

Animal Sciences

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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ANIMAL SCIENCES.

Students in the Department of Animal Sciences enhance the well-being of humans and the animals they keep. They contribute to a safe, nutritious, sustainable, and affordable food supply; and improve the health and safety of companion animals.

When you join animal sciences, you will gain hands-on experiences that will prepare you for a successful career, whether you see yourself working as a veterinarian; formulating diets to optimize animal production; finding a cure for cancer; providing direct animal care at a zoo; running the family farm; or managing an animal shelter.

Ready to learn how you will change lives with a degree from animal sciences?



Across the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES), our small class sizes and personalized advising give our students the close-knit feel of a small school within the exciting context of a Big Ten university. Through classes led by our internationally renowned faculty, animal sciences students master multiple scientific disciplines, including biochemistry, biology, data science, genomics, medicine, and more. Our students also learn outside the classroom, leveraging experiential learning and study abroad opportunities to become highly sought-after in the job market. Our unique blend of science fundamentals and applied learning allows animal sciences graduates to solve some of the greatest challenges of our time.



OUR STUDENTS GRADUATE IN 4 YEARS.

Our 4-year graduation rate is **74%**. We are No. 1 among universities with comparable programs when it comes to the amount of time it takes our students to graduate⁺.

+US News & World Report 2018. National average for public universities is **33%** according to U.S. Department of Education.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING.

As a student in animal sciences, you'll get your hands dirty.

We believe doing is a critical part of learning. Our experiential learning and study abroad opportunities provide unforgettable real-world experiences that reinforce your studies and further your career goals.

Research

Our students conduct research alongside nationally and internationally recognized faculty as early as their first year. To get you started, we'll introduce you to basic research practices such as experimental design and analysis from day one. You'll contribute directly to groundbreaking discoveries while learning to humanely handle and study food, companion, lab, and exotic animals in our state-of-the-art farms and laboratories.

Internships

Our students complete internships throughout the year at animal shelters and rescues, animal and food production facilities, vet clinics, zoos, pharmaceutical companies, and more. You'll apply and reinforce knowledge gained in the classroom, and earn academic credits at the same time.

Study Abroad

Live on the other side of the globe for a year, or spend winter break in the tropics. Our students travel to South Africa to observe exotic animals, work alongside large-animal veterinarians in Greece, run spay and neuter clinics in the Caribbean, and even attend university abroad for a semester. No matter where your academic interests lie, you'll find a study-abroad opportunity that will enhance your studies and give you an experience you'll never forget.

Judging Teams

When you join our dairy, horse, poultry, meats, or livestock judging teams, you'll strengthen your reasoning and communication skills and gain valuable insight into the animal production industry. Students not only compete on a national level against other collegiate teams, but also visit leading animal operations across the country and network with industry leaders.



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES.

With a degree from animal sciences, you can turn your passion for animals into a successful career that will match your unique interests. The majority of our graduates continue their education in graduate or professional school, earning credentials to become veterinarians, animal research scientists, nutritionists, pharmaceutical representatives, and attorneys. Others start their careers right after graduation, pursuing animal production, shelter management, humane education, feed sales, equine care, and more.

Areas of Employment

- Animal care and training
- Animal health
- Feed and animal nutrition
- Food animal production and management
- Human medicine and health
 services

- Animal behavior
- Pet products and services
- Quality assurance
- Research
- Veterinary medicine
- Biomedical research



ACES graduates have earned employment or continued their education within six months of graduation.

ANIMAL SCIENCES MAJOR and concentrations.

As an animal sciences major, you can customize your degree with one of three concentrations:

Companion Animal and Equine Science

Students in this concentration are prepared for careers in specialized fields of animal care, health, and well-being associated with zoos, kennels, research laboratories, and the equine industry.

Food Animal Production and Management

In this concentration, our students train for careers in animal care and management or the food production industries. You'll learn the scientific foundations and applications of technology involved in animal production and animal products. You will gain practical, hands-on knowledge that will prepare you for a future in animal agriculture.

Science, Pre-Veterinary and Medical

This concentration, emphasizing fundamental science courses, allows you to create a curriculum that will satisfy entrance requirements to the graduate or professional school of your choice. You'll be ready to succeed whether you choose veterinary school, pharmacy school, or advanced scientific study.



100% of our graduates work, volunteer, or pursue internships before completing their degrees.

COMPUTER SCIENCE + ANIMAL SCIENCES MAJOR.

Computer science + animal sciences (CS+ANSC) is a first-of-its-kind partnership between The Grainger College of Engineering's Department of Computer Science and the Department of Animal Sciences in ACES.

With a strong grounding in computer science and technical knowledge of animal sciences, our students fill a unique gap in the workforce that employers are looking for. You will be prepared to work with sensor technology, large data sets, and predictive analytics, all aimed at improving the health and well-being of production animals and pets in Illinois and throughout the world. Graduates of the CS+ANSC major are highly sought-after in today's digitally driven marketplace.

Areas of Employment

- Bioinformatics
- Biotechnology
- Computer programing
- Data analytics
- Digital agriculture

- Environmental science
- Genomic research
- Precision animal agriculture
- Quantitative genetics
- Remote sensing



OUR GRADUATES MAKE MORE MONEY.

On average, our highly sought-after graduates earn 21% more than their peers at most universities with comparable programs over a 20-year period. They earn more than double what their peers from other Illinois universities with similar programs earn during that same period⁺.

+Payscale.com

\$3.5M ACES scholarships awarded yearly

SCHEDULE A VISIT

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