



# Companion Animals

Career Cluster	Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
Course Code	18102
Prerequisite(s)	Recommended: Introduction to AFNR
Credit	0.5 of 1.0
Program of Study and Sequence	Foundation course – Cluster course – <b>Companion Animals</b> – Advanced Animal Science and/or Ag Biotechnology
Student Organization	National FFA Organization
Coordinating Work-Based Learning	Job shadowing, mentoring, internships, entrepreneurship, service learning, workplace tours, apprenticeship, school-based enterprises, Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)
Industry Certifications	OSHA 10 Hour Safety Certification (General Industry), National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC), Youth Humane Equine Management
Dual Credit or Dual Enrollment	None
Teacher Certification	Agriculture Food and Natural Resources Cluster Endorsement; Animal Systems Pathway Endorsement; *Agriculture Education
Resources	

## Course Description:

Companion Animals will address the basic knowledge and skills necessary to care for and meet the needs of companion animals, along with soft skills necessary for careers in the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources sector. Urban and rural students desire training in areas of animal care. Careers in the small animal industry are growing quickly. Utilizing appropriate equipment may enhance classroom and laboratory content, and technology, mathematics, English, biology and human relations skills will be reinforced in the course. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course are school-based enterprises and field trips. This class is reinforced through the FFA and SAE activities such as the Livestock Evaluation Career Development Event and related Proficiency Awards. Each student will be expected to maintain a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE).

## Program of Study Application:

Companion Animals is a first pathway course in the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Program of Study, Animal Systems pathway. Companion Animals is preceded by a cluster course and is recommended to be taken prior to participation in Advanced Animal Science or Ag Biotechnology.

**Course Standards**

**CA 1 Examine the anatomy and physiology of small animals.**

<i>Webb Level</i>	<i>Sub-indicator</i>	<i>Integrated Content</i>
Three Applying	CA 1.1 Use classification systems to explain the anatomy and physiology of companion animals.	
Three Analyzing	CA 1.2 Differentiate between species' reproductive cycles.	
Three Analyzing	CA 1.3 Analyze elements between male and female reproductive systems.	

**Notes**

**CA 2 Evaluate an animal's diet to provide proper nutrition and optimal performance.**

<i>Webb Level</i>	<i>Sub-indicator</i>	<i>Integrated Content</i>
Three Evaluating	CA 2.1 Evaluate an animal's developmental stage to comprehend differences in nutrient requirements throughout the animal's life cycle.	
Three Analyzing	CA 2.2 Analyze a feed label/ration to determine whether it fulfills a given animal's nutrient requirements.	

**Notes**

**CA 3 Demonstrate techniques for optimal care of an animal.**

<i>Webb Level</i>	<i>Sub-indicator</i>	<i>Integrated Content</i>
Three Applying	CA 3.1 Recognize optimum performance for a given animal species.	
Three Evaluating	CA 3.2 Evaluate an animal's behavior to safely work with it.	
Three Applying	CA 3.3 Design a program to develop an animal to its highest potential.	

**Notes**

**CA 4 Develop employability skills related to the Animal Systems Pathway.**

<i>Webb Level</i>	<i>Sub-indicator</i>	<i>Integrated Content</i>
Two Develop	CA 4.1 Develop soft skills to enhance employability.	

**Notes**