south dakota DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Learning. Leadership. Service.

Companion and Specialty Animal Science

Career Cluster	Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
Course Code	18102
Prerequisite(s)	Recommended: Introduction to AFNR
Credit	0.5 or 1.0 credit
Program of Study and Sequence	Foundation course – Cluster course – Companion Animals – Advanced Animal Science and/or Ag Biotechnology – Capstone Course
Student Organization	National FFA Organization
Coordinating Work-Based Learning	Job shadowing, mentoring, internships, entrepreneurships, service learning, workplace tours, apprenticeship, school-based enterprises, Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE), Capstone course
Industry Certifications	OSHA 10 Hour Safety Certification (General Industry), National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC), Youth Humane Equine Management
Dual Credit or Dual Enrollment	https://sdmylife.com/images/Approved-CTE-Dual-Credit.pdf
Teacher Certification	Agriculture Food and Natural Resources Cluster Endorsement; Animal Systems Pathway Endorsement; *Agriculture Education
Resources	

Course Description
Companion and Specialty Animal Science will address the basic knowledge and skills necessary to care for and meet the needs of companion animals, horses, specialty animals and exotics. Students will understand how to utilize appropriate equipment, learn anatomy and physiology, understand the structure of veterinary and small animal care services, and learn soft skills necessary for careers in the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources sector. 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 and specialty animal science is a first pathway course in the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Program of Study, Animal Systems pathway. This course 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 companion and specialty animal industries.

Webb Level	*Sub-indicator*
One Recall	CA 1.1 Investigate uses of companion and specialty animals.
Two Skill/Concept	CA 1.2 Define ethical standards of care for companion and specialty animals.
Two Skill/Concept	CA 1.3 Compare and contrast consumer concerns related to companion and specialty animals.

CA 2: Examine the anatomy and physiology of common companion/specialty animals.

Webb Level	*Sub-indicator*
Three Applying	CA 2.1 Explain the functional differences in anatomy and physiology of companion animals and specialty animals.
One Recall	CA 2.2 Identify scientific names and common species-specific terminology relevant to entry level conversations of common companion and specialty animals.
Three Analyzing	CA 2.3 Differentiate between species' reproductive cycles.

CA 3: Evaluate an animal's diet to provide proper nutrition and optimal performance.

Webb Level	*Sub-indicator*
Three Evaluating	CA 3.1 Evaluate an animal's developmental stage and use it 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.

CA 4: Demonstrate techniques for optimal care of an animal.

Webb Level	*Sub-indicator*
Three Applying	CA 4.1 Recognize optimum performance for a given animal species according to their use.
Three Evaluating	CA 4.2 Evaluate an animal's behavior and determine a strategy to safely work with it.
Three Evaluating	CA 4.3 Examine animal housing, equipment, transport systems, and handling facilities for the safety of animals and handlers.

CA 5: Explore Opportunities in veterinary services and animal care and maintenance.

Webb Level	*Sub-indicator*
Two Skills	CA 5.1 Explore career opportunities in veterinary and animal health services.
Three Evaluating	CA 6.1 Develop soft skills to enhance employability.

CA 6: Develop employability skills related to the Animal Systems Pathway.

Webb Level	*Sub-indicator*
Two Develop	CA 6.1 Develop soft skills to enhance employability.

CA 7: Implement an individual project for career development through a Supervised Agriculture Experience/Work based Experience.

Webb Level	*Sub-indicator*
Two Skill/Concept	CA 7.1 Develop an individual project plan with goals and timeline.
Two Skill/Concept	CA 7.2 Explore opportunities within AFNR industries.
Three Strategic Thinking	CA 7.3 Apply concepts of financial management appropriate to agricultural projects and personal finances.
Three Strategic Thinking	CA 7.4 Develop and document knowledge and skills to ensure workplace safety regarding personal health and environmental management.
Four Extended Thinking	CA 7.5 Research and analyze how public policy, laws, and advocacy impact agricultural systems and agricultural literacy.

CA 8: Implement an individual project for career development through a Supervised Agriculture Experience/Work based Experience.

Webb Level	*Sub-indicator*
Two Skill/Concept	AdS 8.1 Develop an individual project plan with goals and timeline.
Two Skill/Concept	AdS 8.2 Explore opportunities within AFNR industries.
Three Strategic Thinking	AdS 8.3 Apply concepts of financial management appropriate to agricultural projects and personal finances.
Three Strategic Thinking	AdS 8.4 Develop and document knowledge and skills to ensure workplace safety regarding personal health and environmental management.
Four Extended Thinking	AdS 8.5 Research and analyze how public policy, laws, and advocacy impact agricultural systems and agricultural literacy.