

**Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Career Cluster**  
**Small Animal Care**  
**Course Number: 02.42300**

**Course Description:**

The goal of this course is designed to provide students with skills and concepts involved with the care and management of companion animals. Classroom and laboratory activities are supplemented through supervised agricultural experiences and leadership programs and activities.

**Course Standard 1**

**AFNR-SAC-1**

The following standard is included in all CTAE courses adopted for the Career Cluster/Pathways. Teachers should incorporate the elements of this standard into lesson plans during the course. The topics listed for each element of the standard may be addressed in differentiated instruction matching the content of each course. These elements may also be addressed with specific lessons from a variety of resources. This content is not to be treated as a unit or separate body of knowledge but rather integrated into class activities as applications of the concept.

**Standard: Demonstrate employability skills required by business and industry.**

The following elements should be integrated throughout the content of this course.

**1.1 Communicate effectively through writing, speaking, listening, reading, and interpersonal abilities.**

Person-to-Person Etiquette	Telephone and Email Etiquette	Cell Phone and Internet Etiquette	Communicating At Work	Listening
Interacting with Your Boss	Telephone Conversations	Using Blogs	Improving Communication Skills	Reasons, Benefits, and Barriers
Interacting with Subordinates	Barriers to Phone conversations	Using Social Media	Effective Oral Communication	Listening Strategies
Interacting with Co-workers	Making and Returning Calls		Effective Written Communication	Ways We Filter What We Hear
Interacting with Suppliers	Making Cold Calls		Effective Nonverbal Skills	Developing a Listening Attitude
	Handling Conference Calls		Effective Word Use	Show You Are Listening
	Handling Unsolicited Calls		Giving and Receiving Feedback	Asking Questions
				Obtaining Feedback
				Getting Others to Listen

Nonverbal Communication	Written Communication	Speaking	Applications and Effective Résumés
Communicating Nonverbally	Writing Documents	Using Language Carefully	Completing a Job Application
Reading Body Language and mixed Messages	Constructive Criticism in Writing	One-on-One Conversations	Writing a Cover Letter
Matching Verbal and Nonverbal communication		Small Group Communication	Things to Include in a Résumé
Improving Nonverbal Indicators		Large Group Communication	Selling Yourself in a Résumé
Nonverbal Feedback		Making Speeches	Terms to Use in a Résumé
Showing Confidence Nonverbally		Involving the Audience	Describing Your Job Strengths
Showing Assertiveness		Answering Questions	Organizing Your Résumé

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		Visual and Media Aids	Writing an Electronic Résumé
		Errors in Presentation	Dressing Up Your Résumé

### 1.2 Demonstrate creativity by asking challenging questions and applying innovative procedures and methods.

Teamwork and Problem Solving	Meeting Etiquette
Thinking Creatively	Preparation and Participation in Meetings
Taking Risks	Conducting Two-Person or Large Group Meetings
Building Team Communication	Inviting and Introducing Speakers
	Facilitating Discussions and Closing
	Preparing Visual Aids
	Virtual Meetings

### 1.3 Exhibit critical thinking and problem solving skills to locate, analyze and apply information in career planning and employment situations.

Problem Solving	Customer Service	The Application Process	Interviewing Skills	Finding the Right Job
Transferable Job Skills	Gaining Trust and Interacting with Customers	Providing Information, Accuracy and Double Checking	Preparing for an Interview	Locating Jobs and Networking
Becoming a Problem Solver	Learning and Giving Customers What They Want	Online Application Process	Questions to Ask in an Interview	Job Shopping Online
Identifying a Problem	Keeping Customers Coming Back	Following Up After Submitting an Application	Things to Include in a Career Portfolio	Job Search Websites
Becoming a Critical Thinker	Seeing the Customer's Point	Effective Résumés:	Traits Employers are Seeking	Participation in Job Fairs
Managing	Selling Yourself and the Company	Matching Your Talents to a Job	Considerations Before Taking a Job	Searching the Classified Ads
	Handling Customer Complaints	When a Résumé Should be Used		Using Employment Agencies
	Strategies for Customer Service			Landing an Internship
				Staying Motivated to Search

### 1.4 Model work readiness traits required for success in the workplace including integrity, honesty, accountability, punctuality, time management, and respect for diversity.

