

Companion Animal Science (Biology & Technology)011006 ...6140

Course Description

This is a course to help students demonstrate a basic understanding of the care of small animals, while also understanding the biological principles of small animals, which will influence and affect management decisions.

Course Code:

Program(s) of Study to which This Course Applies

- Animal Systems

Course Framework	Reference Standards	Academic Crosswalk
Standard 1. Students will have an understanding of the companion animal industry.		[TBD by NDE]
Benchmark 1.1 The student will be able to explain the responsibilities and factors involved in selecting a companion animal. <u>Sample performance indicators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider questions a person should ask before purchasing a pet. • Compare options available for obtaining a pet. • Describe what is meant by responsible pet ownership. 		[TBD by NDE]
Benchmark 1.2 The student will consider and examine the benefits of pet ownership. <u>Sample performance indicators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain important lessons that people can learn from pets. • Describe the benefits pets can have for elderly. • Identify health and wellness benefits to pet owners. • Assess the role of therapeutic and work animals. 		[TBD by NDE]

<p>Benchmark 1.3 The student will determine methods of proper pet population control.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the role of euthanasia. • Determine laws and regulations. • Recognize the importance of spaying and neutering companion animals. 		[TBD by NDE]
<p>Standard 2. Students will distinguish between the concept of animal rights and the concept animal welfare.</p>	GA Ag Ed 02.423	[TBD by NDE]
<p>Benchmark 2.1 The student will understand the animal rights and animal welfare principles.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define the terms animal rights and animal welfare. • Compare and contrast animal rights and animal welfare. • Debate the issues regarding animal rights and animal welfare. 	GA Ag Ed 02.423	[TBD by NDE]
<p>Benchmark 2.2 The student will identify animal rights and animal welfare organizations.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate animal rights and animal welfare organizations and their viewpoints on issues. • Debate current issues surrounding animal rights and animal welfare. 	GA Ag Ed 02.423	
<p>Standard 3. Students will gain and apply knowledge of dog management.</p>		[TBD by NDE]
<p>Benchmark 3.1 Discuss the history and domestication of dogs.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the uses of the dog by primitive humans. • Design a timeline depicting the ancestry of the domesticated dog. 	GA Ag Ed 02.423	[TBD by NDE]
<p>Benchmark 3.2 Classify the seven major breed groups of dogs.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare and contrast breeds of dogs according to size and use. 		[TBD by NDE]

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpret a pedigree. • Identify the seven major dog groups and list five breeds within each group. 		
<p>Benchmark 3.3 Consider proper feeding and handling of dogs.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the nutritional requirements of dogs and puppies. • Compare the nutritional requirements of pregnant and lactating dogs. • Identify the types of feed available for dogs. • Compare the labels and ingredients of two different dog foods. • Tour a pet food company to learn about careers, economics, and processing of the pet industry. 		[TBD by NDE]
<p>Benchmark 3.4 Explain methods of dog training.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe two different methods of house training puppies. • List five basic dog commands. • Debate reward based and non reward based training. 		[TBD by NDE]
<p>Benchmark 3.5 Discuss grooming, diseases, and health care of dogs.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain basic care practices of pregnant females before, during, and after whelping. • List diseases belonging to the six major disease groups. • Describe parasite prevention methods in dogs. • Explain general grooming practices for short haired dogs. 		[TBD by NDE]
<p>Standard 4. Students will gain and apply knowledge in the care of cats.</p>		[TBD by NDE]
<p>Benchmark 4.1 Discuss the history and domestication of cats.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the domestication of cats. • Describe the historical uses of cats by ancient civilizations. • Explain 5 purposes of cats within society. 		[TBD by NDE]
<p>Benchmark 4.2 Classify the two major breed groups of cats and describe characteristics of cats.</p>		[TBD by NDE]

