

ANIMAL SCIENCE & ZOO MANAGEMENT

NATURAL RESOURCES & AGRISCIENCE



Course Description

This program is designed for students who have career interests in agriculture, animal science/zooiology, life sciences, veterinary medicine, conservation, environmental education, or related fields.

This is an in-depth learning experience in a real-world setting – Potter Park Zoo. In addition to rigorous classroom work, students will be expected to actively participate in zoo activities and daily animal care. Students must be willing to tolerate working in various weather conditions. Rain jackets are provided.

Student Leadership Opportunities

Students have the opportunity for leadership, competition and community service through membership in FFA and volunteer opportunities at the zoo.

Success Indicators

- Hands-on learner
- Enjoys biology and working with animals
- Effective in a team and individualized setting
- Strong math skills

Available Certifications:

- Red Cross First Aid
- Pet First Aid
- San Diego Global Academy Certifications
- Animal Welfare Training and Operant Conditioning
- Safe Handling and Restraint
- Zoonotic Disease Prevention
- Record Keeping

Updated 12.2025

FOR MORE INFO:
CONTACT YOUR COUNSELOR,
CALL 517.483.1596, OR
VISIT EATONRESA.ORG/CPC



Course Overview:

Program Location: Potter Park Zoo
(shuttle available)

Sessions Offered: AM/PM

Average Lecture Days/Week: 3-4 Days

Average Lab Days/Week: 1-2 Days

Academic Rigor: 4 out of 5

Homework: 1-2 Days per Week

Required Reading: College-level textbooks and workbooks; less than 25 pages per week

Learning outcomes include, but are not limited to:

- Develop and demonstrate response plans for emergencies, perform first aid skills, follow and implement job site safety rules and industry regulations to maintain safe working conditions
- Describe and demonstrate safe handling techniques for working with animals and skills necessary for the day-to-day operations of animal care facilities
- Use and understand common medical terminology, and demonstrate knowledge of anatomy, including normal and abnormal functions of each body system
- Describe and demonstrate the ability to correctly and safely use common laboratory equipment
- Describe and demonstrate pharmacological concepts such as safety, use, and calculation of dosages, major principles of surgical nursing, including identification of instruments, aseptic technique, surgical suite preparation, and preparation of the surgical patient.
- Demonstrate and describe the process of performing a basic physical exam, knowledge of the classification and transmission of pathogens, and the importance of zoonotic diseases and parasites
- Demonstrate knowledge of animal husbandry, zoological record keeping, animal behavior, and training
- Describe current issues in conservation and steps that can be taken to contribute to conservation efforts
- Demonstrate an understanding of zoo management and accreditation and the ability to effectively communicate with coworkers, clients, and others.

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PROFESSIONAL CAREERS

- Animal Behaviorist
- Conservation Officer
- Environmental Engineer
- Marine Biologist

- Research Scientist
- Veterinarian
- Wildlife Biologist
- Zookeeper/Zoo Curator

TECHNICAL CAREERS

- Animal Control Officer
- Animal Trainer
- Laboratory Technician
- Pet Groomer

- Pet Nutrition Coach
- Research Assistant
- Veterinary Technician/Technologist
- Wildlife Rehabilitator

ENTRY-LEVEL CAREERS

- Animal Caretaker
- Disaster Response Technician
- Farm, Ranch, Barn Hand
- Fisheries & Wildlife Technician

- Laboratory Assistant
- Pet Daycare/Kennel Attendant
- Pet Store Clerk
- Veterinary Assistant

ACADEMICS

EXPERIENCES

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

PASSION

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