

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
THE FACULTY SENATE

PROGRAM REVISION APPROVAL FORM

50 COPIES REQUIRED

PROGRAM TITLE: Equine Management

PLEASE CHECK: GRADUATE UNDERGRADUATE

DEPARTMENT: Stockbridge School of Agriculture **HEAD/CHAIR:** William L. Mitchell, Dean/Director

SCHOOL OR COLLEGE: College of Natural Sciences **DEAN:** Steve Goodwin

Submission Date: 07/2011 **Proposed Starting Date:** Spring 2012

I. PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Describe the Proposal.

The Stockbridge School of Agriculture currently offers 6 degree programs: Arboriculture, Equine Industry, Fruit and Vegetable Crops, Horticulture, Landscape Contracting, and Turfgrass Management. The capacity of the programs and faculty in SSA is diverse with a range of expertise covering a continuum from cultural to the built environment. The School is recognized for its quality educational and hands-on experiences, a strong alumni base and producing nationally recognized industry leaders. The revised equine program is housed within the Veterinary and Animal Sciences Department and administered within the Stockbridge School of Agriculture.

The plan being presented at this time focuses on the Equine Industry major. Our goal is to develop a cutting edge equine curriculum at UMass giving our students an edge in the market place, strength in recruiting out-of-state students, bring world renowned professionals to our equine facilities, put UMass at the top of equine programs in the greater Northeast and produce a solid foundation for fund raising. There are two parts to this revision:

- 1) Change the name of the existing program from Equine Industry to Equine Management.
- 2) Modify the existing curriculum which will reinforce the new program direction.

B. Provide a brief overview of the process for developing the Proposal.

This proposal is the result of a 24 month-long process that involved members of the Veterinary and Animal Sciences Department, alumni, regional equine professionals, numerous discussions with equine professionals at national events such as Equine Affaire and the external Review Committee. Frequent meetings were held during the course of the 18 months with the equine faculty, VAS Department Head, CNS development personnel and constituencies.

The external review committee conducted a comprehensive external review of the current equine industry program (document #1). The committee concluded that the program did not serve either the student or producer constituencies as effectively as it could. The committee strongly recommended a curricular change that would create a strength in equine management and reduce the current focus on equitation . They also recommended developing a Mission Statement (document #2) concurrently with the proposed curriculum along with changing the program's name to better reflect the direction the new program is moving in and lend credibility with recruiting and marketing efforts. These recommendations were endorsed by Samuel Black, Head of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, who had been reducing horse numbers on the farm and encouraging a greater focus on management, including financial management, to ensure sustainability of the program. The review document was also considered and unanimously endorsed by faculty who teach in the equine studies program, the Stockbridge School's Academic Advisory Board represented by the program coordinators from each of the School's six majors. Equine professionals from around the country also weighed in with positive support.

II. PURPOSE AND GOALS

- 1) Changing the name to Equine Management reflects the focus and direction of the proposed curriculum and the recommendations of the Equine Review Team and constituencies. In order to recruit top students particularly out-of-state students, create a solid foundation for fund-raising the "program name" must reflect the direction and content of the academic program.
- 2) The proposal's purpose is to change the focus of the existing equine studies curriculum to better serve enrolled students, provide education opportunities for the equine community and market an integrated focus to prospective students. As it currently is designed, the equine studies curriculum introduces students to equitation and equine barn management, while allowing them to take some core science classes and matriculate into the 4 year animal science program. This has been a less than satisfactory arrangement for the students and for the Department of Veterinary and Animal Sciences. In the first instance the curriculum fails to provide adequate equine management skills to make graduates competitive for positions in the equine industries. On the other hand, most students who graduate from the program do not desire to continue their education in pre-veterinary or animal sciences but look toward programs such as BDIC or transfer to other universities. Therefore, on recommendations from the External Review Committee and in collaboration with professions in the equine industries and with UMass equine studies faculty we have designed a new curriculum to better serve the student interest group, provided a strong competitive edge for our student who either are going into the market place or desire to pursue further education.