<p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the two major groups of domestic cats. • Contrast three cat breeds. • Identify the two major groups of domesticated cats. • Label the anatomy of a domestic cat. 		
<p>Benchmark 4.3 Consider proper feeding and handling of cats.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare the nutrient content of several different cat food labels. • Determine the best kitten food for a healthy kitten. • Differentiate the nutritional needs of cats and kittens. • Describe how to properly hold a young kitten. 		[TBD by NDE]
<p>Benchmark 4.4 Distinguish successful methods of training cats.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the intelligence level of cats. • Determine the difficulties encountered when training cats. • Describe the procedures for training a cat for show. 	GA Ag Ed 02.423	[TBD by NDE]
<p>Benchmark 4.5 Discuss grooming, diseases, and health care of cats.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List three diseases in each of the six major disease groups. • Explain general health care practices for a pregnant cat before, during, and at birth. • Describe proper care for a new kitten litter. • Discuss recommended vaccinations for cats to maintain proper health. • Select appropriate tools for grooming a long haired cat. 		[TBD by NDE]
<p>Standard 5. Students will gain and apply knowledge of small mammals including rabbits, hamsters, gerbils, rats, mice, guinea pigs, chinchillas and ferrets.</p>		[TBD by NDE]
<p>Benchmark 5.1 Describe the characteristics, classification and breeds of small mammals.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List the five weight categories of rabbits. • Recognize and describe the common types of hamsters. • Describe the characteristics of gerbils. • Describe the characteristics of common rats. • List and describe the seven varieties of guinea pigs. • Describe the two species of chinchillas. • Label the anatomy of a rabbit. • Dissect and label a rat. • Design a diagram of taxonomy classifications of small mammals. 		
<p>Benchmark 5.2 Compare the proper housing of small mammal species.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the housing and equipment needs of rabbits. • List characteristics of appropriate chinchilla housing. • Contrast gerbil and guinea pig housing requirements. • Identify space requirements of rats and mice. 		
<p>Benchmark 5.3 Recommend proper feeding and handling strategies for small mammals.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List the common feeds for ferrets. • Describe the methods of handling a chinchilla. • Describe how to pick up and handle a guinea pig. • Compare feeding requirements of hamsters and gerbils. • Discuss the nutritional requirements of rabbits. 		
<p>Benchmark 5.4 Explain proper health care of small mammals including reproduction, management, and disease and ailment prevention and treatment.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss various disease that affect rabbits. • List common diseases and ailments of hamsters and gerbils. • Describe three strategies to maintain a healthy rat. • Identify 5 symptoms of a common chinchilla disease. 		
<p>Standard 6. Students will gain and apply knowledge of cold blooded animals including amphibians, reptiles and fish.</p>		[TBD by NDE]



<p>Benchmark 6.1 Describe the characteristics, classification and breeds of cold blooded animals (amphibians, reptiles, and fish).</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define amphibian and reptile. • Describe the characteristics of a newt. • Compare the three orders of amphibians. • Contrast the characteristics of turtles and tortoises. • Compare the three classes of fish. 		
<p>Benchmark 6.2 Compare the proper housing of cold blooded species.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct an aquatic, semi aquatic, and land habitat aquarium. • Discuss the types of housing and equipment that would meet the requirements of reptiles in captivity. • Set up a fresh water and marine aquarium. • Diagram a filter system for a fish aquarium. 		
<p>Benchmark 6.3 Recommend proper feeding and handling strategies for cold blooded species.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the methods used in handling and feeding amphibians. • Discuss the types of food needed to maintain good health for a reptile in captivity. • Identify four feeding habits of fish. 		
<p>Benchmark 6.4 Explain proper health care of cold blooded including reproduction, management, and disease and ailment prevention and treatment.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagram the life cycle of a salamander. • Identify two species of flukes that attack aquarium fish. • Identify three signs of good health to look for when obtaining a reptile. 		
<p>Standard 7. Students will gain and apply knowledge of birds.</p>		<p>[TBD by NDE]</p>

<p>Benchmark 7.1 Describe the characteristics, classification and breeds of bird.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the characteristics of birds. • Identify the types of feathers found on birds. • Discover the three orders of birds and list characteristics of each. • List ten bird breeds. 		
<p>Benchmark 7.2 Compare the proper housing of bird species.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify important factors to consider when selecting a bird cage. • Describe the guidelines when placing a cage in a room. • Draw an appropriate cage set up for a specific bird. 		
<p>Benchmark 7.3 Recommend proper feeding and handling strategies for birds.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify three nutritional ailments of birds and list the symptoms of each. • Discuss the importance of grit in the diet of birds. • Describe the steps in getting a bird to feel comfortable with its handler and the steps in training. 		
<p>Benchmark 7.4 Explain proper health care of birds including reproduction, management, and disease and ailment prevention and treatment.</p> <p><u>Sample performance indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe some symptoms of poor health in a bird. • Identify an external parasite in birds and describe the prevention of contamination. • Compare bacterial and viral diseases in birds. 		

Reference Standards Sources

- NAS = National Ag Standards
- GA = Georgia Curriculum Framework

Other Information

Suggestions for innovative teaching and learning strategies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field Experience • Classroom Visitors • Professional Presenters • Classroom Projects • Laboratory Practicum
Related assessments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FFA Public Speaking Leadership Skills Event • FFA Agricultural Demonstration Leadership Skills Event • FFA Job Interview Leadership Skills Event
Extended learning opportunities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervised Agricultural Experience within the companion animal industry or other associated industry • 4-H/FFA Projects • Internships • State and National Conventions • Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute • Professional Workshops • Professional Associations