## **STUDY**

## VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

# Develop an understanding of "higher" animals' Zoology and Evolution, together with principles on animal ecology and morphology.

#### Duration: 100 hours (you study at your own pace)

## **Course Aims**

- Distinguish between major groups of vertebrates through a demonstrated understanding of their taxonomic classification and diversity.
- Describe the distinguishing characteristics of all major groups of fishes.
- Describe distinguishing characteristics of major Ectotherms, Amphibians and Reptiles.
- Describe distinguishing characteristics of major groups of birds
- Differentiate all major groups of Mammals.
- Describe the distinguishing characteristics of animals in the order Marsupialia and compare mammalian specialisations with those of other vertebrates.
- Describe the distinguishing characteristics of animals within the grandorders Glires and Insectivora.
- Explain Ectothermy in a variety of different animals.
- Describe characteristics of animals within the order Carnivora.
- Describe significant characteristics within the grand orders Ungulata and Archonta.

## **Course Structure**

The course is divided into ten lessons as follows:

- 1. Vertebrate Taxonomy and Diversity
- 2. Fishes
- 3. Ectotherms: Amphibians and Reptiles
- 4. Birds
- 5. Overview of Mammals
- 6. Marsupials
- 7. Mammalian Glires and Insectivora
- 8. Carnivores
- 9. Hooved Mammals: Ungulata
- 10.Primates and other Archonta

#### Tutors include:

Peter Douglas - Former manager of Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary & Dreamworld Wildlife Park Dr Robert Browne - Former lecturer university of Newcastle, Research Associate Perth Zoo, Diverse experience in Zoology over 20 yrs, widely published.

Dr Jim Euclid PhD. - Practicing veterinary Surgeon, Alison Tranter former course manager Equine Science Degree, Warwickshire College, UK.

#### Services

*Personal Contact is not limited*; real people to talk to if needed 5 days a week Experts – access internationally renowned experts Networking with other students.

### Extensive Added Support including

Video and Online Library Monthly email newsletters and Student room Bookshop –student discounts Get published in the online Magazine.



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