

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR INSTITUTE

EQUINE PROGRAMS



ANIMAL
BEHAVIOR
INSTITUTE

A more personal education

A photograph of a woman with long blonde hair, wearing a green and black plaid shirt, grooming a brown horse. She is using a black grooming brush on the horse's neck. The horse is wearing a black halter with silver-colored metal rings. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a white building and trees.

MEANINGFUL

WHAT

IS EQUINE BEHAVIOR
& MANAGEMENT
ALL ABOUT?

The Equine Behavior & Management program is designed for horse trainers, owners and enthusiasts that would like to develop a deeper understanding of equine behavior, including cognition, emotions, health and nutrition. Our comprehensive program will help you improve the management of the horses in your care, enhancing their welfare and producing a stronger human-equine bond. Your specialized training will allow you to:

1. Create and implement training plans to teach horses new behaviors and to extinguish or reduce unwanted behaviors.
2. Develop a firm understanding of equine social behavior, including dominance, herd structure, reproductive behavior, parental behavior, and courtship.
3. Interpret equine sounds and body language in order to improve human-equine communication.
4. Develop a detailed understanding of equine sensory systems and how horses process information.
5. Identify signs of anxiety and boredom in horses and create an environment that reduces stress.
6. Select the most appropriate equipment and techniques to minimize anxiety during training.
7. Create an effective diet based on an animal's age, sex, reproductive condition, and activity.
8. Recognize common ailments and their symptoms.

We offer two certificate programs in equine behavior, Equine Behavior & Management and Advanced Equine Training. Equine Behavior & Management is a shorter, specialized program covering the essentials of training. The program also incorporates problem solving, behavioral development, body language, and nutrition.

Our Advanced Equine Training program expands upon the foundation established in the Equine Behavior Management. The Advanced Equine Training program provides an innovative, in-depth study of equine training and behavior, building on the skills learned in the specialized certificate in Equine Behavior & Management. Students go far beyond training; you will learn how to incorporate principles of behavioral science to identify training goals and to develop and evaluate training programs. We will tackle equine behavioral problems in a variety of settings; students are encouraged to share their personal training challenges as well. Additional coursework in management will help you build a new equine business or take an existing one to the next level.

PERSONAL



WHO

WORKS IN EQUINE
BEHAVIOR &
MANAGEMENT?

Who hires equine trainers and managers? Equine professionals may work for riding stables, training facilities, or equestrian centers. They may also be self-employed as trainers or behavioral consultants. Trainers often specialize in specific areas such as driving, dressage or racehorse training. Sample positions include:

- Horse trainer
- Barn manager
- Riding instructor
- Stallion manager
- Broodmare manager
- Horse breeder
- Groomer
- Farrier
- Dude ranch wrangler
- Outrider
- Equine veterinarian
- Equine veterinary technician

The outlook for professionals in animal care and service, including equine trainers, is very positive. Employment in these areas is expected to grow 11 percent over the 2016-26 decade, faster than the average for all occupations*. Salaries vary greatly based on the specific field or employer. For example, independent animal trainers may work for \$20-50/hour or more. Animal care staff working in other fields may earn considerably less. Our program in Equine Behavior & Management will give you the competitive edge you need to succeed.

*U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook.

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a blue short-sleeved shirt, white breeches, brown riding boots, and a brown helmet, is riding a grey horse. She is leaning forward in a jumping position. The horse is grey with a white blaze on its face and is captured in mid-jump over a green, out-of-focus background of trees and foliage.

FLEXIBLE

WHEN

CAN I START?

Now! Getting started is easy - you can apply online in minutes. Your academic advisor can help you plan your courses.