The goal of the new curriculum is to prepare graduates to enter the multifaceted equine industries at management levels. The students will be fully competent to run commercial stables having gained familiarity and confidence with facility management, equine health care, reproduction and foaling, equipment maintenance, and small business management. Students who excel in the program and who wish to continue into a 4 year program will be encouraged to do so through programs such as BDIC, Sustainable Food and Farming, etc. and will be assigned an advisor to assist in developing a suitable degree curriculum. The proposed Equine Management program will allow for a more efficient use of faculty time better serving our students and the equine facilities.

It is anticipated that the 2 year associate degree program in Equine Industry will be supplanted by a 2 year associates degree program in Equine Management during the 2012-2013 academic year. Attached is the curriculum transition plan from the old to the new curriculum (document #3). The agreement to change the rubric from ANIMLSCI to STOCKSCH for those courses being taught in SSA is attached (document #4).

BUDGET: These changes will require no additional funding or additional resources. In fact, it is anticipated that the program will be more efficient in its budgetary and resource allocations.

APPENDIX

- 1) Document #1, External Review Committee's report
- 2) Document #2, Equine Management Mission Statement
- 3) Document #3, Curriculum Transition- Existing Equine Industry to Proposed Equine Management Program
- 4) Document #4, Agreement memo for Rubric Change

**Report of the Stockbridge Equine Industry
January 21, 2009**

Review Committee: Dr. Anthony Borton, Richard Bourgault, Cindy Mugnier

We appreciate the opportunity to review the Stockbridge School's Equine Industry curriculum and program. We are enthusiastic supporters of the University of Massachusetts and believe there is the potential for an outstanding Equine Industries Program in the Stockbridge School.

The horse and the horse industry are unique and unlike any other animal or livestock enterprise. Consequently a program of study has to be designed specifically for the horse. For example, the horse is the only single toed, non ruminant herbivore that is raised and used for their athletic abilities and not for food or fiber. In order to be useful they are the most highly trained animal species (except for the dog) and require a special understanding and relationship with their caretakers and handlers. They are capable of being trained and used in a variety of disciplines including driving, dressage, cutting, reining, combined training, draft, packing, racing, showing (in hand, under saddle or in harness) jumping, working cow horse and trail riding. Despite all these uses the majority of horses in the northeast are used for pleasure and recreation. The economic impact of the horse on the economy is huge. They require land for pasture and crop production. They require the necessary farm equipment such as fences, barns, riding arenas, tractors, trucks, horse trailers and specialized equipment of tack, shoes, blankets, medications etc.

There are careers that support the horse industry such as equine veterinarian, farrier, trainer and even massage therapists and acupuncturist. Because horses are used and managed individually it is a labor intensive industry that offers a wide variety of employment opportunities for dedicated, hard working, well trained individuals. This is a need that signature Stockbridge Equine Industries Program could fulfill. The Review Committee represents more than 100 years of experience in the horse industry and we welcome the opportunity for this review.

Mission Statement: The program must develop a mission statement so that curriculum and management of the stable have a purpose and sense of direction. This statement should encompass the goals and vision of the program. It should be prepared by the faculty, endorsed by them and the administration.

Curriculum: Our review found the current curriculum lacking in a number of ways. Some of the courses failed to contain equine specific material (Anatomy and Physiology, Business and Nutrition), some were inappropriate (Biology, Chemistry and Consumer Marketing for Horticulture) and some important areas didn't appear to be covered at all

(equine business management, feeds and feeding, pasture management, genetics, form to function, equine mechanics, cadence, balance, gait quality and correctness).

Specific curriculum recommendations:

- * **Equine business course:** budgets, taxes, record keeping
- * **Equine law:** contracts for boarding, breeding, training, instruction, sales, waivers
- * **Feeding:** appropriate feeds, quantity, safety, quality, hay production, pasture management, grain and bedding procurement, manure management
- * **Equine health and diseases:** Vaccinations, worming, first aid, wound care, recognition of illnesses and treatment.
- * **Equine management:** practical "hands on" lab, all aspects of horse care
- * **Equine genetics:** qualitative and quantitative traits, breeding plans, selection, inbreeding, linebreeding, crossbreeding
- * **Anatomy and Physiology:** this must be equine specific and include equine digestive physiology, equine muscular and skeletal systems with emphasis on the relation of form to function, horses gaits, unsoundnesses, equine mechanics