Workplace Ethics	Personal Characteristics	Employer Expectations	Business Etiquette	Communicating at Work
Demonstrating Good Work Ethic	Demonstrating a Good Attitude	Behaviors Employers Expect	Language and Behavior	Handling Anger
Behaving Appropriately	Gaining and Showing Respect	Objectionable Behaviors	Keeping Information Confidential	Dealing with Difficult Coworkers
Maintaining Honesty	Demonstrating Responsibility	Establishing Credibility	Avoiding Gossip	Dealing with a Difficult Boss
Playing Fair	Showing Dependability	Demonstrating Your Skills	Appropriate Work Email	Dealing with Difficult Customers
Using Ethical Language	Being Courteous	Building Work Relationships	Cell Phone Etiquette	Dealing with Conflict
Showing Responsibility	Gaining Coworkers' Trust		Appropriate Work Texting	
Reducing Harassment	Persevering		Understanding Copyright	

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Respecting Diversity	Handling Criticism		Social Networking	
Making Truthfulness a Habit	Showing Professionalism			
Leaving a Job Ethically				

### 1.5 Apply the appropriate skill sets to be productive in a changing, technological, diverse workplace to be able to work independently and apply team work skills.

Expected Work Traits	Teamwork	Time Management
Demonstrating Responsibility	Teamwork Skills	Managing Time
Dealing with Information Overload	Reasons Companies Use Teams	Putting First Things First
Transferable Job Skills	Decisions Teams Make	Juggling Many Priorities
Managing Change	Team Responsibilities	Overcoming Procrastination
Adopting a New Technology	Problems That Affect Teams	Organizing Workspace and Tasks
	Expressing Yourself on a Team	Staying Organized
	Giving and Receiving Constructive Criticism	Finding More Time
		Managing Projects
		Prioritizing Personal and Work Life

### 1.6 Present a professional image through appearance, behavior and language.

On-the-Job Etiquette	Person-to-Person Etiquette	Communication Etiquette	Presenting Yourself
Using Professional Manners	Meeting Business Acquaintances	Creating a Good Impression	Looking Professional
Introducing People	Meeting People for the First Time	Keeping Phone Calls Professional	Dressing for Success
Appropriate Dress	Showing Politeness	Proper Use of Work Email	Showing a Professional Attitude
Business Meal Functions		Proper Use of Cell Phone	Using Good Posture
Behavior at Work Parties		Proper Use in Texting	Presenting Yourself to Associates
Behavior at Conventions			Accepting Criticism
International Etiquette			Demonstrating Leadership
Cross-Cultural Etiquette			
Working in a Cubicle			

### Support of CTAE Foundation Course Standards and Georgia Standards of Excellence L9-10RST 1-10 and L9-10WHST 1-10:

Georgia Standards of Excellence ELA/Literacy standards have been written specifically for technical subjects and have been adopted as part of the official standards for all CTAE courses.

## Course Standard 2

### AFNR-SAC-2

**Learn to work safely in the agriculture lab and work sites, demonstrate selected competencies in leadership through the FFA and agricultural industry organizations, and develop plans for a supervised agricultural experience program (SAEP).**

- 2.1 Explain the role of the Agricultural Education program and the FFA in personal development.
- 2.2 Demonstrate knowledge learned through a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program (SAEP).
- 2.3 Develop leadership and personal development skills through participation in the FFA.

- 2.4 Explore career opportunities in Veterinary Medicine and Small Animal Care through the FFA and Agricultural Education Program.
- 2.5 Explore the professional agricultural organizations associated with the course content.

### Course Standard 3

#### AFNR-SAC-3

##### Examine the industry involved in producing small animals.

- 3.1 Describe the history of animal domestication.
- 3.2 Explain the need of humans to have companion animals.
- 3.3 Describe the ways in which humans make use of companion animals.

### Course Standard 4

#### AFNR-SAC-4

##### Analyze safety issues involved with managing small animals.

- 4.1 List and discuss zoonotic diseases and the mode of transmission.
- 4.2 Explain the safety precautions used to prevent disease transmission.
- 4.3 State the proper handling procedures of small animals.
- 4.4 Summarize health problems that can result from small animal bites and scratches.

### Course Standard 5

#### AFNR-SAC-5

##### Discuss the importance of the small animal industry to the economy of the United States.

- 5.1 Identify and describe career opportunities available in small animal production.
- 5.2 Explain the uses of small animals for purposes other than for companion animals.
- 5.3 Interpret supply and demand pertaining to the small animal industry in the United States.

### Course Standard 6

#### AFNR-SAC-6

##### Explain the responsibilities and factors involved in owning and caring for a pet.

- 6.1 List and explain the factors involved in choosing a pet.
- 6.2 Compare and contrast the advantages and disadvantages of pet ownership.
- 6.3 Analyze the importance of proper pet health care.
- 6.4 Explain the concept and responsibility of euthanasia.

### Course Standard 7

#### AFNR-SAC-7

##### Distinguish between the concept of animal rights and the concept of animal welfare.

- 7.1 Define and differentiate between animal welfare and animal rights.
- 7.2 Critique the issue regarding animal rights and animal welfare.

