Course Syllabus

**Small Animal Management**

*Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources*

*New Diana High School*

**Instructor:** Dylan Bacon

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**Course Description**

The purpose of this course is to allow students the opportunity to gain foundational knowledge and skills related to the animal science industry, focusing primarily on companion animals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and rodents. This class is one semester.

**Learning Goals**

Throughout this course, the students should achieve the following competencies and skills regarding small animals:

* Begin or continue work on a Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) as defined by TEKS Chapter 130, Subchapter A.
* Demonstrate correct identification practices of small animals
* Understand the nutritional, veterinary care, housing, and nutritional requirements of small animals
* Explain the role of pets and small animals in society
* Implement safe hygiene and restraining practices
* Explain the difference in animal rights and welfare in regards to small animals
* Understand and exhibit the characteristics of a successful employee

**Supplies Required**

* Pencil or Pen
* Composition Notebook
* Plastic folder or 1” Binder
* Close-toed shoes (for lab days)

**Grading Procedures**

50% of the students’ grade will be determined by tests, including:

* Formative and Summative Assessment
* Supervised Ag Experience Assessment
* Major Projects

50% of the grade will come from Daily Assignments and Quizzes

The minimum grade for any **completed** daily assignment or assessment turned in on time is 50%. If the assignment is not completed by the student, they will receive the grade they would normally earn without the 50-Point completion threshold.

**Late Work**

Daily assignments not ready for submission by the due date will incur a 20-point penalty per day they are late. Assignments more than 2 days late will not be accepted.

**Absent Work**

Collecting assignments which the student missed due to absence is the responsibility of the student, NOT Mr. Bacon. Students will have the same amount of days to complete the missing assignment(s) as the class did originally. If the assignment is not turned in by the adjusted due date, the Late Work penalty will begin to be assessed.

(Example: If the class had 3 days to finish an assignment, the returning student will have 3 days to complete the same assignment upon their return).

**Classroom Policies**

In the interest of maintaining a safe, productive, and efficient learning environment, the following policies will be implemented and strictly adhered to:

1. Show respect for yourself, others, and equipment
2. Tend to the business at hand
3. No cell phones in class
4. No food or drinks in class

**Semester at a Glance**

Below is the general scope and sequence of lessons throughout the semester. What is listed below is subject to change due to schedule, resources, and other factors:

NOTE: The Supervised Agriculture Experience project will be introduced in the 1st 6 Weeks; however, every student will maintain an SAE project throughout the school year. Grades will be assessed every 6-weeks over student’s SAE.

1st 6 Weeks:

* Begin Supervised Agriculture Experience project
* Introduction to Small Animals (History, Safety, importance, etc.)
* Career Exploration
* Cats

**Major Tests:** SAE Plan (Sept. 8), Safety (Sept. 9), Intro Test (Sept. 14), Cats (Sept. 27)

2nd 6 Weeks

* Dogs
* Small Wildlife Animals
* Gerbils, Hamsters, & Rodents
* Birds

**Major Tests:** Dogs (Oct. 5), Wildlife and Rodents (Oct. 13), Birds (Oct. 16)

3rd 6 Weeks

* Reptiles
* Amphibians
* Fish and Other Aquatics
* Small Animal Issues

**Major Tests:** Reptiles & Amphibians (Dec. 1), Fish and Aquatics (Dec. 8), Animal Issues Speech (Dec. 13-15)