

# ANIMAL SCIENCE, B.S.

**Begin Campus:** Any Penn State Campus

**End Campus:** University Park

## Program Description

Animal Science is the study and integration of the biology and management of animals, highlighted by the disciplines of nutrition, physiology, reproduction, genetics, and behavior. Animals provide companionship, food, and fiber, as well as serving as valuable research models. The Animal Science major offers both coursework and hands-on experiences that develop students' ability to work with and care for animals.

The educational experiences included in this major should prepare the student for a wide range of positions in production agriculture agribusiness, and related industries, and provide preparation for the pursuit of post-baccalaureate studies leading to professional or advanced degrees. The student is expected to develop a comprehensive understanding of the biological and physical sciences underlying the functioning of all types of animals.

Realizing the wide range of career possibilities requiring diverse types of academic preparation, two options of study are available: the Business and Animal Management Option and the Science Option.

### Business and Animal Management Option

The primary objective of this option is to prepare the student for positions in agribusiness organizations and in the animal, food and allied industries. The student may develop a program with species specialization or diversity. The student may develop a foundation in accounting, economics, finance, marketing, and other business-related areas. Graduates seek employment opportunities as:

- management trainees, or assistant managers of animal production units or processing plants, and roles in government agencies;
- animal caretakers at zoos or shelters;
- technical service and sales representatives or quality assurance managers for pharmaceutical, agri-chemical, feed or food producing companies;
- loan officers with financial institutions;
- field representatives for breed organizations or producer cooperatives;
- public relations and human resources personnel for agribusiness companies;
- and management trainees for numerous agribusiness firms.

### Science Option

The primary objective of this option is to prepare the student for entry into post-baccalaureate study programs in animal and related biological sciences. Graduates who have obtained the proper qualifications may pursue advanced degrees in a wide variety of disciplines, including animal science, biotechnology, genetics, microbiology, nutrition, physiology, molecular biology, pharmaceutical research, and veterinary medicine. Graduates not desiring to pursue advanced studies seek employment opportunities in biomedical research, as research or quality assurance technicians, technical service representatives for various industrial

companies, food inspectors, laboratory animal caretakers, and public relations personnel.

## What is Animal Science?

Animal Science focuses on the science and business of producing domestic livestock species, including but not limited to beef cattle, dairy cattle, horses, poultry, sheep, swine and companion animals. This discipline applies principles of biological, physical and social sciences to problems associated with production and management of animals. Animal Science also has a strong focus on food with animal origin including meat, milk and eggs.

Animal Scientists work in efficient production of food animals, processing of high-quality meats and dairy products, use of companion animals for recreation, maintenance of animal health and well-being and many other areas. A growing population with limited land provide complex challenges in the area of Animal Science. This discipline requires highly trained professionals who can identify opportunities and provide innovative solutions.

### You Might Like this Program If...

- You want a career working with animals
- You want a hands-on, experiential learning curriculum with exposure to multiple domestic species
- Your interests lie in applied biology
- You are interested in efficiently providing safe, nutritious food to a growing world population
- You like both animals and business
- Your interests are in the practical application of science, business, and animals