# ANIMAL SCIENCE

## What can I do with this major?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FARM RANGE PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT</strong></td>
<td>Farm and ranch operations</td>
<td>Develop physical stamina, outdoor skills and comfort being in close proximity with large and small animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock Production</td>
<td>Feed companies and operations</td>
<td>Gain work experience in area of interest through internships, summer jobs or part-time work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beef and Dairy Cattle, Swine, Poultry, Sheep, Horses</td>
<td>Meat and dairy processors</td>
<td>Minor in business if interested in management or self-employment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock Feed</td>
<td>Processing plants</td>
<td>Participate in related clubs and competition teams.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production, Development, Quality Control, Distribution/Marketing</td>
<td>Inspection services</td>
<td>Become familiar with federal job application procedure for government work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meat and Dairy Foods</td>
<td>Extension services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production, Development, Quality Control, Distribution/Marketing</td>
<td>Government agencies including:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>U.S. Department of Agriculture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Food and Drug Administration</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## AGribusiness

Sales | Agribusinesses: livestock and feed | Obtain relevant experience through internships. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Livestock</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical companies</td>
<td>Earn a minor in business.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed</td>
<td>Equipment and supply companies</td>
<td>Must be highly motivated and well organized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>Food and meat processing companies</td>
<td>Proven leadership abilities are desirable. Join related student organizations and seek leadership roles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture Chemicals</td>
<td>Animal health firms</td>
<td>Develop a strong commitment to customer satisfaction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock Supplies</td>
<td>Breed organizations</td>
<td>Practice excellent communication skills, written and oral.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment: Farm and Feedlot</td>
<td>Food distributors</td>
<td>Develop computer skills especially with spreadsheet, presentation and database software.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>Financial institutions</td>
<td>Learn to work well both on a team and individually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>Livestock publications</td>
<td>Join related clubs and become active with competition teams.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>Professional associations, e.g. National Cattlemen’s Beef Association</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Areas of Specialization

**Small Animal Care**
- Group or private practice
- Federal government including:
  - Department of Agriculture
  - Department of Health and Human Services
- State and local government
- Colleges of veterinarian medicine
- Medical schools
- Research laboratories
- Animal food companies
- Inspection services
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Zoos
- Wildlife sanctuaries

**Large Animal Care**
- Group or private practice
- Federal government including:
  - Department of Agriculture
  - Department of Health and Human Services
- State and local government
- Colleges of veterinarian medicine
- Medical schools
- Research laboratories
- Animal food companies
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- Pharmaceutical companies
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**Food Safety**
- Group or private practice
- Federal government including:
  - Department of Agriculture
  - Department of Health and Human Services
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**Preventative Medicine**
- Group or private practice
- Federal government including:
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  - Department of Health and Human Services
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**Surgery**
- Group or private practice
- Federal government including:
  - Department of Agriculture
  - Department of Health and Human Services
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**Public Health**
- Group or private practice
- Federal government including:
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**Laboratory Animal Medicine**
- Group or private practice
- Federal government including:
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  - Department of Health and Human Services
- State and local government
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- Research laboratories
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**Research**
- Group or private practice
- Federal government including:
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**Inspection**
- Group or private practice
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### Employers

- Schools (elementary, secondary and post-secondary)
- Extension services
- Agricultural agencies
- Agricultural communications and media firms
- Agribusinesses
- Government agencies

### Strategies

- Research veterinary programs, take pre-vet courses to meet veterinary school requirements, and prepare for application process.
- Maintain an excellent grade point average.
- Gain experience through volunteer positions, part-time jobs, or summer work. Consider working as a Veterinary Technician.
- Secure strong recommendations from professors.
- Develop physical stamina, outdoor skills and comfort being in close proximity with large and small animals.
- Exercise close attention to detail.
- Practice strong interpersonal skills.
- Obtain internships at zoos or other wildlife sanctuaries.
- Become active in pre-vet and other related clubs.

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- Government agencies

- Oregon State University Veterinary Medical Center
- New Mexico State University College of Agricultural, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine
- West Virginia University College of Veterinary Medicine
- University of Rhode Island College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
- University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine
- University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine
- University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine
- University of Wisconsin College of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences
- University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
- University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine

- Practice excellent written and verbal communications skills.
- Gain related experience through volunteer positions, summer jobs, or internships.
- Learn to work well with all types of people.
- Seek leadership roles in student organizations.
- Become familiar with federal job application procedure for government work.
- Be prepared to live in rural communities for extension positions.

- Teaching
- Non-classroom Education
- Extension

- Schools (elementary, secondary and post-secondary)
- Extension services
- Agricultural agencies
- Agricultural communications and media firms
- Agribusinesses
- Government agencies

- Obtain teacher certification for elementary and secondary school positions.
- Secure masters or doctoral degree for post-secondary teaching or other advanced positions.
- Exercise strong interpersonal skills.
- Practice excellent written and verbal communications skills.
- Gain related experience through volunteer positions, summer jobs, or internships.
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<td>Government and corporate laboratories</td>
<td>Advanced degrees are often required in these positions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Colleges and universities</td>
<td>Earn post-graduate certification through the Animal Certification Technician Board.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Product and Process Development</td>
<td>Livestock producers</td>
<td>Gain extensive laboratory and research experience by working in faculty laboratories through special problems courses, as a student employee, or through other departmental programs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genetics and Animal Breeding</td>
<td>Zoos</td>
<td>Supplement curriculum with additional science courses in relevant areas (e.g. genetics, animal behavior, microbiology)</td>
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<td>Animal Nutrition/Health/Disease Control</td>
<td>Wildlife sanctuaries</td>
<td>Develop physical stamina, outdoor skills and comfort being in close proximity with large and small animals.</td>
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<td>Animal Behavior, Training and Caretaking</td>
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<td>Food and Drug Administration</td>
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<td>Harvest Operation Inspection</td>
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GENERAL INFORMATION

- As an undergraduate, seek laboratory experiences such as research projects, volunteering with professors, summer jobs, or internships.
- Participate in research programs and internships sponsored by government organizations and private corporations.
- Consider a certificate program or specialized master’s program to qualify for research technician positions.
- Earn master’s degree for greater variety and autonomy on the job. Earn a Ph.D. to work on high-level research projects, to direct research programs, to enter high levels of administration, and to teach at four-year post-secondary institutions. Postdoctoral fellowships may also be required.
- Learn to work independently and as part of a team.
- Combine an undergraduate degree with a degree in law, business, education, communication and information science, or other discipline to expand career opportunities.
- Consider earning an MBA after gaining work experience to reach the highest levels of agribusiness management.
- The animal sciences are good preparation for a career in healthcare such as medicine, dentistry, pharmacology, and veterinary science, but professional degrees and licenses are also necessary to practice in these fields. Become familiar with the specific entrance exam for graduate or professional schools in your area of interest.
- Join professional associations and community organizations and read related journals to stay abreast of current issues in the field and to develop networking contacts.
- Actively participate in student organizations, competition teams, research laboratories, and other related activities.
- Secure strong relationships and personal recommendations from professors and/or employers.
- Learn federal, state, and local government job application process. The federal government is the largest employer of scientists.
- Gain experience with grant writing and fundraising techniques. Often research must be funded in this manner.