



"Over a century removed from its circus origins, Zoo Atlanta has evolved from a quaint picnic stop where people gawked at wild animals to a modern-day destination seeking to teach the public about its animal ambassadors and work for the preservation of their wild counterparts. The Zoo remains dedicated as always to a wholesome family experience, with a 21st-century focus on educating young people, raising awareness of the natural world and bridging empathy for animals," ([www.zooatlanta.org/home/history/pandas to present](http://www.zooatlanta.org/home/history/pandas_to_present)).

Description: This course encompasses an internship at Zoo Atlanta where you will work with an animal keeper to further the Zoo's mission (above). Duties may include: basic animal care, enclosure cleaning, horticulture/yard work and minor construction duties, paperwork and filing, glass cleaning, and assistance with veterinary procedures. Unless the intern specifically desires to do so, Zoo interns rarely interact formally with Zoo visitors. You will be assigned to an area of the Zoo for your internship based upon your preference area and the current needs of the Zoo.

Prerequisites: BIOL 1510 and either BIOL 1520 or BIOL 2336/7 are recommended.

Zoo Atlanta interns agree to:

- Abide by the rules and regulations set forth in the Zoo Atlanta internship handbook
- Have a background check and TB test (as necessary depending on your assigned internship)
- Attend designated training for the service area you work for
- Report on time for scheduled events/service areas
- Abide by basic uniform standards: closed toe shoes, khaki/tan colored pants of any sort, purchase of a zoo uniform t-shirt (approx. \$10).
- Provide your own transportation to and from the zoo.

Zoo Atlanta will provide:

- Skills, training, and support materials needed for designated service area(s)
- Great experience, opportunities to develop new skills and learn about conservation issues
- The Zoo! You get to visit every week. Free admission is authorized during intern-related visits only.

Course Format: This course is offered for pass/fail credit only. Successful completion of the course involves 6 hours/wk of volunteer time at the zoo (minimum 96 hours total), 4 progress reports submitted on T-square, and 4 meetings with Dr. Green. Grades will be based on zoo attendance (60%) and progress reports + meetings (40%).

Progress Report Instructions: Your progress report should be a 1-2 page summary of your recent activities, a reflection on the relevance of those activities to biology and public service, and your goals for the remainder of the internship experience. Due dates are: **Sept 20, Oct 18, Nov 15, Dec 6.**

Discussion Meetings: We will meet as a group on Thursday, **Sept 22, Oct 20, Nov 17, Dec 8**, from 11am to 12pm to discuss your activities at the Zoo.

Application Procedure:

Submit via email a written statement (to linda.green@biology.gatech.edu) describing your interest in this internship, including how it contributes to your career goals. This opportunity is limited to only a few positions, and selection will be based upon your interest level, relevance to your career, and transcript record.

Once accepted, in August you will need to register via Oscar and complete the Zoo internship application at <https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll/ap?AP=116703683>. We will also coordinate the assignments to the different areas of the Zoo at that time.