

# practical in zoo biology

## BIO355

Students will work independently on a weeklong project at Zoo Zürich, applying aspects learned and discussed in BIO354 (Zoo Biology). For example, students will gain experience documenting and analysing behaviour of zoo animals, how to apply concepts that allow for environmental and behavioural enrichment, or animal welfare in a Zoo.

One-week course, 2 ETCS

3 – 7 June 2024

max. 10 participants

At the end of the Module, students will possess some of the following competences:

- how to plan, carry out, and critically discuss a scientific project
- how to review and critically discuss relevant literature
- how to present a project and its results to a larger audience

### Requirements

- BIO144 Data Analysis in Biology
- BIO122 Behavioural Biology
- BIO354 Zoo Biology

Registration: email [ursina.tobler@ieu.uzh.ch](mailto:ursina.tobler@ieu.uzh.ch)



## Schedule

Day	Topic
1	Meeting point: Entrance to «Betriebsgebäude» Klosterweg 60 9h00: Welcome & orientation in room EG23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Receive project topic (randomly assigned) &amp; meet supervisor</li><li>- Discuss topic and literature baseline with supervisor</li></ul> Rest of the day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Literature review, hypothesis formation, draft data collection protocol, prep materials require for data technology</li><li>- Begin data collection</li></ul>
2	Project work: review with supervisor data collection protocol, begin data collection to adapt protocol as needed
3	Project work: data collection, literature compilation, begin data analysis
4	Project work: continue data collection, data analysis, presentation prep
5	13h00-16h30: Final presentations of 20-min per group

## Potential Topics

- Sleep laterality in elephants
- Nest box & courtship behaviors of hyacinth macaws
- Social and dominance interactions of hoofed mammals in mixed-species enclosure
- Positive/negative social interactions and space use of pileated gibbons
- Aposematic coloration variation in free-ranging tomato frogs
- Aldabra giant tortoise thermoregulation and space-use

## What to bring

- Laptop with UZH VPN & R installed.
- A passport-sized photo for weeklong zoo pass.
- Sunscreen/raincoat depending on the weather.