

CLASS SYLLABUS

Small Animal Management/ Equine Science

2026-2027

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is a 0.5 credit semester course designed for students in the AFNR Animal Science Pathway. Small Animal Management occurs in the fall, and the 0.5 credit Equine Science class follows in the spring. Small Animal Mgmt./Equine Science allows students to develop knowledge and skills in relation to small animals & equine, common practices, and is meant for those looking into a career in the animal science or veterinary industry.

FFA

Enrollment in this course allows students the opportunity to be involved in Shiner FFA. More information about all of the opportunities within FFA will be presented in class and distributed through multiple communication outlets as the school year goes on. This youth leadership organization is based around "premier leadership, personal growth, and career success."

SAE'S

As a part of enrollment in this course, students are expected to develop an SAE (supervised agriculture experience) and document it in The AET. Students will learn by doing through documenting their projects and things learned in class. SAEs are a key component of agricultural education and will be discussed in depth in class.

Remind: @shinerff

EXPECTATIONS

- 1 Be respectful of everyone and everything.
- 2 Come prepared with materials and a positive attitude.
- 3 Participate actively in discussions & activities.
- 4 Follow all school rules and classroom procedures.
- 5 Take ownership of your own actions and learning.
- 6 Strive for excellence.

CONTACT INFO.

Ag Teacher: Ms. Faith Martin
martinf@shinerisd.net
Remind: 81010@saefm
• Google Classroom

SUPPLIES

- ☐ composition or spiral notebook
- ☐ Pen or pencil

WHAT WILL WE LEARN ABOUT?

AFNR 3 Circle
Model

Exotics

Identifying Traits

Companion Animals

Nutrition & Health

Anatomy

Animal Behavior

Basic Canine &
Feline Anatomy

Hoof Care

Animal Rights

Careers &
Employability

Selection Practices

Animal Welfare

History

Reproduction

Breeds

Industry Practices

Body Systems

This is a dynamic list therefore it is subject to change as additions or subtractions may be necessary.

GRADING PROCEDURES

Your grade will be based on the following categories:

- Classwork/Daily Grades - 10%
- Projects -30%
- Labs - 30%
- Tests - 30%

LATE/MISSING WORK

Late Work is defined as any work that is not submitted when it is due as assigned by the teacher. Work will be accepted until the end of the school day on the day that it is due. Google Classroom assignments are due at the end of the day that they are assigned (11:59 PM). Students may submit incomplete work, although it will be graded as is. Students may submit missing assignments up until 3 days prior to end of the grading period. Submitting work at a later date is a privilege that should not be abused. Students are responsible for obtaining any missing work due to an absence.

IMPORTANT DATES

Important dates will be discussed in class, written on the student calendar in class, and dispersed through Shiner FFA outlets (email, Facebook, website, etc.) as they arise.

- Shiner FFA Livestock Show - March 5th, 2027
- Shiner FFA Banquet - May 4th, 2027
- Area Convention - May 14th, 2027

DISCIPLINE

Students who break any classroom rules, exhibit disruptive behavior, continuously do not turn in assignments/missing work, are tardy, and/or exhibit behaviors unbecoming of a Shiner ISD student will receive the following disciplinary steps/actions:

- verbal warning (2x)
- teacher detention & parent contact
- referral

CLASS AGREEMENT

I _____ have read and understand the above expectations of the _____ class taught by Ms. Martin in the 2026-2027 school year. I agree to abide by the rules and expectations set forth in order for a positive learning environment to occur in Ms. Martin's class at Shiner High School.

Student Signature: _____

SAFETY AGREEMENT

This class includes hands-on learning with animals, specimens, equipment, classroom activities, the great outdoors, labs, and possible field trips. Safe, respectful, and responsible behavior is required at all times.

Class Activities and Environment

Students may participate in activities inside the classroom, laboratory, school facilities, animal areas, outdoor learning spaces, and approved off-campus locations. Activities may include exposure to:

- Live animals, dead animals, animal parts, and preserved specimens
- Biological materials, animal waste, tools, supplies, and equipment
- Outdoor conditions such as heat, cold, sun, rain, wind, dirt, mud, insects, and uneven ground
- Animal-related facilities such as farms, barns, clinics, shelters, labs, agricultural sites, fairs, shows, or career locations

Animal and Specimen Handling

Students may be expected to observe, handle, or work near live animals, dead animals, animal parts, or specimens as part of instruction. Students must:

- Handle animals, specimens, supplies, and equipment only when instructed
- Follow all teacher directions and safety procedures immediately
- Treat all animals and specimens with care, respect, and maturity
- Avoid teasing, chasing, startling, rough handling, or harming animals
- Report injuries, unsafe conditions, broken equipment, spills, or unusual animal behavior immediately
- Wash hands after handling animals, specimens, animal materials, or related equipment

Participation Expectations

Participation in labs, class activities, animal-related work, and scheduled course experiences is expected unless otherwise specified in advance. Students must:

- Participate appropriately in assigned labs and activities
- Notify the teacher in advance of known concerns related to participation
- Complete alternate assignments only when approved by the teacher
- Arrive prepared with required clothing, footwear, supplies, or materials when specified

Field Trip Expectations

Animal science field trips may involve travel during or outside the school day and may include transportation by school-approved methods. Field trips may involve animals, unfamiliar facilities, outdoor conditions, public spaces, equipment, and additional risks.

SAFETY AGREEMENT

Behavior and Respect Expectations

Appropriate behavior is required during classroom instruction, labs, animal handling, specimen work, outdoor activities, field trips, transportation, and transitions. Students must:

- Act safely, responsibly, and respectfully at all times
- Avoid horseplay, running, yelling, pushing, distracting others, or unsafe behavior
- Use tools, supplies, and equipment only as directed
- Keep work areas, animal areas, classroom spaces, and field trip locations clean and organized
- Show respect for classmates, the teacher, chaperones, guests, facility staff, animals, specimens, school property, equipment, supplies, and shared spaces

Risk Awareness and Safety Requirements

Animal science activities involve a certain level of risk. Possible risks include scratches, bites, allergic reactions, exposure to biological materials, contact with animal waste, slips, falls, weather-related discomfort, transportation risks, unfamiliar environments, tools, equipment, and other hazards related to animals, specimens, facilities, field trips, and outdoor settings. Students must:

- Follow all written and verbal safety instructions
- Wear required safety equipment when instructed
- Keep food and drinks away from animal, lab, and equipment areas unless permitted
- Avoid touching animals, specimens, tools, supplies, or equipment without permission
- Act in a manner that protects classmates, animals, school property, field trip locations, transportation vehicles, and instructional materials
- Unsafe, disrespectful, careless, or harmful behavior may result in removal from an activity, loss of lab or field trip privileges, parent/guardian contact, disciplinary action, or other consequences according to classroom, school, and district policy.

Agreement Acknowledgment

By signing below, the student and parent/guardian acknowledge that this animal science class may include handling or exposure to live animals, dead animals, animal parts, specimens, outdoor environments, weather conditions, equipment, field trips, transportation, off-campus activities, and risks associated with animal-related instruction. The student is expected to follow all safety rules and behave respectfully and responsibly during all class activities.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____