

Equine Studies - B.S.

Curriculum

Please note that the Equine Studies bachelor's degree program will not be offered as of the Spring 2026 Semester. The program will be offered as an Equine Studies specialization within the Animal Science bachelor's degree program beginning Fall 2026.

The Equine Studies bachelor's degree program introduces students to all facets of the equine field. Students have the opportunity to complete a general course of study or focus their education on equine business management or equine-assisted services specialization. By combining a foundation of comprehensive equine courses with a solid business or equine therapeutic-focused core curriculum, students are prepared for a diversity of careers working with horses. Students learn how to select, care for and manage horses involved in all aspects of the equine industry.

Foundational equine classes develop their understanding of horses with study in anatomy, physiology, behavior, lameness, sports therapy, genetics, nutrition, diseases and reproduction. Further classes develop the ability to evaluate horses for sport and develop skills in equine facilities design, operation and event management.

Students gain hands-on experience in all aspects of horse husbandry, including handling and health maintenance, nutrition, facilities management and equipment usage.

All students participate in the internship program, which allows them to work in the equine industry at approved establishments.

Core and elective courses in the College of Arts & Sciences provide the critical thinking and communication skills that are considered essential by employers along with the chance for students to explore areas of personal interest.

Upon completion of the program, graduates are expected to:

- Design a comprehensive health plan that addresses the needs of different classes of horses, integrating best practices in disease prevention, nutrition and management.
- Evaluate the conformation, anatomy and movement of sport horses to determine the most appropriate use for each individual horse.
- Apply basic learning theory and implement ethical equine training practices.
- Evaluate the impact of various international influences on the historical development of the modern equine industry.

Specialization in Equine Business Management

Students choosing a specialization in equine business management take a suite of courses from the College of Business designed to provide them with up-to-the-minute business skills. Students develop financial literacy, strategic planning, entrepreneurship, operations management and total quality management skills alongside traditional business majors. Students completing this specialization are prepared to manage all aspects of the equine industry. Examples of careers include farm manager, equine advertising account manager, equine business entrepreneur, sales representative, insurance agent, horse show personnel, and horse/breed association publicist.

Upon completion of the Equine Business Management specialization, students are expected to:

- Develop a comprehensive business plan for the management and marketing of various aspects of an equine-related business.

Specialization in Equine-Assisted Services

Students choosing an emphasis in equine-assisted activities and therapies take a suite of courses that enhance and strengthen the qualifications of graduates interested in equine-assisted activities and therapies. This specialization gives students the opportunity to gain additional knowledge and skills in the expanding field of therapeutic riding and equine-assisted learning. Students completing this specialization can pursue careers in therapeutic riding instruction, therapeutic horse management, therapeutic riding program management, and equine-assisted learning and therapy.

Upon completion of the Equine-Assisted Services specialization, students are expected to:

- Demonstrate the skills and knowledge requisite for pursuing a career in equine-assisted services.

To participate in the Equine Studies program, each student, with or without reasonable accommodations, must be able to safely (including the safety of the animal, where applicable) meet minimum technical standards as described for this program.

Equine Studies

A four-year program leading to the bachelor of science degree

Major Courses

EQN1001	Introduction to Equine Studies	3
EQN1006	Introduction to Equine Studies Laboratory	1
EQN1035	Equine Anatomy and Physiology	3
EQN2000	Equine Diseases and Conditions	3
EQN2001	Foundations of Horsemanship and Riding Theory (Equine Lameness & Sports Therapy)	3
EQN2035	Equine Lameness and Sports Therapy Laboratory	1
EQN3010	Equine Reproduction and Genetics	3
EQN3025	Equine Nutrition	3
EQN3040	Sport Horse Evaluation and Judging	3
EQN3350	Equine Facility Design and Operation Management	3
EQN4410	Equine Behavior and Training	3

Major Electives or Specialization

Choose 27 credits of the following* (maximum of three credits in horseback riding) or Specialization listed below:†

