**Program Overview**

The Dairy Herd Management program will prepare students with practical experience and theory applications to meet the demands of operating profitable and progressive dairy farms. Proper management skills, herdsperson traits, and continued use of new technologies are keys in being competitive in today’s markets. This program is for the student serious about maintaining a career in dairy herd management.

**Special Features**

This program is designed for the learner to gain first-hand experience through internships. This will incorporate actual work experience in such areas as a dairy herdsperson, milking, feeding, calf care, general farm duties, scheduling, and employer/employee communications.

**Admission Requirements**

Students in this program must:

- Complete application form and submit with fee (fee waiver may apply if previously submitted)
- Complete Accuplacer entrance assessment to determine placement (waiver may apply with acceptable alternative test scores and/or postsecondary degree completion)
- Complete admissions meeting with a WITC counselor (above requirements should be completed prior to meeting)

**Program Outcomes**

Upon completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Manage herd nutrition
- Manage herd reproduction
- Manage herd health
- Manage herd/farm business

Employability essentials and indicators will also be addressed to develop personal awareness, career effectiveness, and professionalism. See page 5 of the college catalog for a list of employability essentials and indicators.

**Career Outlook**

Some available careers upon completion of this program are:

- AI Technician
- Dairy Herd Manager
- DHIA Field Technician
- Farm Owner
- Feed and Nutrition Consultant
- Herdsperson

**Curriculum**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31091312</td>
<td>Dairy Feeding</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>31091314</td>
<td>Dairy Feeding Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>31091318</td>
<td>Dairy Lab 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31091320</td>
<td>Dairy Lab 2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>31091324</td>
<td>Milk Production</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>31091332</td>
<td>Dairy Cattle Industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>31091335</td>
<td>Dairy Cattle Genetics and Reproduction</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>31091340</td>
<td>Dairy Housing and Farmstead Design</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>31091344</td>
<td>Dairy Business Management</td>
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<td>31091361</td>
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**Program Requirements**

- See pages 41-43 for course descriptions.

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**Career Pathway Options**

Career Pathways connect progressive levels of coursework to allow students to build upon their education. Each step in the pathway connects with employment options and provides the opportunity for advancement to higher levels. The Dairy Herd Management program includes the following pathway options:

- 30-091-1 Dairy Feeding Management Technical Diploma
- 30-091-2 Dairy Genetics and Reproduction Technical Diploma
- 30-091-4 Dairy Cattle Management Technical Diploma
Programs and Course Descriptions
(See pages 41-43 for General Studies course descriptions)

31091312 Dairy Feeding - Credits: 3
This course prepares the learner to explain the functions of each organ in the digestive system of a ruminant; explain the development of the digestive system in a calf; compare ruminant and non-ruminant digestion; explain the functions of each class of nutrients; analyze forage analysis reports; compare plant, animal, and non-protein nitrogen sources of protein; identify deficiency symptoms of minerals and vitamins; demonstrate the use of particle separators and dry-matter tests; and utilize NRC standards for various cow groups.

31091314 Dairy Feeding Management - Credits: 3
This course prepares the learner to evaluate a dairy’s overall feeding program, develop a calf raising and feeding plan, summarize the feed ensiling process, compare the different options available for feed storage, develop a feed inventory system, analyze feed management’s impact on feed quality and animal health, compare component and total mixed ration feeding of dairy animals, explore the use of byproduct and commodity feedstuffs in dairy rations, determine cost valuation of various feedstuffs, and develop an auditing system for monitoring a dairy feeding program’s effectiveness.

31091318 Dairy Lab 1 - Credits: 2
This course prepares the learner to analyze cow housing facilities, analyze parlor designs, analyze young stock facilities, explain feed plant operations, assess bunker management techniques, compare grazing systems, analyze cheese plant operations, analyze biosecurity procedures, explain the E.T. process, analyze alternative dairy industry components, and observe on-farm postmortems.

31091320 Dairy Lab 2 - Credits: 2
This course prepares the learner to compare animal bedding, compare manure handling systems, explain how methane digesters operate, compare alley scrapers and flush systems, perform tests for milk quality, clip cows, perform freeze branding, utilize dairy cattle judging/linear breakdown, and compare hoof trimming methods.

31091324 Milk Production - Credits: 2
This course prepares the learner to explain the structure and function of the anatomy and physiology of the mammary system, analyze factors affecting the yield and composition of milk, explain the principles and practices of machine milking systems, develop an effective mastitis control program, and develop an effective dry-cow treatment program.

31091332 Dairy Cattle Industry - Credits: 2
This course prepares the learner to follow safety procedures, explain milk check pricing, analyze milk pricing variables, compare dairy career opportunities, assess professional dairy organizations, analyze the economics of on-farm dairy processing, analyze breed differences, evaluate breed organizations, summarize the benefits of good community relations, and utilize proper withholding practices.

31091335 Dairy Cattle Genetics and Reproduction - Credits: 4
This course prepares the learner to analyze the economic aspect of dairy cow reproduction, explain the reproductive system of a bull, breed cows using artificial insemination, make effective mating decisions, select mating programs for milk production, assess reproductive diseases, treat reproductive diseases, utilize computer technology to document herd health, analyze the effects of hormones on reproduction, and analyze reproductive technologies.

31091340 Dairy Housing and Farmstead Design - Credits: 2
This course prepares the learner to select appropriate housing design for cows, assess housing for maternity and fresh cow needs, select appropriate designs for young stock, compare milking parlor design, select feed storage facilities, assess manure handling systems, design the farm for expansion, explain the causes of and solutions for stray voltage, and design milking center facilities and utility needs.

31091344 Dairy Business Management - Credits: 2
Prepares the learner to determine credit needs, select the appropriate type of business structure for an agribusiness; analyze financial records, analyze the strengths and weaknesses of a business, develop a strategy of income tax management, evaluate farm record systems, determine estate planning needs, and evaluate employee/employer relations.

Gainful employment information is available at this link: http://www.witc.edu/pgrmpages/dairyhd/gainful-employment/Gedt.html. This information is provided as a federal requirement in an effort to help students make informed decisions related to the costs and potential employment in a chosen field.

Graduate Employment Information
(WITC Graduate Survey Responses 2014-2015; for most recent data, go to witc.edu)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of graduates</th>
<th>Number employed</th>
<th>% employed in WITC district</th>
<th>Range of yearly salary</th>
<th>Average yearly salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>$9,600-$250,000</td>
<td>$63,768</td>
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