



Zoo Animal Care

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 with one of our faculty advisers to learn more about our fisheries and wildlife major.



A fisheries and wildlife student holds a tiger cub during an summer zookeeper position at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha.

FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE DEGREE PROGRAM

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School of Natural Resources

Career Path

Zoo Keeper, Animal Rehabilitation Specialist, Animal Trainer

Special Emphasis Courses

Conservation Biology, Environmental Education, Animal Nutrition and Feeding, Animal Welfare, Genetics, Animal Behavior

Internships Available

Our students have enjoyed internships with Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo, the Lincoln Children's Zoo, Raptor Recovery, and other organizations. Most students begin as volunteers in 10-week programs, which can result in paid keeper positions during the summer.



University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Fisheries and Wildlife Major Requirements

ZOO ANIMAL CARE OPTION

<i>Zoo Animal Care Option Requirements</i>	<i>27 Hours</i>	
NRES 386 Vertebrate Zoology		4
<i>Animal Course:</i> Select one course from: Select one course from: NRES 476 Mammalogy, NRES 474 Herpetology, BIOS 475 Ornithology, NRES 489 Ichthyology		3-4
<i>Plant Course:</i> Select one course from: AGRO 440 Great Plains Ecosystems, AGRO 442 Wildland Plants, BIOS 455 Great Plains Flora, BIOS 473 Freshwater Algae, NRES 310 Intro to Forest Management, NRES 417 Agroforestry Systems, NRES 424 Forest Ecology, NRES 435 Agroecology, RNGE 240 Forage Crop & Range Management		3-4
<i>Animal Behavior Course:</i> Select one course from: BIOS 462 Animal Behavior, BIOS 468 Field Animal Behavior		4
<i>Education Course:</i> Select one course from: ALEC 305 Presentation Strategies for Agricultural Audiences, EDPS 457 Learning and Motivation Principles for Secondary Teaching		3
<i>A&P Course:</i> Select one course from: ASCI 240 Anatomy and Physiology of Domestic Animals or BIOS 213 Human Physiology and Lab or BIOS 388 Comparative Anatomy of the Vertebrates		4
ASCI 320 Animal Nutrition and Feeding		3
NRES 497 Career Experiences in Natural Resource Sciences		3

Zoo Animal Care Option Electives (9 Hours)

Select from (at least 6 hours must be 400-level):

Agronomy courses

AGRO 315 Genetics (4 cr)

Animal Science courses

ASCI 271 Companion Animal Behavior (3 cr)

ASCI 321 Companion Animal Nutrition (3 cr)

ASCI 341 Physiology and Management of Reproduction (4 cr)

ASCI 370 Animal Welfare (3 cr)

ASCI 421 Advanced Animal Nutrition (3 cr)

Biological Sciences courses

BIOS 206 General Genetics (4 cr)

BIOS 312 Fundamentals of Microbiology (3 cr)

NRES 308 Biogeography (3 cr)

BIOS 373 Biopsychology (3 cr)

BIOS 472 Evolution (4 cr)

BIOS 487 Field Parasitology (4 cr)

Chemistry courses

CHEM 251 Organic Chemistry

Management courses

MNGT 360 Managing Behavior in Organizations (3 cr)

MNGT 361 Personnel/Human Resources Management (3 cr)

Natural Resources courses

NRES 211 Intro to Conservation Biology (3 cr)

NRES 348 Wildlife Damage Management (3 cr)

NRES 388 Employment Seminar (1 cr)

NRES 423 Integrated Resource Management (3 cr)

NRES 496 Wildlife Disease (2 cr)

NRES 450 Biology of Wildlife Populations (4 cr)

NRES 459 Limnology (4 cr)

NRES 492 Natural Resources Study Tours (variable credit)

NRES 499 Thesis Research

NRES 499H Honors Thesis

Political Science courses

POLS 210 Bureaucracy & the American Political System (3 cr)

Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences courses

VBMS 303 Principles and Prevention of Livestock Diseases (3 cr)

VBMS 408 Functional Histology (4 cr)

And/or any optional courses listed but not taken under the *Natural Resources Core Courses*, *Fisheries and Wildlife Courses*, or *Option Requirements* headings in this program.

Free electives: 10 hours

This option is designed for students considering careers in zoo keeping, zoo animal care, animal rehabilitation, and animal training. Completion of this program also provides excellent preparation for graduate study.