### Course Standard 8

#### AFNR-SAC-8

##### Describe the digestive system and the nutritional needs of companion animals.

- 8.1 Label a simple stomach system.
- 8.2 List and describe how enzymes are produced in the digestive system.
- 8.3 Interpret the function of the stomach, small intestine, and large intestine.
- 8.4 Explain the phenomena of how nutrients are used by the animal's body.
- 8.5 Compare and contrast the nutritional differences of mammals and reptiles.

## Course Standard 9

### AFNR-SAC-9

#### **Demonstrate an understanding of the reproductive processes of small mammals.**

- 9.1 List and describe the major parts of the female and male reproductive tract.
- 9.2 Compare the gestation periods for different companion animals.
- 9.3 Explain the process of parturition.
- 9.4 Compare the nutritional needs of pregnant, non-pregnant and lactating females.
- 9.5 Explain the importance of neutering and spaying non-breeding animals.

## Course Standard 10

### AFNR-SAC-10

#### **Investigate the development of the dog, classify the different types and breeds of dogs and demonstrate management of dogs**

- 10.1 Explain the ancestry of the domesticated dog.
- 10.2 Summarize the characteristics of dogs that make them desirable as a companion animal.
- 10.3 Recall and explain how different breeds of dogs were developed.
- 10.4 Explain how dogs are classified according to use and size.
- 10.5 Analyze the nutritional needs of dogs.
- 10.6 Construct a vaccination program for dogs.
- 10.7 Demonstrate the various grooming techniques used for dogs.
- 10.8 Describe the different methods used to train dogs.

## Course Standard 11

### AFNR-SAC-11

#### **Investigate the development of the cat, classify the different types and breeds of cats and demonstrate care and management of cats**

- 11.1 Explain the ancestry of the domesticated cat.
- 11.2 Summarize the characteristics of cats that made them desirable as a companion animal.
- 11.3 Recall and explain how different breeds of cats were developed.
- 11.4 Compare how cats are classified according to hair length and color.
- 11.5 Analyze the nutritional needs of cats.
- 11.6 Construct a vaccination program for cats.
- 11.7 Assess the difficulties encountered when training cats.

## Course Standard 12

### AFNR-SAC-12

#### **Assess the production and management of rabbits for food and as companion animals.**

- 12.1 Classify rabbits according to fur length, use, and ear type.
- 12.2 Critique a meat type rabbit.
- 12.3 Compare and contrast management practices used in raising rabbits.
- 12.4 Summarize the characteristics of rabbits that make them desirable as companion animals.
- 12.5 Explain the facility and environmental needs of a companion rabbit.
- 12.6 Analyze the nutritional needs of rabbits.
- 12.7 Construct a vaccination program for rabbits.

## Course Standard 13

### AFNR-SAC-13

#### **Outline the proper care for cavies.**

- 13.1 Summarize the characteristics of a cavie.
- 13.2 Summarize the characteristics of a gerbil, hamster, and guinea pig.

- 13.3 Explain the housing needs of cavies.
- 13.4 Analyze the nutritional requirements of cavies.
- 13.5 Construct a disease preventive program.

### Course Standard 14

#### AFNR-SAC-14

##### **Classify the characteristics of reptiles and how to care for them.**

- 14.1 Compare the four orders of reptiles.
- 14.2 Explain the differences between mammals and reptiles.
- 14.3 Summarize the advantages of having reptiles for pets.
- 14.4 Outline safety precautions used in handling reptiles.
- 14.5 Analyze the nutritional requirements of reptiles.
- 14.6 Analyze three diseases that affect reptiles.
- 14.7 Summarize the hibernation process.

### Course Standard 15

#### AFNR-SAC-15

##### **Recognize and explain how to care for birds as companions.**

- 15.1 Summarize the characteristics of birds.
- 15.2 Summarize the types and breeds of birds that make good companion animals.
- 15.3 Assess the importance of purchasing birds from a reputable dealer.
- 15.4 Explain the housing needs of birds.
- 15.5 Analyze the nutritional needs of birds.
- 15.6 Show the procedure used to clip a bird's wing.
- 15.7 Construct a vaccination program for birds.
- 15.8 Draw conclusions on the need for bio-security of fowl diseases and the impact on the industry, other fowl and humans.

### Course Standard 16

#### AFNR-SAC-16

##### **Define and explain the nature and care of aquatic pets.**

- 16.1 Summarize the importance of a quality aquatic environment.
- 16.2 Compare and contrast the differences between freshwater and saltwater fishes and warm water and cold water fish.
- 16.3 List and provide examples of the equipment needed to raise aquatic pets.
- 16.4 Compare and contrast the differences in caring for saltwater and freshwater fish.
- 16.5 Analyze the nutritional needs of aquatic pets.
- 16.6 Summarize the common diseases and treatment of aquatic pets.
- 16.7 Discuss the reproductive process in aquaculture.