ACCT1210	Financial Accounting	
ACCT1220	Managerial Accounting	
ADVC1010	Marketing Communications	
ANSC2030	Principles of Animal Behavior and Training	
ANSC3350	Perspectives in Animal-Assisted Interventions	
ANSC4120	Animal Welfare, Health and Wellness	
ANSC4410	Special Topics in Animal Science I	
ANSC4440	Special Topics in Animal Science II	
ANSC4470	Special Topics in Animal Science III	
BIO1011 & BIO1016	General Biology - Cellular and General Biology Laboratory - Cellular	
BIO1022 & BIO1026	General Biology - Organismal and General Biology Laboratory - Organismal	
BUS1001	Introduction to Business and Management	
CHM1000 & CHM1006	Foundations in Chemistry and Foundations in Chemistry Laboratory	
DMSM1001	Introduction to Digital/Social/Mobile Media	
ECON1001	Macroeconomics	
ECON1002	Microeconomics	
ECON2010	World Economic Geography	
ECON3030	Managerial Economics	
ECON3070	Contemporary Economic Issues	
ENG3130	Sports Writing	
ENTR2001	Introduction to Entrepreneurship	
ENTR2030	Pitching & Planning New Ventures	
ENTR3015	Small Business Management	
ENTR3025	Growth and Sustainability for Small Business	
ENTR3030	Marketing for Entrepreneurs	
ENTR3060	Financing New Ventures	
EQN1410	Collegiate Horseback Riding	
EQN3001	Methods of Horseback Riding Instruction	
EQN3030	Equine Competition Management and Course Design	
EQN3280	Introduction to Equine-Assisted Services	
EQN3290	Application of Equine-Assisted Services	
EQN4050	Horse Farm Management and Business Planning	
EQN4087	Equine International Experience	
EQN4115	Special Topics in Equine Studies I	
EQN4145	Special Topics in Equine Studies II	
EQN4215	Special Topics in Equine Studies III	
EQN4310	Equine Industry Experience	
EVNT1001	Introduction to Event Management	
EVNT2020	The Business of Event Management	
FIT1040	Spreadsheet Design for Business Solutions	
FISV2000	Finance	
HOSP1001	Orientation to the Hospitality Industry	
HOSP2260	Exploring the Private Club Industry	

LAW2001	The Legal Environment of Business I
MCOM1005	Introduction to Media & Communication
MCOM1070	Writing for Radio, Television and Film
MCOM1150	Introduction to Media Production
MCOM1210	Foundations of Digital Photography
MCOM2030	Media Texts
MCOM2400	Writing for Publication
MGMT2001	Human Resource Management
MRKT1001	Marketing Foundations
RSCH2050	Workshop in Acquiring Social Research Skills
RSCH3810	Undergraduate Laboratory and Field Research
RSCH3830	Undergraduate Research Experience
SCI1010	Environmental Science
SCI2020	Introduction to Exercise Physiology
SCI2031	Anatomy and Physiology
SEE1001	Introduction to the Sports, Entertainment and Event Management Industry
SEE2180	Sporting Activities in Private Clubs
SEE3030	Athletic Coaching and Administration
SEE4050	International Sports, Entertainment, Event and Venue Management
TRVL1105	Adventure, Sport and Nature-Based Tourism

Applied/Experiential Learning

Choose 12 credits from the following:	12
ASCI4799	College of Arts & Sciences Internship ^{1c}
DEE3999	Directed Experiential Education ^D
RSCH3830	Undergraduate Research Experience
RSCH4020	Honors Directed Academic Experience

Study Abroad ^{Sa}

University Core Curriculum

Communicating	9
ENG1020	Rhetoric & Composition I
ENG1021	Rhetoric & Composition II
ENG1030	Communication Skills
Connecting	6
Two courses with the Connecting attribute (ECNG), one at the 2000 level, one at the 4000 level	
Experiencing	6
Two courses with the Experiencing attribute (EEXP), different disciplines	
Measuring	6
MATH1020	Fundamentals of Algebra (or higher, based on student's placement)
MATH2001	Statistics I
Exploring	3
SCI1015	Introduction to Life Science
Interacting	6
PSYC1001	Introductory Psychology
Additional course with the Interacting attribute (EINT) in a different discipline	
A&S electives	6
Two courses with the Arts & Sciences elective attribute (EASC)	

Free Electives #

12 credits selected from 1000-4999 numbered offerings within the university	12
Total Credits	122.0

*

Students are responsible for meeting prerequisites.

†Specialization in Equine-Assisted Services

Students must select 11-12 additional Major Elective credits if selecting this specialization.		
EQN3001	Methods of Horseback Riding Instruction	3
EQN3280	Introduction to Equine-Assisted Services	3
EQN3290	Application of Equine-Assisted Services	3
PSYC2002	Abnormal Psychology	3
Choose one from the following:	3-4	
ESS2010 & ESS2015	Kinesiology and Kinesiology Laboratory	
SCI2031	Anatomy and Physiology	
Total Credits	15.0-16.0	

†Specialization in Equine Business Management

Students must select 3 additional Major Elective credits if selecting this specialization.		
ACCT1210	Financial Accounting	3
ECON1001	Macroeconomics	3
ENTR2001	Introduction to Entrepreneurship	3

or ENTR3015	Small Business Management	
EQN4050	Horse Farm Management and Business Planning	3
FIT1040	Spreadsheet Design for Business Solutions	3
FISV2000	Finance	3
LAW2001	The Legal Environment of Business I	3
MRKT1001	Marketing Foundations	3
Total Credits	24.0	

^{1c}Typically, internships require a minimum of six credits. Students interested in a 9 or 12-credit internship can apply additional experiential learning and free elective credits, if available. Students are strongly encouraged to contact a faculty advisor before scheduling internship and free elective credits.