Academic Curriculum

Your certificate in Equine Behavior & Management requires the completion of three online courses and 40 hours of relevant field experience. Most students finish their certificate in 6-12 months

The three required courses for Equine Behavior & Management certificate are:

ABI 127 Equine Minds & Emotions

ABI 237 Equine Behavior

ABI 317 Equine Health & Nutrition

The four required courses for the Advanced Equine Training certificate are:

ABI 127 Equine Minds & Emotions

ABI 237 Equine Behavior

ABI 267 Equine Training

ABI 317 Equine Health & Nutrition

You will also choose one elective for the Advanced Equine Training certificate from the following:

ABI 222 Animal Enrichment

ABI 232 The Human-Animal Bond

ABI 261 Equine Assisted Activities & Therapies

Field Requirement

We believe that academic training must be accompanied by real world experience to be truly effective. During your time as a student, you will complete a field requirement consisting of 40 hours of hands-on experience as an employee, intern or volunteer at an approved institution of your choice. One of the strengths of our program is that students are able to choose where they would like to complete their fieldwork; the facility is not assigned.

Please note that students in the Advanced Equine Training program do not need to complete the field requirement more than once. The field hours used for the Equine Behavior & Management specialized certificate can also be used to satisfy the field requirement for Advanced Equine Training.

EXCEPTIONAL



WHY

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR
INSTITUTE?

Widespread Recognition & Acceptance

You can be confident about pursuing your education with the Animal Behavior Institute. Our quality programs enjoy widespread acceptance at other institutions. We are licensed by the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges* and accredited by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). As a result of this Accredited Provider status, the Animal Behavior Institute is able to offer IACET CEU credits. These credits are accepted by hundreds of professional associations. Credit from our courses can also be applied to meet the continuing education requirements of many educational institutions, including public and private schools.

In addition, individual courses are accepted by a number of other organizations. Please see our website at www.animaledu.com for a complete listing of our educational partners.

Upon graduation, students may begin using the designation CEBMS, Certified Equine Behavior & Management Specialist, or CAETP, Certified Advanced Equine Training Professional.

*The Animal Behavior Institute is licensed by the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges having met the requirements of Article 8 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes of North Carolina. Please note that the NC State Board of Community Colleges is not an accrediting agency.

Personal Support

We'll provide you with close personal support from the day you begin until well after you've finished your program. When you enroll at the Animal Behavior Institute, your academic advisor will help you plan your individual program and answer any questions that arise along the way. Students have the freedom to choose how many classes to take each semester, when to take them and how to pay for them. And our flexible financing makes any program affordable. Students can choose to finance a single course or their entire program – it's up to you.

As an alumnus you'll have access to the same resources you've come to enjoy as a student. This includes access to job and internship listings, advising, and assistance with resumes and cover letters. We're with you before and after you graduate.

Our Approach

All courses at the Animal Behavior Institute share a common core, building a strong foundation and then applying that core to problem solving. The highlight of each week is a student-centered discussion; students work collectively to solve real world problems and case studies. Our approach helps build a strong rapport between each individual, their student colleagues, and the faculty. Small class sizes ensure that you'll know your instructors and receive the personal education you deserve.



PROFESSIONAL

WHAT

IS UNIQUE ABOUT
OUR FACULTY?

An academic institution is only as strong as their faculty and ours are outstanding. Our faculty are selected on the basis of their education, experience, and passion for teaching. We'd like to introduce you to two of the instructors in our Equine Behavior & Management program.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



KRISTEN LEWIS

Professor of Animal Behavior

Professor Lewis has been riding horses for over 30 years and currently operates her own horse farm. At a young age, she began competing in equine events (dressage, cross country and show jumping) along the east coast. She rode on the Equestrian Team at the University of Delaware and has managed multiple barns with show and pleasure horses for over two decades. She currently has two horses, a thoroughbred named Snapshot, who she has had for over 15 years, and a thoroughbred/draft cross named Silk.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



CHRISTINE HOUGHTON

Professor of Animal Science

Professor Houghton trains students in husbandry, preventative health practices, nutritional support and therapy for horses and other companion animals. She trains her students in a wide variety of equine skills and activities, including Parelli games, grooming techniques, diet modification, fecal floatation, handling and restraint, deworming and vaccination. She offers classes in animal care and husbandry with a special emphasis on enrichment and nutrition. Professor Houghton currently serves as a faculty member and department chair at Alamance Community College.

Visit us at www.animaledu.com for a complete list of instructors and their qualifications.

Office of Admissions

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