

ANIMAL SCIENCE, B.S.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Program Description

Animal Science is the study and integration of the biology and management of animals, highlighted by the disciplines of nutrition, physiology, reproduction, genetics, and behavior. Animals provide companionship, food, and fiber, and serve as valuable research models. The Animal Science major offers both coursework and hands-on experiences that develop students' ability to work with and care for animals.

The educational experiences included in this major should prepare the student for a wide range of positions in production agriculture business and related industries, and provide preparation for the pursuit of post-baccalaureate studies leading to professional or advanced degrees. The student is expected to develop a comprehensive understanding of the biological and physical sciences underlying the functioning of all types of animals.

What is Animal Science?

Animal Science focuses on the science and business of producing domestic livestock species, including but not limited to beef cattle, dairy cattle, horses, poultry, sheep, swine and companion animals. This discipline applies principles of biological, physical and social sciences to problems associated with production and management of animals. Animal Science also has a strong focus on food with animal origin including meat, milk and eggs.

Animal Scientists work in efficient production of food animals, processing of high-quality meats and dairy products, use of companion animals for recreation, maintenance of animal health and well-being and many other areas. A growing population with limited land provide complex challenges in the area of Animal Science. This discipline requires highly trained professionals who can identify opportunities and provide innovative solutions.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You want a career working with animals
- You want a hands-on, experiential learning curriculum with exposure to multiple domestic species
- Your interests lie in applied biology
- You are interested in efficiently providing safe, nutritious food to a growing world population
- You like both animals and business
- Your interests are in the practical application of science, business, and animals

READ THE ANIMAL SCIENCE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK
(<https://animalscience.psu.edu/undergraduate/resources/handbook>)