

EQUINE STUDIES MAJOR: EQUINE ASSISTED ACTIVITIES & THERAPIES OPTION (B.S.)

<https://colsa.unh.edu/agriculture-nutrition-food-systems/program/bs/equine-studies-major-therapeutic-riding-option>

Description

This option is designed for:

- Students interested in a teaching therapeutic riding or other equine-assisted activities and therapies.
- Students interested in an administrative career at a center conducting equine-assisted activities and therapies, such as fundraising, volunteer coordination, or management for a therapeutic riding center.

This option includes classes in equine studies, equine-assisted activities and therapies, non-profit organizations, and topics related to human development and special needs. Students also prepare and test for PATH International instructor certification, which allows them to teach therapeutic riding at any PATH International operating center.

In addition to the standard core courses for all Equine Studies majors, students in Equine Management take courses in human anatomy and physiology, agricultural business management and non-profit management, equine-assisted activities, therapeutic riding instruction, equine management, and equine conformation. Students then select 20 approved credits to allow them to focus in the areas most relevant to their desired career. Those courses may include classes in equine training, riding instruction, sign language, human development, and education.

Requirements

A minimum grade of C-minus or better must be earned in all Equine Studies courses required by the major.

Code	Title	Credits
Core Equine Studies Requirements		
ANSC 411	Freshman Seminar in Equine Science	1
ANSC 437	Equine Husbandry Techniques	4
ANSC 504	Equine Physiology	4
ANSC 522	Intermediate Horsemanship Theory	3
or ANSC 405	Theory of Horsemanship	
ANSC 600	Field Experience ¹	1-4
ANSC 612	Genetics of Domestic Animals	4
or GEN 604	Principles of Genetics	
ANSC 665	Principles of Horse Trials Management ¹	2
ANSC 725	Equine Sports Medicine	4
ANSC 796	Equine Senior Seminar	2
ANSC 797	Equine Capstone Experience	4
BIOL 411	Introductory Biology: Molecular and Cellular	4
BIOL 412	Introductory Biology: Evolution, Biodiversity and Ecology	4
ENGL 501	Introduction to Creative Nonfiction	4
or ENGL 419	How to Read Anything	
or ENGL 502	Professional and Technical Writing	
or ENGL 503	Persuasive Writing	
or ANSC 543	Technical Writing in Animal Sciences	

EREC 411	Environmental and Resource Economics Perspectives	4
or ECON 402	Principles of Economics (Micro)	
Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies Requirements		
ANSC 426	Equine Conformation and Lameness	4
ANSC 500	Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies	4
ANSC 546	Animal Business Applications	4
ANSC 547	Equine Stable Management	3
ANSC 635	Nonprofit Management for Agriculture Business	4
ANSC 643	Principles of Therapeutic Riding Instruction	4
BMS 507	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
BMS 508	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
Therapeutic Riding Electives: Choose 20 credits from the following:		
ANSC 507	Survey of Equine Training Techniques	3
ANSC 536	Preparation and Competition Techniques for the Modern Sport Horse	4
ANSC 538	Equine Handling/Longeing	1
ANSC 602	Animal Rights and Societal Issues	4
ANSC 640	Principles of Riding Instruction	4
ANSC 641	Principles of Dressage Instruction	2
ANSC 642	Principles of Jumping Instruction	2
ANSC 695	Supervised Teaching Experience	1-2
ANSC 744	Advanced Concepts in Therapeutic Riding Instruction	4
COMM 401	American Sign Language I	4
COMM 420	Survey of Communication Disorders	4
COMM 502	American Sign Language II	4
EDUC 500	Exploring Teaching	4
EDUC 650	Introduction to Disability in Inclusive Schools and Communities	4
EDUC 701	Human Development & Learning: Cultural Perspectives	4
EDUC 751A	Inclusive Elementary Education: Literacies and Learning for Diverse Learners	4
EDUC 751B	Methods of Inclusive Secondary Education: Literacies, Learning, and Transitions	4
EDUC 760	Introduction to Young Children with Special Needs	4
MGT 535	Organizational Behavior	4
OT 500	Behavior and Development of Children	4
or HDFS 525	Human Development	
OT 510	Exploring Occupational Therapy and Occupation	4
PSYC 561	Abnormal Behavior	4
PSYC 581	Child Development	4
RMP 501	Recreation Services for Individuals with Disabilities	4
SW 424	Introduction to Social Work	4
SW 797	Special Topics in Social Welfare	4
ZOOL 613	Animal Behavior	5

