

ZOO & AQUARIUM SCIENCE



This program is designed for students who have career interests in zoology, marine and animal science, veterinary medicine, conservation and/or environmental education. This is an in-depth, hands on learning experience in a real world setting—Potter Park Zoo. In addition to classroom work, students will be expected to actively participate in zoo activities. Students must be willing to tolerate working in various weather conditions. Rain jackets are provided. No LCC credit is available for this course.

Program Location:

Potter Park Zoo
(shuttle available from LCC West)

Session Offered: AM/PM

Average Lecture Days/Week: 2-3 days

Average Lab Days/Week: 2-3 days

Homework: Weekly

Required reading:

College level textbooks
Workbooks
Less than 25 pages/week

LCC Credits Available: No college credit available

Student learning outcomes include but are not limited to:

- Themes integrated throughout the curriculum:
 - Exposure to a variety of animal related career opportunities
 - Development of portfolio to be used as a tool for post-secondary planning
- Zoo and Aquarium Management and Administration
 - Understand the development of zoos and aquariums from ancient private menageries to present day zoological gardens
 - Realize the importance of master planning, accreditation, and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums to the current roles of zoos and aquariums
- Anatomy and Physiology
 - Identify parts of the body, both internally and externally, of a variety of animals
 - Compare body systems between animal taxa
- Caring for Animals in Captivity
 - Study exhibit design, animal behavior, enrichment and welfare
 - Understand the importance of proper nutrition, reproductive science and safety when working with non-domesticated captive animals
 - Shadow keepers to learn about their duties at Potter Park Zoo
- Conservation
 - Introduction to the principles of ecology and their role in conservation practices
 - Increase awareness of conservation topics currently relevant to people and animals
- Education
 - Understand development of an educational program at a zoo or aquarium
 - Learn how to properly handle education animals and how to educate guests about that animal
 - Gain an understanding of wildlife issues and attitudes and the myths and misconceptions of animals