

# Exotics & Wildlife Experience

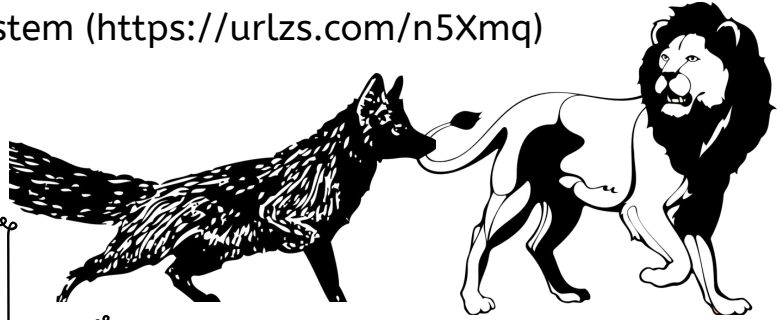
## What types of opportunities are available?

~ There are many opportunities in the area and abroad that will allow you to gain experience with exotic animals and wildlife. These range from zoos, marine laboratories, wildlife conservation groups, and more.

## How can I get involved and what credit can I receive?

~ Many locations offer internships where you will be mentored and learn necessary skills. You can receive academic credit for these opportunities if you apply through our online internship system (<https://urlzs.com/n5Xmq>)

## Local Opportunities:



### Sacramento Zoo:

The Sacramento Zoo offers a variety of internships, including a Keeper's Aide where you learn zoo animal husbandry.

[zoovolunteer@saczoo.org](mailto:zoovolunteer@saczoo.org)

### Suisun Wildlife Center

Located just 30 miles from Davis, Suisun Wildlife Center offers internships in spring and summer for those wanting to learn how to rehabilitate wild animals.

[monique@suisunwildlife.org](mailto:monique@suisunwildlife.org)

### Bodega Marine Laboratory

Bodega Bay offers quarters and summers at their lab for students to learn about marine and coastal ecosystems.

Contact Ellie: (707) 875-2045 or visit their website: [bml.ucdavis.edu](http://bml.ucdavis.edu)

### Folsom Zoo:

The Folsom Zoo in Sacramento County offers Zoo Keeping volunteer positions to learn zoo animal husbandry & care. Applications can be found on their website and emailed to:

[jlutef Faust@folsom.ca.us](mailto:jlutef Faust@folsom.ca.us)

### UCD California Raptor Center

Located right off campus, the Raptor Center helps to rehabilitate birds of prey such as eagles, hawks, vultures, & more.

Contact: (530) 752-6091

### Hopkins Avian Facility

Located right off campus, this facility houses parrots, kestrels and more. Students can intern or work here to gain handling experience.

[knsmith@ucdavis.edu](mailto:knsmith@ucdavis.edu)

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### UCD Primate Center

The Primate center right off campus offers research opportunities to learn about primate behavior and welfare. You can work with Macaques or Titi Monkeys.

[cnprc-info@ucdavis.edu](mailto:cnprc-info@ucdavis.edu)

### Wildlife Care Association

Located just 25 miles from Davis, WCA offers internships to help rehabilitate animals in their care such as eagles, foxes, deer and more.

[volunteer@wildlifecareassociation.com](mailto:volunteer@wildlifecareassociation.com)

### The Bird Rescue Center

Located in Santa Rosa, the bird rescue center helps to care for injured, abandoned and sick birds. For more information call:

**(707) 523-2473**

### Museum of Wildlife and Fish Biology

Located in Academic Surge on campus, the MWFB houses one of the largest collections of birds, mammals, and fish in California.

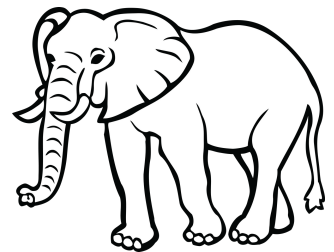
Volunteers can help with bird banding, specimen prep, and more.

**Contact: [mwfb@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mwfb@ucdavis.edu)**

### Marine Mammal Center

With several locations near the Bay, the marine mammal center cares for a variety of marine animals such as sea lions, seals, otters, whales and more.

[volunteer@tmmc.org](mailto:volunteer@tmmc.org)



### What classes can I take that relate to wildlife or exotics?

ANT 154C & L: Primate Behavior and Lab  
ANT 155: Primate Conservation Biology  
ANS 107: Zoo Biology and Research  
ANS 170: Ethics of Animal Use  
AVS 115: Raptor Biology  
EVE 115 Marine Ecology  
NPB 102: Animal Behavior  
WFC 110: Biology & Conservation of Wild Animals  
WFC 111: Biology & Conservation of Wild Birds  
WFC 134: Herpetology

### Can I get wildlife experience abroad?

Yes! Many students choose to gain their wildlife or exotic animal experiences abroad in places like Africa, Asia, and Australia. There are a variety of programs and internships to choose from. Check out our study abroad binder or visit the Study Abroad office to learn more about these opportunities!

**Examples:** Wildlands Studies, Hawaii Endangered Birds, Marine Biology in Australia, African Conservation Experience

### What's the benefit of gaining wildlife experience?

Having a diverse profile of experiences is critical when it comes to applying to graduate school whether that be vet school, or a PhD program. Applicants with a diverse array of animal experiences bring something new to the table and have a broader knowledge of animal science.

**Have more questions? Please ask! We have had many students find great experiences working with wildlife and exotics, and we would love to help you find your niche.**