

Equine (EQN) Courses

EQN1001 Introduction to Equine Studies

This course covers a wide range of topics important to the fundamental understanding of the horse industry. Topics include the evolution, history and development of the horse; modern breeds and their current uses in sport; and equine identification. The roles of the psychology of the horse, learning theory and equine behavior as they relate to the ethical training of the horse are explored. Students identify their personal and professional goals as they relate to careers in the equine industry.

Prerequisite(s): Corequisite: EQN1006.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN1006 Introduction to Equine Studies Laboratory

Introduction to Equine Studies Laboratory is a laboratory companion course coordinated with EQN1001. Students apply learning theories, how horses learn and ethical training methods to shape horse behavior and performance during an in-hand presentation. The evaluation of fundamental sport horse conformation as it relates to in-hand presentation is explored. Laboratory skills acquisition in horse management techniques include safe handling, grooming, mane and tail care, mane braiding, trimming, and body clipping for the presentation of a horse for sale or competition. Saddle fitting, blanket fitting, and selection skills are developed.

Prerequisite(s): Corequisite: EQN1001.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN1020 Equine Anatomy and Lameness

This course studies the conformation, anatomy and movement of the horse with emphasis on the skeletal system. Analysis of common unsoundness caused by trauma, overloading, degeneration, mechanical dysfunction, nerve dysfunction and metabolic imbalance are discussed with systematic methodology. This methodology includes discussion of pathophysiology, common symptoms, diagnostic techniques, treatment options and preventative practices.

Prerequisite(s): Corequisite: EQN1025.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN1025 Equine Anatomy and Lameness Laboratory

Equine Anatomy and Lameness Laboratory is a laboratory companion course coordinated with EQN1020, which introduces students to techniques and equipment used in assessing equine musculoskeletal anatomy, conformation and movement of the horse with emphasis on applied comparative anatomy of the muscles, bones and circulatory system. Skills essential to prevention, recognition and treatment of common unsoundness and blemishes are introduced and applied. Techniques covered include lameness recognition and assessment and first aid of the hoof and distal limb.

Prerequisite(s): Corequisite: EQN1020.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN1080 Equine Management Lab

This course develops skills in barn management including barn safety, basic horse handling and care, feeding practices, grooming, stall maintenance and waste management, taking vital signs, and restraint of horses. Managerial skills in organizing and developing horse care schedules and records are discussed and implemented. Students work at the Center for Equine Studies during this course.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN1100 Fundamentals Of Collegiate Riding I

This course introduces and refines the correct balance seat position and correct use of the aids. Emphasis is on strengthening the position and security of the rider and introducing the application of basic riding theory. Riding etiquette and safety are practiced. Students continue to improve control and develop style both on the flat and may do the same over fences. Students work to refine and improve ground, grooming and tacking skills. Students develop their riding technique through the introduction and application of the German Training Scale. The importance of fitness and warming up correctly is incorporated in this course. Students work to master skills on a variety of horses. This is the initial riding course for first-year students. Student proficiency determines next course placement.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN1110 Fundamentals of Collegiate Riding II

This course is a continuation in refining the correct balance seat position and use of the aids while learning to master skills on a variety of horses. Emphasis is on improving strength and security of the rider's position and control of the horse through the application of basic riding theory. Riding etiquette and safety are practiced. Students continue to improve control and develop style on the flat and, where applicable, over fences. Students continue to refine and improve ground, grooming and tacking skills. Students work on progressing development of their riding technique through the application of the German Training Scale. The importance of fitness and warming up correctly is extended in this course. Student proficiency determines next course placement.

Prerequisite(s): EQN1100.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN1150 Introduction to Dressage

This course introduces the rider to the sport of dressage, dressage terminology and theory. The rider works to show the understanding of riding the horse forward with a steady tempo into an elastic contact with independent, steady hands and a correctly balanced seat in all gaits. Lunge lessons and basic ring figures with correct geometry are used. Riding etiquette and safety as well as horse care and fitness are discussed. Students ride United States Dressage Federation (USDF) introductory-level tests to improve their accuracy and skills. Individualized goals and progress are developed and discussed with each student. Student proficiency is determined by United States Equestrian Federation or United States Dressage Federation test to determine next course placement. Students may repeat this course for credit once.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN1200 Introduction to Combined Training

