Animal Science may be defined as the study and integration of all disciplines that relate to the function and care of animals for the benefit of society by providing companionship, food, fiber, performance, and research. Graduate students may specialize in animal management, breeding, genetics and genomics, growth and developmental biology, meat science, nutrition, reproductive biology, and animal health. The department maintains numerous facilities for research involving both small and large animals. Laboratories are equipped with the latest instrumentation. Herds of dairy and beef cattle, sheep, swine, white tail deer, horses, as well as flocks of poultry, including chickens, turkeys, and quail, are maintained for instruction and research.