Animal Systems
Course Overview and Syllabus

Grade level: 9–12

Prerequisite Courses: None   **Credits:** 0.5

Course Description

Animal Systems is a semester-long high school course that provides students with a wealth of information on livestock-management practices, animal husbandry, physiological systems, the latest scientific trends, veterinary practice, and innovations in food production. Changes in practices, regulations, and legislation for animal welfare continue as new research provides solutions to medical, ethical, and practical concerns. The course reviews current topics, such as advancements in technology and research, and defines areas of discussion while maintaining focus on best-management practices. A student might use the knowledge gained from the course to further an interest in becoming a chef, researcher, doctor, wildlife-management professional, or any number of applicable careers.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- Understand the role of animal agriculture in society
- Examine and apply best-management practices in animal agriculture
- Compare animal welfare with animal rights
- Investigate animal performance data
- Evaluate which animals would be superior choices for reproductive purposes
- Explore careers in animal agriculture
- Study the environmental impact of animal management and production systems

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of videos, readings, and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson
- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

Communication

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, email, chat, and system announcements. You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, as you collaborate on projects, ask and answer questions in your peer group, and develop your speaking and listening skills.

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Grading Category	Weight
Lesson Quizzes	20%
Unit Tests	20%
Cumulative Exams	20%
Assignments	10%
Projects	30%
Additional	0%

Scope and Sequence

When you log into Edgenuity, you can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics you will study. The units of study are summarized below:

Unit 1: Nature and Scope of Animal Agriculture in Our Society and Economy
Unit 2: Animal Selection and Health
Unit 3: Animal Nutrition, Growth, and Development
Unit 4: Animal Reproduction
Unit 5: Animals and the Environment

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