This course is designed to introduce the fundamental concepts and skills needed to prepare the student for riding on the flat, basic dressage and jumping. The aim of the course is to develop a correct, balanced, supple and effective seat for dressage and jumping. Students learn the correct use of aids and exercises appropriate for the level. Focus is on the progressive development of the horse and rider to improve confidence and knowledge. Cavalletti work is used to improve the horse's rhythm, cadence and strength and to improve the rider's skills and technique. The importance of variety and versatility in the training process is analyzed. Students may repeat this course for credit once.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN1300 Equitation on the Flat

This course focuses on improving the rider's development of a correct position while beginning to understand the use of effective aids to communicate with the horse. The expectation is for the rider to cultivate a centered and balanced seat on the horse and to be able to perform common movements used to warm up, condition, and exercise the horse in preparation for higher levels of flat work and jumping. Emphasis is on improving basic riding position and skills in order to advance in equitation and riding levels. Students may repeat this course for credit once.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN1310 Fundamentals of Hunter Seat Equitation

This course introduces the rider to the fundamental concepts of riding in the hunter/equitation disciplines. Students begin to develop the correct hunt seat position and basic equitation skills according to the United Equestrian Federation rule book. Focus is on leg position, leg aids, hand position and developing a stable two-point and three-point position. Students work in walk, trot and canter with and without stirrups on the flat and over small courses 2'-2'3" on a variety of horses. Students may repeat this course for credit once.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN2000 Equine Diseases

This course develops knowledge of the common ailments of the horse. Identification of disease-producing organisms, signs of illness along with knowledge of vaccination and common disease prevention schedules prepare the student to recognize and prevent health problems. Common pharmaceuticals, emergency health care, parasitology and anthelmintic programs are studied.

Prerequisite(s): EQN2020, EQN2025.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN2001 Foundations of Riding Theory

This course studies the history and development of riding and classical modern riding theories. The early domestication and utilization of the horse is studied along with the development of riding theory from Xenophon through Caprilli. Modern classical riding theory is studied including the paces, dressage movements and the applications of the aids. Competition regulations for dressage and eventing are discussed.

Prerequisite(s): EQN1001, sophomore status.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN2020 Equine Physiology and Sports Therapy

This course investigates the scientific aspects of the horse with particular attention to the function of body systems. Topics include the respiratory, circulatory, nervous, muscular, endocrine, integument, immune and urinary systems. The scientific conditioning of the horse for sports activities is studied with emphasis on the prevention of stress and the identification and utilization of therapeutic modalities in the treatment of injuries.

Prerequisite(s): EQN1020, EQN1025, Corequisite: EQN2025.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN2025 Equine Physiology and Sports Therapy Laboratory

Equine Physiology and Sports Therapy Laboratory is a laboratory companion course coordinated with EQN2020, which introduces students to techniques and equipment used in assessing equine physiological body systems with emphasis on sports therapeutics of the musculoskeletal, respiratory and circulatory systems. Other skills covered include basic horse first aid and triage of common ocular, dermatological, respiratory, gastrointestinal and cardiovascular emergencies. Students work at the Center for Equine Studies during this course.

Prerequisite(s): EQN1020, EQN1025, Corequisite: EQN2020.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN2100 Training Level Dressage

This course is designed to confirm that the rider and horses are supple and that the rider can ride the horse freely forward in a clear and steady rhythm, accepting contact with the bit. Instruction includes refinement of the dressage seat, basic gaits and paces within the gaits. Transitions, 20-meter circles, and three- and four-loop serpentines are refined and improved. Simple changes through the trot, turn on the forehands and leg yields are introduced. The training scale is discussed and emphasis is on the logical sequencing of schooling exercises in a training program. Students work on developing an independent seat and effective aids. Students ride training level tests to improve their accuracy and skills. Student proficiency is measured by a United States Equestrian Federation or a United States Dressage Federation test to determine next course placement. Students may repeat this course for credit once.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN2110 First Level Dressage