¹ Waived for TSAS equine management graduates

Degree Plan

Sample Student Schedule by Semester - Therapeutic Riding

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Fall		
ANSC 402	Horsemanship Lab	1
ANSC 411	Freshman Seminar in Equine Science	1
ANSC 422	Introduction to Horsemanship Theory	3
ANSC 437	Equine Husbandry Techniques	4
BIOL 411	Introductory Biology: Molecular and Cellular	4
ENGL 401	First-Year Writing	4
Credits		17
Spring		
ANSC 426	Equine Conformation and Lameness	4
BIOL 412	Introductory Biology: Evolution, Biodiversity and Ecology	4
Discovery Course		4

Discovery Course		4
Credits		16
Second Year		
Fall		
ANSC 546	Animal Business Applications	4
ANSC 500	Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies	4
BMS 507	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
Choice of Major Elective		4
Credits		16
Spring		
ANSC 402	Horsemanship Lab	1
ANSC 522	Intermediate Horsemanship Theory	3
ANSC 643	Principles of Therapeutic Riding Instruction	4
BMS 508	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
ENGL 501	Introduction to Creative Nonfiction	4
EREC 411	Environmental and Resource Economics Perspectives	4
Credits		20
Third Year		
Fall		
ANSC 504	Equine Physiology	4
ANSC 547	Equine Stable Management	3
ZOOL 613	Animal Behavior	5
or ANSC 640	or Principles of Riding Instruction	
or ANSC 795W	or Investigations	
Discovery Course		4
Credits		16
Spring		
ANSC 635	Nonprofit Management for Agriculture Business	4
ANSC 643	Principles of Therapeutic Riding Instruction	4
ANSC 665	Principles of Horse Trials Management	2
Discovery Course		4
Credits		14
Summer		
ANSC 600	Field Experience	1-4
Credits		1-4
Fourth Year		
Fall		
ANSC 612	Genetics of Domestic Animals	4
or GEN 604	or Principles of Genetics	
ANSC 725	Equine Sports Medicine	4
ANSC 744	Advanced Concepts in Therapeutic Riding Instruction	4
ANSC 796	Equine Senior Seminar	2
Credits		14
Spring		
ANSC 797	Equine Capstone Experience	4
Discovery Course		4
Major Elective		4

Major Elective	4
Credits	16
Total Credits	130-133

¹ 2+ cr above/Horsemanship Theory

Student Learning Outcomes

All students who graduate from the B.S. in Equine Studies program will be able to:

- Identify, explain, and demonstrate safe, effective, and humane equine handling and stable management skills.
- Identify, explain, and demonstrate equine health management practices and basic equine first aid.
- Explain guidelines for equine nutrition, feeding, and parasite management.
- Demonstrate technical proficiency with English tack, boots, bandages, and blankets.
- Demonstrate safe, competent longeing technique using a trained horse.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of riding practices in equestrian sport.
- Communicate effectively, in written and verbal form, about professional topics in the equine industry.

Therapeutic Riding option:

- Demonstrate an applied understanding of equine assisted activities & therapies (EAAT) teaching techniques for a broad spectrum of disorders and disabilities.
- Provide documentation of successful completion of the PATH Intl. registered instructor certification program.
- Identify ideal conformation and movement faults as they relate to equine form and function and the therapeutic needs of clients with disabilities.
- Demonstrate proficiency with adaptive equipment, tack, and procedures used in an equine assisted activities & therapies (EAAT) setting.
- Demonstrate working knowledge of key elements of business planning, management, and development, as they relate to an equine assisted activities & therapies (EAAT) setting.