

Course Overview

Content Area: **Agriscience**
Course(s): **Veterinary Science**
Time Period: **Year**
Length: **180**
Status: **Published**

Course Overview

Aligned to Standards:

Revision Date: 2024

In compliance with the NJ Student Learning Standards, climate change, career readiness, DEI (Diversity, Equity, & Inclusivity), as well as other standards have been integrated within the NBCRSD curricula (NJ Administrative Code Title 6A: chapter 8; Title 18A: chapter 35).

Course Overview

Sequence- Unit Titles, Summaries, and Number of weeks per unit (total = 18 semester/36 year)

Unit 1: World of Opportunities - 4 Weeks

- This unit reviews FFA, an extracurricular organization that promotes leadership and career development in agriculture. Over two weeks at the start of the school year and again during National FFA Week in February, students will explore the history, structure, and role of FFA as one of the three key components of agricultural education. By the end of the unit, students will be able to explain the purpose and functions of FFA within the broader context of agricultural learning.

Unit 2: Personal Safety and Animal Handling - 7 Weeks

- This unit, provides a comprehensive introduction to biosecurity and its vital role in animal health, focusing on disease prevention, infection control, and the proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE). Students will learn essential skills such as aseptic techniques, proper handling of animals, and the use of veterinary tools, while also exploring medical terminology to enhance communication in animal health settings.

Unit 3: Issues in the Animal Industry - 3 Weeks

- Students will be able to describe the influence of the consumer in the animal agriculture industry. Students will compare and contrast animal rights and animal welfare groups. Students will recognize and discuss the human-animal bond and its relationship with euthanasia. Students will discuss the characteristics that influence whether an animal is a companion animal or a production animal.

Unit 4: Veterinary Terminology- 3 Weeks

- Students will identify the parts of words, list common abbreviations for veterinary terms, define commonly used veterinary terminology, convert commonly used weights and measures, and relate their knowledge to routine veterinary practices.

Unit 4: Prevention- 5 Weeks

- This unit emphasizes the importance of observation, communication, and interdisciplinary knowledge in animal healthcare. Students will explore how physiological symptoms can

indicate underlying health issues, learn the value of using professional terminology, and understand the role of preventative care—including body condition scoring, dental health, and safe handling practices. While the course builds foundational knowledge, it reinforces that all procedures should be performed under the supervision of qualified professionals.

Unit 5: Diagnosis - 5 Weeks

- Logical record-keeping and thorough physical examinations are the foundation for competent veterinary care. A good physical examination leads to the establishment of differential diagnoses and a plan for diagnostic testing, identification of the correct diagnosis, and proper treatment of the patient. Record keeping is essential to organize and monitor all aspects of this veterinary care. Students will gain an understanding and appreciation for the skills involved in this process of physical examination as part of the provision of veterinary care.

Unit 6: Treatment- 8 Weeks

- This unit emphasizes the critical components of responsible animal healthcare, including drug scheduling, accurate dosing, proper labeling, and safe administration methods. It highlights the importance of precision, storage protocols, and vaccinations in promoting animal well-being. Unit lessons provide hands-on practice in medication management, dosage calculation, and surgical nursing skills to prepare students for veterinary practice.

Unit 7: Skill Assessment- 3 Weeks

- Students will learn to work efficiently in a fast-paced veterinary clinic, emphasizing teamwork, clear communication, and task coordination to ensure high-quality animal care. They will develop and apply emergency plans and first-aid kits to handle crises—such as natural disasters, transport accidents, or barn fires—focusing on timely response to minimize harm. Finally, the unit integrates both technical competencies (like clinical procedures, medication dosing, and surgical assistance) and soft skills (including problem-solving, empathy, and client communication) through hands-on practice and a field visit to a local clinic.

Unit 7: Office Management - 4 Weeks

- Students will explain the importance of the Veterinarian-client-patient relationship and the importance, primary components, and legality of medical records and client education. Students will give examples of hospital information systems and waiting room management strategies. Students will explain major tenets of human resources. Students will demonstrate skills necessary for success in the workplace.

Unit 8: Laws and Ethics - 5 Weeks

- Students will review Veterinary State Practice Acts. Students will discuss the implications of ethical issues, including the following: animal fighting, owner liabilities, surgical procedures, management practices, breeders, animal industry professionals reporting abuse and neglect, euthanasia, and preventative care. Students will investigate issues in medical ethics, explore cultural factors relating to ethical issues, and develop and defend a position related to an ethical issue.

[Reporting Student Progress](#) (link to NB's Assessment System)

All courses follow a balanced assessment system with Practice and Assessments. Each category includes formative, summative and alternative assessments.

[Accommodations and Modifications](#) (link to menu)

Integrated accommodations and modifications for special education students, English language learners, students at risk of school failure, gifted and talented students, and students with 504 plans.