This course is designed to confirm that the rider can achieve a greater degree of throughness and a more consistent contact with the bit. The refinement of the dressage seat, effective aids and harmony with horse are emphasized. Leg yields and 10- and 15-meter circles are refined. Trot and canter lengthenings are practiced and development of thrust and impulsion to achieve improved balance is refined. Emphasis is on the logical sequencing of movements in a training program and how it relates to the training scale. Cavaletti are used to improve rider and horse's development. Students ride first level tests to improve their accuracy and skills. Student proficiency is measured by a United States Equestrian Federation or United States Dressage Federation test to determine next course placement. Students may repeat this course for credit once.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN2200 Intermediate Combined Training

This course is designed to improve the rider's skills through work in all gaits and over fences. Students focus on basic ring figures with correct geometry. Dressage tests at the introductory-level and training level are used to improve the rider's skills and accuracy. Basic gridwork and jumping small courses of 2'0"-2'3" are utilized to improve the rider's skills. Students focus on warming up the horse correctly and developing the skills to improve the training of the rider and horse. Students continue to improve control and develop style both on the flat and over fences. Work without stirrups helps riders gain confidence and improved balance. Student proficiency is measured by a United States Equestrian Federation or a United States Dressage Federation test to determine next course placement. Students may repeat this course for credit once.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN2320 Hunter Seat Equitation Novice

This course continues to refine the techniques learned in EQN1310 Fundamentals of Hunter Seat Equitation. Students are introduced to the use of their seat aids in coordination with the leg and hand aids. Fundamental lateral movements are introduced to develop students' coordination of their aids. Emphasis is on the regulation of the horse's pace and balance on the flat and over fences. Students learn to negotiate and analyze more complex equitation courses 2'3"-2'6" and simple gymnastic lines. Jumping without stirrups is introduced. Students develop skills to demonstrate United States Equestrian Federation tests 1-8. Students may repeat this course for credit once.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN3001 Methods of Riding Instruction I

This course prepares students to teach beginner and intermediate riders. Topics of discussion include the selection of school horses, qualities of an instructor, control of the ride, rider and horse safety, and constructing lesson plans. Topics cover flat and jumping lessons. Students develop lesson plans for various levels of riders and implement these plans with practice teaching sessions at the Center for Equine Studies. The role of therapeutic riding in the equine industry is discussed. Students further develop observational and critical thinking skills by attending relevant clinics.

Prerequisite(s): EQN2001, (EQN2100 or EQN2200 or EQN2320), successfully complete Massachusetts Riding Instructor License Exam.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN3010 Equine Reproduction and Genetics

This course is an advanced level course in equine reproductive physiology and breeding management. Topics include the anatomy and physiology of the stallion's and mare's reproductive systems, conception, gestation, the birth process, and care of the healthy and compromised neonatal foal. Techniques in artificial insemination, semen shipment and embryo transfer are studied. Field trips enable students to observe breeding and management techniques at selected farms and specialty reproduction veterinary clinics. Genetic inheritance of coat color and abnormalities pertinent to the horse breeding industry are studied.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN3025 Equine Nutrition

This course studies the science and art of feeding horses. Digestive anatomy and physiology are discussed and dietary requirements of both healthy and compromised horses analyzed. Hay evaluation, types of concentrates and by-product feeds are discussed. Students produce a ration formulation project for horses with various nutrient requirements.

Prerequisite(s): EQN1001, EQN2020, EQN2025.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN3030 Equine Competition Management and Course Design

In this course, students participate in the management and implementation of United States Equestrian Federation horse shows. Students apply their theoretical knowledge to real-world situations by evaluating and selecting venues, developing jumping courses and proposing specific types of horse shows for selected venues. Students determine the necessary personnel and marketing requirements for a selected competition. Students evaluate their own and the class's performance in the management of a competition.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN3040 Sport Horse Evaluation and Judging

This course covers the relationship of form to function in the horse. Judging sport horses in hand with respect to conformation and movement is a major area of concentration. A competitive judging format is utilized to place classes of horses and provide written justifications. Performance horse judging emphasizes the basic gaits of the dressage horse and the analysis of jumping technique. Ethical business practices of horse sales are discussed.

