HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED...

What drives animal behavior?
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Unlock the mysteries of animal behavior

Most of us have wondered how or why humans and animals behave in the mysterious ways that they do. As an animal behavior student, you will have exciting course options and hands-on research and internship opportunities that will help you to find some of the answers.

Join our impressive team of researchers and students

As an animal behavior student, you will meet and have the opportunity to work with some of the most influential scientists in the fields of animal behavior, anthropology, biology, ecology, neuroscience, and psychology. As your instructors and mentors, they will guide you as you explore your own career options in these fields.

Make a difference in the world

Animal behaviorists have an important role in solving the most pressing issues of our time. Wildlife conservation, protection of endangered species, and advocacy for environmentally and ecologically beneficial practices are becoming more important every day. The coursework and training you will receive as an animal behavior major lays a firm foundation for the next steps in your preparation to find solutions to the pressing issues we face.
“In Animal Behavior (BIOL-Z460), I combined the research skills and knowledge I acquired through the animal behavior curriculum to create a research poster about the smooth Dogfish Shark. I presented this poster to my fellow classmates, graduate students, and professors. This was a boatload of fun as well as a great public speaking experience since I want to work in animal care with a focus in guest education.” – Erin Willkie

“The Animal Behavior Workshop (ABEH 200/400) provided an introduction to the field of animal behavior and brought in various professionals working in associated fields. This was a great chance to learn about the many career options available to Animal Behavior majors.” – Brigit Rooney

“I am currently in Uganda working for the Semliki Chimpanzee Project. The Evolution of Primate Social Behavior (ANTH-B368) course is helping me to understand the social structure and behaviors of the primates in Africa, while Ethology is helping me to better understand the behaviors of some of the other local creatures such as the bees and ants.” – Ashton Asbury
Our program will give you critical knowledge and skills.

Animal behaviorists work in a variety of fields
- Teaching, outreach, and public education
- Research and development in academic institutions and the life sciences industry
- Zoos and museums
- Conservation groups and wildlife centers
- Veterinary care

As an animal behaviorist, you will:
- Understand the nature of animal behavior
- Determine evolutionary and physiological factors that drive animal behavior
- Investigate the environmental and ecological processes that affect behavior

Explore your career options
- Animal behavior majors have opportunities to connect with professional animal behaviorists and gain valuable experience. Read more about our internship program on page 9.
“Working at the Bifengxia Research and Breeding Center for Panda Bears was the highlight of my life. I used my proficiency in Chinese and knowledge of animal behavior to work with their veterinarians and care team. The program gave me the confidence to apply for other positions. I am currently interning at the Primate House in Lincoln Park Zoo and will soon apply to veterinary school.” – Sienna Gonzalez

“As an animal behavior major I studied population movements of the great white shark as a research assistant in South Africa. The goal of the research was to aid in the placement of Marine Protected Areas. I enjoyed doing hands on field research, and am now pursuing a Master’s in Marine Biology in Fort Lauderdale, Florida where I will research more effective and accurate ways of tracking sharks.” – Thomas Kelly

“Around the state (and world!) I have made connections in animal networks, from an internship at a wildlife rehabilitation center, to part time work with dog trainers. I recently spent a semester in New Zealand, where I helped local marine ecologists sample tidal populations in post-earthquake environments. I wouldn’t have been there if it weren’t for CISAB!” – Eden Long
Our degree requirements are interdisciplinary and allow each student to tailor the curriculum to their specific interests and career goals.

Students will build their curriculum from the following components:

- General education requirements
- Introductory science courses
- Core animal behavior courses
- Formal lab courses
- Supervised research and/or internship experience
- Advanced coursework from three separate perspectives in animal behavior:
  - Evolution and ecology
  - Mechanisms of behavior
  - Environmental, developmental, and cognitive approaches to behavior

Learn more about course requirements on our website:

go.iu.edu/animalbehaviorbs
A minor in animal behavior might be right for you if you would like an introduction to the study of behavior in combination with a different major.

Students who minor in animal behavior often major in anthropology, biology, neuroscience, or other fields in the life sciences. The animal behavior minor provides an introduction to the study of behavior from multiple levels of analysis, including physiological, cognitive and developmental, and evolutionary approaches.

Students will build their curriculum from the following components:

- Introductory science courses
- Core animal behavior courses
- Advanced coursework from three separate perspectives in animal behavior:
  - Evolution and ecology
  - Mechanisms of behavior
  - Environmental, developmental, and cognitive approaches to behavior

Learn more about course requirements on our website:

go.iu.edu/animalbehaviorminor
In addition to the coursework required for the minor, students in the certificate program enroll in advanced courses and get hands-on experience in the form of an internship or supervised research in a faculty lab.

Students who pursue a Certificate in Animal Behavior often major in anthropology, biology, neuroscience, or other fields in the life sciences.

Students will build their curriculum from the following components:

- Introductory science courses
- Core animal behavior courses
- Advanced coursework from three separate perspectives in animal behavior:
  - Evolution and ecology
  - Mechanisms of behavior
  - Environmental, developmental, and cognitive approaches to behavior
- Advanced elective courses
- Internship or independent research

Learn more about course requirements on our website:

go.iu.edu/animalbehaviorcertificate
As an animal behavior major, you can receive course credit for working with an organization of your choice.

Past students have had instructive and rewarding internship experiences working with animal behaviorists both in the U.S. and internationally.

Check out our complete list of internship sites:

[go.iu.edu/animalbehaviorinternships]
READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP?

INCOMING FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

If you are in University Division, talk to your assigned advisor.

If you are in the College of Arts and Sciences, make an appointment with one of the Animal Behavior advisors: AbehAdv@iu.edu

CURRENT IU STUDENTS

Contact our Animal Behavior advisors to discuss your transition to the program: AbehAdv@iu.edu
Visit our website:
animalbehavior.indiana.edu

Give us a call:
812-855-9663

Stop by:
409 N. Park Avenue
Bloomington, IN 47408

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