Additional observations:

- * Program needs to be based on practical "hand on" training that will prepare students to succeed in a career in the horse industry upon graduation. This program should not be a program that prepares a student for transfer into the University. Fortunately the BDIC Program provides a means of transferring for those students who have a specific equine career plan.
- * Leverage local talent to develop a lecture series that fills in the blanks in the existing program.
 - a. Saddle Seat, Western Seat
 - b. Harnessing, Linedriving, bits, tack etc.
- * Develop cooperative programs with other institutions to provide specific training
 - a. Exercise physiology with Tufts Vet School
 - b. Equine Business Mgt. with UNH
- * Institute a program that causes students to be accountable for a group of horses. No horse in the program should ever be seen at less than 100% of potential. Daily grooming, systematic show clipping, daily stall cleaning and proper bedding are areas that students should be accountable for as they will be held accountable in for in the work place.
- * Mandate student accountability for the cleanliness of the barn and equipment. The isles should be kept immaculate. They are the first thing a visitor sees and the entire program will be judged on the appearance of the teaching area. If your students can't manage a barn with the help and direction of the instructors how will they manage out on their own?
- * Take the emphasis off of teaching riding and focus on a course of study that is more balanced. Stop running a glorified camp for students that are just interested in riding.
- * Refocus on a quality Morgan horse program. Breed better horses that have a value in the market. Showcase these animals in the best possible light. Never take a Baystate horse off the property without understanding that the entire equine program is being judged by how much quality of type and conformation the animal possesses and how well that horse is turned out. (grooming and degree of training)
- * Develop a signature for your program. What makes a Stockbridge graduate a valuable asset? What skills does the graduate possess that set them apart from graduates of competing programs? What skill level can you guarantee a prospective employer?

We hope that our review will provide a basis for further discussion and change. We were impressed with the equine faculty we met with and feel they have the ability to develop a mission statement that will meet Stockbridge and their goals. Implementing changes is always difficult but we stand ready to assist in anyway possible.

**Stockbridge School of Agriculture
Equine Management Mission Statement**

The associate of science degree in Equine Management has been designed to provide in-depth practical experience to prepare students for a career in equine facilities management.

The objective for this program is to provide each student with the opportunity to:

- 1) Gain modern business and farm management skills through participation in the daily management of a large equine facility.
- 2) Comprehend the application of modern business practices as they apply to the equine industry
- 3) Achieve both an understanding of horse behavior and the ability to safely handle horses in both normal and adverse situations.
- 4) Understand management programs for preventative medicine and basic herd health in order to maximize efficiency and performance of the horse.
- 5) Become immersed in the equine industry through opportunities such as: internships, independent studies, working regional/national equine events, and field trips.
- 6) Develop an understanding of the anatomy and physiology of the equine athlete to facilitate communication with veterinarians and other equine professionals concerning performance and health care issues.
- 7) Acquire an understanding of the principals of equine nutrition and the ability to apply these principals to daily management.
- 8) Be trained in modern equine reproductive techniques and actively participate in breeding management.
- 9) Develop a good work ethic and a sense of pride.

DOCUMENT # 3

EQUINE INDUSTRIES

CURRENT Academic Years: 2008-2009; 2009-2010; 2010-2011

Courses underlined require a minimum grade of C for graduation.

<i>First Semester</i>		<i>Credits</i>
<u>ANIMLSCI 102</u>	<u>Equine Skills I</u>	4
<u>ANIMLSCI 220</u>	<u>Physiology and Anatomy/Domestic Animals</u>	4
CHEM 102	General Chemistry Non-Science	3
ENGLISH 120	English Composition	3
<u>NATRES&E 191F</u>	<u>First Year Seminar</u>	1
		Total 15
<i>Second Semester</i>		
<u>ANIMLSCI 141</u>	<u>Handling Horses</u>	2
<u>ANIMLSCI 198Y</u>	<u>Equine Internship</u>	2-3
<u>ANIMLSCI 247</u>	<u>Horse Breeds, Types and Selection</u>	3
BIOLOGY 102	Introductory Animal Biology	4
RES-ECON 140	Managing Your Own Business	3
RES-ECON 141	Consumer Marketing for Horticulture	2
Elective		1-3
		Total 17-19
<i>Third Semester</i>		
ANIMLSCI 232	Feeds and Feeding	3
ANIMLSCI 360	Farm Animal Care and Welfare	3
<u>ANIMLSCI 459</u>	<u>Horse Management</u>	4
MATH 100/101/104	Based on Placement Exam Score	2-3
Elective		3
		Total 15-16
<i>Fourth Semester</i>		
ANIMLSCI 241	Breaking and Training the Horse	3
ANIMLSCI 298	Practicum	1
ANIMLSCI 397A	Horse Breeding	1
ANIMLSCI 445	Equine Stud Farm Management	3
<u>ANIMLSCI 497A</u>	<u>Equine Diseases and Health Management</u>	3
Elective		3
		Total 14
Grand Total 61-64		