Prerequisite(s): EQN1020, EQN1025, EQN2000, sophomore status.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN3120 Second Level Dressage

This course is designed to confirm that the rider can execute lateral movements, including shoulder-in, travers and renvers. Medium paces are introduced and refined. Counter canter and the beginning of collection work are introduced, and rein-back and simple changes through walk are refined. The horse should be ridden reliably on the bit and the rider should have independent aids. Advanced riding theory is discussed through textbooks and application of theory while riding. Students analyze and evaluate their horse's progression and develop a training plan. Students ride second level tests to improve their skills and accuracy. Student proficiency is measured by a United States Equestrian Federation or United States Dressage Federation test to determine next course placement. Students may repeat this course for credit.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN3130 Third Level Dressage

This course introduces half pass and flying changes with a continuation of medium paces and extensions that are enhanced with increased engagement. Transitions within the gaits and the paces are refined. The rider should be able to ride the horse reliably on the bit and show a greater degree of straightness, bending, suppleness, thoroughness, balance and self-carriage. The rider continues to work on refining aids and seat to be fluent with the horse and become invisible with aids. The double bridle is introduced and students learn how to correctly use and ride with the double bridle. Students analyze and evaluate their horse's progression and develop a training plan. Students ride third level tests to improve their skills. Student proficiency is measured by a United States Equestrian Federation or United States Dressage Federation test to determine next course placement. Students may repeat this course for credit once.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN3200 Advanced Combined Training

This course focuses on first level movements, test riding and improving skills over 2'6" courses and gridwork. The rider's skills improve through work in all gaits and over fences. At this level, emphasis shifts to influencing the horse and training concepts. Students design a training program for the rider and horse in this course. Strength and suppleness of the rider are analyzed and addressed. Work without stirrups helps riders gain confidence and improve balance. Students work to master skills on a variety of horses on the flat and over fences. Student proficiency is measured by a United States Equestrian Federation or United States Dressage Federation test to determine next course placement. Student may repeat this course once for credit.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN3280 Introduction to Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies

This course introduces students to the concepts and practices of Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT). The history of the use of equines for therapeutic purposes is explored and current studies performed within the industry are examined. Ethics and confidentiality as well as standards for PATH International programs and instructors are discussed. Volunteering and observing classes at an accredited therapeutic riding center throughout the course provides students with firsthand experience and insight into the field of therapeutic horsemanship.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC2002.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN3290 Application of Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies

This course focuses on teaching individuals with disabilities in an Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT) program. Students explore teaching techniques and strategies based on the content learned in Introduction to EAAT. Students create detailed lesson plans and assessment forms. The selection of therapy horses and equipment is examined and facility, volunteer, and risk management are discussed. Students gain experience by observing lessons and volunteering at an accredited therapeutic riding center throughout the course.

Prerequisite(s): EQN3280.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN3330 Hunter Seat Equitation Intermediate

This course continues to develop skills required to negotiate more technical equitation courses and gymnastic lines 2'6"-2'9". United States Equestrian Federation Equitation tests 1-19 are utilized to develop skills. The use of the automatic release is introduced. Emphasis is on the importance of flat work in developing better jumping. Advanced lateral work is introduced. Work is performed with and without stirrups. Students develop skills to perform United States Equestrian Federation tests 9-19. Students may repeat this course for credit once.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN3350 Equine Facility Design and Operation Management

This course covers a wide range of topics important to developing and managing an equine facility and maintaining a horse herd. Equestrian facility designs are analyzed and developed for efficient layout. Students create an operations plan based on the facility designed. The relationship between facility design, management practices, and their impact on environmental issues are explored.

Prerequisite(s): EQN1080, EQN2000, sophomore status.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN3430 German Medal Training

This course prepares students for the Equine International Experience. The course focuses on the German Horse Training Scale and German Rider's Training Scale. Emphasis is placed on how the rider's aids influence the horse's movements. Students ride the figures and course tracks for the German Medals Tests Level 5 and Level 4. Students may repeat this course for credit.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN4001 Methods of Riding Instruction II

This course is a continuation of EQN3001 with concentration on more advanced topics in the art of teaching. Students participate in advanced lesson planning and practice teaching. Implementing lesson plans for group riding lessons and safely managing multiple horses and riders is explored and practiced. This course also prepares students for credentialed certification as a riding instructor and licensing as a riding instructor in Massachusetts.

Prerequisite(s): EQN3001.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN4050 Horse Farm Management

This course emphasizes the business aspects of managing a horse farm and includes such topics as personnel, contracts, taxes, insurance, promotion and record keeping. Horse equipment and services are discussed as they relate to management efficiency and environmental sustainability. Students also participate in an extensive individual project on the development of an equine business plan.

