Animal Science

What is Animal Science?
Animal science is the study of domestic animals including livestock species (horses, beef and dairy cattle, sheep, goats, swine and poultry) and companion animals. Students study concepts from production through processing and learn about the value associated with livestock, as well as meat and milk produced from those animals.

Animal scientists apply the principles of biological and social sciences to animal nutrition, genetics, reproduction, behavior and health. Livestock production systems, animal management and husbandry, animal products, and much more are part of the study of animal science.

Why Study Animal Science?
If you have a passion for animals in any realm, you may consider studying animal science. Whether your interest is going to veterinary school to maintain the health of animals, running a ranch, working for an animal health company, working in communications or anything in between, there is an option that will fit your interests.

Finish in 4
For each undergraduate degree program in CASNR, we have prepared example plans of how you may successfully complete your degree plan in four years.

Where Do You See Yourself?
Animal nutritionist
Breed association representative
Dairy herd manager
Equine specialist
Extension educator
Feed salesperson
Feedlot operator
Genetic engineer
Livestock marketer
Lobbyist
Medical doctor
Pharmaceutical representative
Ranch manager
Reproductive management specialist
Research scientist
Seedstock producer
Veterinarian

Corbin Cowles
Rockfield, Kentucky

“CASNR, specifically the animal science department, gives me the opportunity to learn under some of the best professors in their respective fields nationwide. In addition, having the opportunity to work on university farms gives me real-world, practical skills I can apply after I graduate.”
Within animal science, you have the option to select a predefined emphasis area or work with your faculty advisor to customize your plan of study.

**Agricultural Communications Double Major**
Gain a basic understanding of animal science paired with exceptional communication skills.

**Agricultural Education Double Major**
Combine a foundation in animal science with the know-how to teach others.

**Animal Biotechnology**
Acquire a strong science foundation and learn how innovative technologies are used in animal agriculture.

**Business**
Understand the financial concepts of animal agriculture and how to apply those concepts efficiently and effectively.

**Livestock Merchandising**
Acquire skills to promote and merchandise livestock.

**Pre-Veterinary Animal Science**
Complete pre-veterinary requirements and obtain a degree in animal science.

**Production**
Learn the science and production practices of beef, horse, goat, poultry, sheep, swine and dairy operations for a career in production agriculture.

**Ranch Operations**
Study ranching and beef cattle production, focusing on cow-calf and stocker management and forage production including range management.

**Oklahoma State University**
**College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources**
Department of Animal Science

**Animal Science Major**

**Undergraduate Research Opportunities**
The department’s Undergraduate Research Scholars Program provides students with valuable hands-on experience working on cutting-edge research projects side-by-side with faculty, graduate students, research technicians and research unit managers. The program builds a solid foundation in research methods to better prepare students for industry and academic careers in animal or food sciences.

**Scholarship Dollars**
The OSU Department of Animal Science awarded more than $400,000 in scholarships to undergraduate students in the department this year. CASNR awarded an additional $600,000 to students within the college.

**Fast Fact**
The department sponsors five judging teams: livestock, horse, dairy cattle, meat and meat animal evaluation. The teams have a combined total of more than 40 national championships – more than any other university in the country.

**Highlight**
Animal science students are able to receive valuable hands-on experience at the department’s 15 farms and research facilities encompassing 13,000 acres.