^DDirected Experiential Education (DEE) opportunities are based on project availability with community partners and student eligibility. For more information, visit Experiential Education & Career Services (EE&CS).

^{Sa}To be eligible to count toward Applied/Experiential Learning, a Study Abroad offering must meet certain requirements. Contact JWU Global to discuss eligible Study Abroad options for this degree program.

In addition to classes, free elective credits may be applied to a number of options such as internship, study abroad, Directed Experiential Education courses and courses in a specialization or minor as relevant. For students who qualify for the J2 program, up to four graduate courses may apply. Students are strongly encouraged to contact a faculty advisor before scheduling free elective credits.

Note: Students must pass MATH0010 Pre-Algebra or have equivalent placement scores to enroll in required math courses.

Note: Students must pass ENG0001 Writing Workshop or have equivalent placement scores to enroll in ILS 2000-level courses.

In collaboration with academic colleges Study Abroad offer several options, direct enroll with international universities, domestic and digital options meet with a Study Abroad Advisor to learn more about how your major, minor, free electives, experiential learning and transferable courses would benefit by a Study Abroad program. There are many options for students during a semester, spring and/or summer breaks. Faculty-led, exchange, and direct-enroll programs range in duration from one week to a full semester or full year. Financial aid may be applied, and some partners offer external scholarships. Visit the study abroad website for information, program descriptions and online applications. Where will you go? Wherever you decide, make the best of your educational journey!

Admissions Requirements

Undergraduate

Johnson & Wales University holistically reviews all elements of a student's application to identify those students most likely to succeed at the university.

For first-year applicants, a completed application and high school transcript(s) are required. For transfer applicants, a completed application and high school and/or college transcript(s) are required. Completion of optional materials is encouraged.

Successful candidates for first year admission have taken a high school, college preparatory academic program including English, mathematics, science, social science and foreign language. Admissions decisions may also consider individual experiences and particular circumstances unique to each student. Other considerations are made based upon recommendations, writing ability and extracurricular activities.

Visiting campus, both in-person or virtually, and interacting with admissions staff are all valuable ways of assuring that JWU is the right university for you.

Accelerated Program Options

J2 Program

The JWU J2 program allows qualified students enrolled in a matriculating undergraduate program to take graduate level courses at JWU. Students interested in pursuing this option should meet with their academic advisor to discuss their interest, qualifications and plans. The undergraduate student may take up to four graduate courses (maximum 12 credits) and are limited to 6 credits a semester and 3 credits per session (Fall Session I and Fall Session II).

The completion of graduate credits to fulfill undergraduate program requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the graduate program after completion of the baccalaureate degree. Matriculating undergraduate students who wish to formally enroll in a graduate program must fulfill all

requirements for entrance into the intended graduate program and complete a graduate program application.

Note: Not all graduate courses are included as part of this policy. Courses offered as part of the Master of Arts in Teaching, Master of Education, Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies and doctoral courses are excluded from this policy and are restricted to program majors only. Additional courses and/or programs as determined by individual colleges may also have restricted access.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to enroll in graduate level courses (excludes: Masters of Arts in Teaching, Masters of Education, Masters of Science in Physician Assistant Studies, doctoral courses and other programs as outlined by the colleges).

Undergraduate students must meet the following criteria:

- Undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher
- Completed and registered undergraduate credits at least 90 credits
- Meet the individual course prerequisites

Appeal to Eligibility Criteria: College dean or designee will receive a copy of the Petition Form, Student's GPS and email requesting appeal if the student requests to appeal the GPA or earned/registered credit criteria. College dean/designee will review and determine approval.

These courses carry graduate credit and will replace undergraduate degree requirements when applicable, traditionally free-electives (maximum of 12 credits). The course will be applied to the undergraduate degree in the order in which they are taken (if required) and will also be applied towards both the students undergraduate and graduate GPA.

Students should maintain enrollment in at least 12 credits of undergraduate coursework to maintain full-time status; graduate course enrollment is not calculated into undergraduate full-time status. For students already attending full-time as undergraduates (12 credits or more) and paying the full-time tuition, the graduate credits will be included in full-time tuition fee. Students attending part-time (11 credits or less) will pay the cost per-credit undergraduate tuition for the graduate course.

Course registration will be based on space availability and students enrolled in graduate level courses will be required to maintain good academic standing at the undergraduate and graduate level.