Prerequisite(s): EQN3350, FIT1040.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN4087 Equine International Experience

This course is designed to allow students to pursue advanced work in the equestrian discipline in an international setting. Students study at a selected host equestrian center in Germany to develop their riding skills using the German Training System. Students develop skills in dressage, stadium jumping, cross-country jumping and training techniques depending on the specialty of the host site. Currently, students have studied at the German Riding School in Warendorf, Germany and the Westphalian Riding School in Münster, Germany. Students studying in Münster are eligible to take medal examinations upon completion of their studies. Students also visit training farms and observe Olympic-level riders and trainers. Site visits to other equestrian venues may include CDI and CSI shows, stallion parades, auctions and breeding farms. Students should be riding at first-level dressage prior to application to this program. This course may be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisite(s): EQN3430.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN4088 Equine International Experience

This course is designed to allow students to pursue advanced work in the equestrian discipline in an international setting. Students study at a selected host equestrian center in Germany to develop their riding skills using the world-renowned German Training System. Students develop skills in dressage, stadium jumping, cross-country jumping and training techniques depending on the specialty of the host site. Currently, students have studied at the German Riding School in Warendorf, Germany and the Westphalian Riding School in Münster, Germany. Students studying in Münster are eligible to take the riding examinations upon completion of their studies. Students also visit training farms and observe Olympic-level riders and trainers. Site visits to other equestrian venues may include CDI and CSI shows, stallion parades, auctions and breeding farms. Students must be riding at first-level dressage prior to application to this program and be in good academic standing. This course may be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisite(s): EQN3430.

Offered at Providence

6 Semester Credits

EQN4115 Special Topics in Equine Studies I

This course is designed to allow students to pursue advanced work in specialized equine studies topics, such as advanced teaching techniques, and advanced stable management strategies. The course may be a practical application of knowledge and advanced research. All potential topics must be presented for faculty approval. Final presentation is required.

Offered at Charlotte, Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN4140 Fourth Level and FEI Dressage

This course is for the advanced dressage rider who has had extensive experience in dressage training and competition. Students perform movements with greater engagement, straightness, energy and cadence. The horse remains reliably on the bit, showing a clear uphill balance and lightness as a result of improved engagement and collection. Lateral movements, half pass, turn on the haunches, flying changes, tempi changes, rein backs and schooling pirouettes are ridden and refined. The correct dressage seat and lightness of aids is emphasized. The importance of impulsion and straightness to prepare the horse for collection is emphasized during training sessions. The snaffle and double bridle are used. Student proficiency is measured by a United States Equestrian Federation or a United States Dressage Federation test to determine next course placement. Students may repeat this course for credit once.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN4145 Special Topics in Equine Studies II

This course is designed to allow students to pursue advanced work in specialized equine studies topics; examples of potential topics: Advanced Teaching Techniques, Veterinary Techniques, and Advanced Stable Management Strategies. The course may be a combination of practical applications of knowledge and advanced research. All potential topics must be presented for faculty approval. Final presentation is required.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of department chair.

Offered at Providence

3 Semester Credits

EQN4215 Special Topics in Equine Studies III

This course is designed to allow students to pursue advanced work in specialized equine studies topics; examples of potential topics: Advanced Teaching Techniques, Veterinary Techniques, and Advanced Stable Management Strategies. The course may be a combination of practical applications of knowledge and advanced research. All potential topics must be presented for faculty approval. Final presentation is required.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of department chair.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN4340 Hunter Seat Equitation Open

In this course, students refine the skills required to negotiate advanced equitation courses 2'9"-3'. Students develop fundamental training programs to help school green or re-school older horses for use in the equitation division. Advanced lateral work is utilized to improve the horse's balance and readability. Students may repeat this course for credit once.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit

EQN4900 Management and Demonstration of Skills Capstone

This course is designed to be a cumulative assessment of management and horsemanship theory and skills necessary for a professional in the equine industry. Students demonstrate skills for daily care of horses and determine courses of action for case scenarios. A portfolio is produced that encompasses the requisite theoretical and practical skills necessary for work in the equine industry.

Prerequisite(s): EQN2000, EQN3025.

Offered at Providence

1 Semester Credit