qualification in Animal Care (animal training),

Jari Parkkisenniemi

M.Sc. in Computing, Expert in Behaviour Analysis, OBM Specialist

Organised by Tampere Summer University

Tampere Summer University is a publicly supervised non-profit adult education institution providing open university studies and continuing professional education throughout the year. The university serves thousands of learners annually and is committed to high-quality lifelong learning opportunities.

tampereenkesayliopisto.fi

HOW TO APPLY

Applications now open

For programme details, schedule, fees, and application information:
[Training Programme for Behaviour-Analytic Animal Trainers](#)

Questions?

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