

Companion Animals DIAL Virtual School 18102

Instructor Information:

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Course Description

Aim:

Urban and all rural students desire training in all areas of animal care. Careers in the small animal industry are growing quickly. Companion Animals is a course designed for urban and small acreage dwellers requiring the same knowledge as a larger livestock producer, but on a smaller scale. Major animals studied in the Companion Animals course are dogs, cats, horses, guinea pigs, gerbils, fish, amphibians, reptiles, rabbits, etc. Classroom and laboratory content may be enhanced by utilizing appropriate equipment 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, field trips and internships.

Suggested grade level: 9th – 12th

Length: Semester Course

Prerequisites: None

Topics Covered:

- Companion animal classification
- Companion animal reproduction
- Companion animal diet and nutrition
- Animal performance
- Working with companion animals
- Companion animal housing and equipment

Instructional Philosophy and Delivery Plan

Expectation: Students will be expected to meet all course goals by demonstrating their understanding of the basic concepts of each topic area.

Delivery Method: Instruction will be online and consist of individual hands on activities and projects, group work, lecture, discussion, reading, writing, self-assessment and the use of technology.

Assessment: Students will be graded on the following items: Written reports, tests, daily work, and individual projects.

Core Standards

- CA1.1** Use classification systems to explain the anatomy and physiology of companion animals.
- CA1.2** Differentiate between different species' reproductive cycles.
- CA1.3** Analyze elements in the reproductive cycle to explain differences between male and female reproductive systems.
- CA2.1** Evaluate an animal's developmental stage to comprehend differences in nutrient requirements throughout the animal's life cycle.
- CA2.2** Analyze a feed ration to determine whether it fulfills a given animal's nutrient requirements.
- CA3.1** Recognize optimum performance for a given animal species.
- CA3.2** Judge an animal's behavior to safely work with it.
- CA3.3** Employ a program to develop an animal to its highest potential.

Major Course Projects

- Research and present information on a companion animal.
- Develop a reproduction management plan for a given species.
- Illustrate the parts of the male and female reproductive tracts on common companion animals.
- Conduct an experiment on food preference in laboratory animals.
- Develop a balanced ration for a given companion animal; analyze commercially available foods for meeting dietary needs.
- Research breed standards for a given breed of companion animal.
- Determine treatment for basic animal health symptoms.

Assessment Plan & Grading Scale

Grade	Description of Work
A	Consistently demonstrates an exceptional level of quality and effort. Having all work in on time and completed to exceed expectations. Mastery in evaluating, synthesizing, and applying the knowledge.
B	Consistently demonstrates proficient knowledge with a good effort and quality of work. All assignments are complete and on time. Demonstrates the ability to evaluate, analyze, synthesize and apply the principles.
C	Demonstrates proficient knowledge and the ability to apply knowledge. Work shows average effort. A few assignments may be missed or late.
D	Work shows minimal effort and some assignments are late. Demonstrates a basic understanding of recalling or comprehending knowledge.
F	Understanding is below basic. Work is of poor quality and does not meet standards or expectations.

All work should be your own and if plagiarism and cheating are suspected, a 0 will result and your facilitator will be contacted. Cite your work at all times.