

Advanced Animal Science

Instructor: Mrs. Murphy
Email: mikayla.murphy@dekalbisd.net
Phone: (903) 667-2566 Ext: 2301
Conference Period: 7th Period

Course Description:

Advanced Animal Science examines the interrelatedness of human, scientific, and technological dimensions of livestock production. Instruction is designed to allow for the application of scientific and technological aspects of animal science through field and laboratory experiences. Students will dissect animals and/or animal parts in this course. Participation is required and recorded as daily grades. A major grade lab practical will follow each dissection.

Course Topics:

- Lab Safety
- Animal Welfare Versus Animal Rights
- Genetics
- Reproduction
- Digestion
- Nutrition
- Animal Breeds
- Diseases
- Artificial Insemination
- Fetal Pig Dissection
- Game and Exotic Animals
- Large Animal Restraint/ Small Animal Restraint
- Careers



Materials/Supplied Needed:

Students will be expected to bring the following materials to class every day. Materials include:

- Spiral notebook
- Notebook paper
- Pen, pencil, highlighter

Grading Policy:

Grades will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Test..... 25% Daily Grades.....
75%

Total.....100%

Daily Grades – in class assignments, homework, quizzes, and labs

Test – unit tests, major tests, projects, performance, SAE record project

Absences:

Following an absence, it is the student's responsibility to find out what he/she missed, and turn in his/her work. If the student needs any additional help to understand and complete the missed assignments, my door is always open for tutoring. Attendance is crucial to the course, while students are highly encouraged to participate in classroom activities, discussions, demonstrations, and projects.

Late Work:

Late work is any assignment (homework, daily work) not turned in on time. The maximum grade for a late assignment is 70. Only three late assignments will be accepted in each class per grading period. A zero (0) will be recorded for any subsequent late assignments. Late work will not be accepted after three days. Refer to the student handbook for more information.

Make-Up Tests / Assignments:

Students shall be expected and permitted to make up assignments and tests after absences. When the make-up work is not turned in by the designated date, please refer to the late work policy in the student handbook.

Students retaking a test must contact me via email. A reassessment has to be done within five school days of the original assessment. Once the reassessment has been scored students cannot make higher than a 70. Refer to the student handbook for more information.

Lab Safety:

In this class there will be occasions for interaction with live animals, food, chemicals and sharp object tools. By signing this slip, your student has permission to handle and care for the classroom animals. Additionally, both you and your student are agreeing to handle the animals with respect and care. Furthermore, you are acknowledging that anything that has a mouth and claws can bite or scratch. Your student is aware and will not ingest anything they are not supposed to or use chemicals or tools in any way other than the instructed use. All animals in the classroom will be disease free and will be up to date on all veterinary care. Parents, if you prefer your student not to participate in labs with animals, food, or hazardous materials please contact me directly to arrange for alternative assignments or remove your student from this class by contacting the high school counselor.

FFA Information:

Students are expected to participate in the FFA chapter. Participation in the FFA chapter will be a part of the grading system for all Ag courses. FFA is an integral part of a student's agricultural education. The FFA enhances a student's learning experience by providing leadership and career development opportunities at the local, area, state, and national level. The FFA chapter, as well as at the state and national level, offer students the opportunity for awards and scholarships annually based on student involvement.

SAE Project:

Students will be required to create and maintain an AET account, which will include all Supervised Agricultural Experiences/projects completed through the De Kalb FFA program for the 2025-2026 school year. For each semester's final grade students are required to keep their AET records up-to-date. First semester's final will be over records from August - December and second semester will be over records from January - May.

Classroom Expectations:

Being in an agricultural education program and FFA is a privilege. The following rules are very important and any failure to meet these expectations may result in dismissal from the class entirely.

1. Students should respect fellow classmates, teachers, and all school property.
2. Follow the De Kalb ISD Student Handbook/Student Code of Conduct at all times.
3. Behave in an appropriate and professional manner (ex. no loud or profane language or any misconduct, etc.)
4. Do not speak when someone else is speaking (Teacher or student)
5. Complete all assignments according to directions and turn in on time.
6. GIVE IT YOUR BEST EFFORT. Each student must attend class with a willingness to work and actively participate in classroom discussion, assignments, and projects. Many of the projects will include hands-on work and students are expected to perform as a team for the entire duration of the class period.
7. Arrive to class and begin work promptly.
8. Bring all needed materials and appropriate dress to class each day. Failure to appropriately prepare for class may negatively affect a student's grade.
9. Cell phones must be put away at all times.
10. No off-task behavior on the chromebooks or other classroom technology will be tolerated.
11. HAVE FUN!

Consequences:

- Verbal Warning, Contact Parent Referral
-

Please sign and return this portion of the document to Mrs. Murphy by Friday August 7, 2026 for a 100 daily grade.

By signing this document, the student and parent/ guardian, have received and understand all the rules and expectations outlined above. I realize that if I choose to violate these rules, I will be held accountable for my actions and subject to disciplinary action.

Student Name (**Signature**): _____ Date: _____

Student Name (**PRINT**): _____

Parent/Guardian Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Parent/ Guardian Printed Name: _____

Parent/ Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____