

Zoo Animal Care

Fisheries and Wildlife Program



Imagine a career caring for animals, rehabilitating sick or injured wildlife, or running the tiger exhibit at a zoo! You can realize these career goals through our zoo animal care option.

Make an appointment to learn more about options in our fisheries and wildlife major.

Contact Information

Dr. Mark Pegg
Undergraduate Coordinator
402 Hardin Hall
School of Natural Resources
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, NE 68583-0974
Phone: 402-472-6824
email: mpegg2@unl.edu

Elyse Watson
Recruitment Coordinator
102A Hardin Hall
School of Natural Resources
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, NE 68583-0981
Phone: 402-472-7472
email: elyse.watson@unl.edu

Career Path

Zoo Keeper, Animal Rehabilitation Specialist, Animal Trainer, Environmental Educator, Animal Nutritionist, Conservation Biologist

Special Emphasis Courses

Conservation Biology, Environmental Education, Animal Nutrition and Feeding, Animal Welfare, Genetics, Animal Behavior, Comparative Anatomy of the Vertebrates, Mammalogy, Conservation Biology

Internships Available

Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium, the Lincoln Children's Zoo, Raptor Recovery, Blank Park Zoo, Pioneer's Park Nature Center, National Parks Service, and other organizations.

Fisheries and Wildlife Major Requirements
ZOO ANIMAL CARE OPTION
 2017-2018 Required Courses
 UNL College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources

Bolded **credit hours** indicate the number of credits needed for that subject area. The classes listed below are the available options for that subject area and how many credit hours each class is worth.

Required Courses

Field/Lab (ACE 10)	4 credit hours
NRES 433 Wildlife Management Techniques & NRES 233 Wildlife Field Techniques	4
NRES 463 & NRES 463L Fisheries Science & Lab	4

Conservation	3 credit hours
NRES 211 Introduction to Conservation Biology	3

Zoology	4 credit hours
NRES 386 Vertebrate Zoology (BIOS 386)	4

Career Experience	1-3 credit hours
NRES 399 Independent Research	1-5
NRES 496 Independent Study	1-5
NRES 497 Career Experiences in Natural Resource Sciences	1-6
NRES 499 Thesis Research	3-6
NRES 499H Honors Thesis	3-6

Animal Course	7-8 credit hours
BIOS 475 Ornithology	3
NRES 474 Herpetology (BIOS 474)	4
NRES 476 Mammalogy (BIOS 476)	4
NRES 489 Ichthyology (BIOS 489)	4

Plant Course	3-4 credit hours
NRES 245 Introduction to Grassland Ecology & Management (AGRO 245)	3
AGRO 440 Great Plains Ecosystem (NRES 440/RNGE 440)	3
AGRO 442 Wildland Plants (NRES 442/RNGE 442)	3
NRES 310 Introduction to Forest Management	4
NRES 417 Agroforestry Systems in Sustainable Agriculture (HORT 418)	3
NRES 424 Forest Ecology	4
NRES 426 Invasive Plants (AGRO 426/HORT 426)	3
NRES 435 Agroecology (AGRO 435/HORT 435)	3

Animal Behavior	3-4 credit hours
ASCI 271 Companion Animal Behavior	3
BIOS 462 Animal Behavior	3
BIOS 468 Field Animal Behavior	4

Nutrition Course	3 credit hours
ASCI 320 Animal Nutrition & Feeding	3
ASCI 321 Companion Animal Nutrition	3

Required Courses

Education Courses	3 credit hours
NRES 434 Environmental Education & Interpretation (ENVR 434)	3
ALEC 305 Presentation Strategies for Agricultural Audiences	3
ALEC 412 Multimedia Applications for Education & Training	3
EDPS 457 Learning & Motivation Principles for Secondary Teaching	3

Anatomy and Physiology Course	4 credit hours
ASCI 240 Anatomy & Physiology of Domestic Animals	4
BIOS 213 & BIOS 213L Human Physiology & Lab	4
BIOS 388 Comparative Anatomy of the Vertebrates	4

Optional Electives

	14 credit hours
AECN 265 Resource & Environmental Economics I (NREE 265)	3
ASCI 171 Human-Companion Animal Interactions	2
ASCI 251 Introduction to Companion Animals	3
ASCI 271 Companion Animal Behavior	3
ASCI 341 Physiology & Management of Reproduction	4
ASCI 370 Animal Welfare	3
ASCI 421 Advanced Animal Nutrition	3
BIOS 312 Microbiology	3
BIOS 373 Biopsychology (PSYC 373)	3
BIOS 472 Evolution	3
BIOS 487 Field Parasitology	4
NRES 270 Biological Invaders (AGRO 370/HORT 270/PLPT 270)	3
NRES 312 Introduction to Geospatial Information Sciences (GEOG 312)	3
NRES 308 Biogeography (GEOG 308/GEOL 308)	3
NRES 348 Wildlife Damage Management	3
NRES 388 Employment Seminar (AGRI 388)	1
NRES 412 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GEOG 412)	4
NRES 418 Introduction to Remote Sensing (GEOG 418)	4
NRES 427 Introduction to the Global Positioning System (GPS) (GEOG 427)	2
NRES 428 Leadership in Public Organizations (ALEC 428)	3
NRES 450 Biology of Wildlife Populations (BIOS 450)	4
NRES 459 Limnology (BIOS 459/WATS 459)	4
NRES 487 Introduction to Landscape Ecology (LARC 487)	3
NRES 492 Study Tours in Natural Resource Management	1-3
PHIL 225 Environmental Ethics	3
VBMS 303 Principles & Prevention of Livestock Diseases	3
VBMS 408 Functional Histology (BIOS 408)	4