Approved Equine Management Elective Courses

ANIMLSCI 151-154	Equitation Class (\$800 fee)	1
ANIMLSCI 297A	Basic Therapeutic Riding Prac.	1
ANIMLSCI 344	Theories and Methods of Equitation Instruction	3
ANIMLSCI 397F	Community Riding Instruction	1-3
ANIMLSCI 397G	Therapeutic Riding & Instruction	3
ANIMLSCI 442	Practice Teaching Equitation	3

EQUINE MANAGEMENT

2012-2013

Courses underlined require a minimum grade of C for graduation.

First Semester

		<i>Credits</i>
#	<u>STOCKSCH 131</u> Fundamental Stable Management I	4
#	<u>STOCKSCH 121</u> Equine Anatomy and Physiology	3
*	<u>STOCKSCH 247</u> Horse Breeds, Types and Selection	3
	ENG/WRIT 111/112 Basic Writing /College Writing	3
	NATSCI 191F First Year Seminar	1
	Total	14

Second Semester

#	STOCKSCH 201 Equipment Operations	2
^*	<u>STOCKSCH 203</u> Fundamental Stable Management II	4
#	<u>STOCKSCH 161</u> Equine Care Techniques	3
*	<u>STOCKSCH 198Y</u> Equine Internship	2
^*	<u>STOCKSCH 237</u> Equine Business	3
	MATH 100/101/104 Based on Math Placement Exam	2-3
	Total	16-17

Third Semester

#	STOCKSCH 231 Equine Nutrition	3
^*	<u>STOCKSCH 252</u> Equine Facility Management I	4
#	STOCKSCH 213 Equine Lecture Series	2
*	<u>STOCKSCH 257</u> Sport Horse Management	4
	PLSOILIN 350 Soil and Crop Management	3
	Total	16

Fourth Semester

#	<u>STOCKSCH 302</u> Equine Facility Management II	4
	STOCKSCH 344 Theories and Methods of Equitation Instruction	3
	ANIMLSCI 445 Equine Stud Farm Mgt.	4
	<u>ANIMLSCI 497A</u> Equine Diseases & Health Mgt.	3
	Total	14

Grand Total 61-62

New Course

^ New number / New Name

* New Rubric

Approved Equine Management Elective Courses

STOCKSCH 151-154	Equitation Class (\$800 fee)	1
STOCKSCH 155	Spec Prob. in Riding	1
STOCKSCH 241	Breaking and Training	3
STOCKSCH 280	Topics in the Horse Industry	3
STOCKSCH 397F	Community Riding Instruction	1-3
STOCKSCH 442	Practice Teaching Equitation	3

DOCUMENT #4



STOCKBRIDGE SCHOOL UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
STOCKBRIDGE HALL**

**AMHERST, MA 01003
PHONE 413-545-2222
FAX: 413-577-0242
wmitchell@cns.umass.edu**

Date: September 23, .2011

TO: Sharmila Muratoti, Assistant Registrar for Scheduling

**FR: Rafael A. Fissore, Department Head, Vet and Animal Sciences
Wm. L. Mitchell, Dean/Director Stockbridge School**

RE: Change in Rubric ANIMLSCI to STOCKSCH for Equine Program

Following up on our discussion this summer concerning equine courses that will be offered and taught through the Stockbridge School the following course rubrics will change from ANIMLSCI to STOCKSCH.

- **ANIMLSCI 150-154 Equitation Class to**
 - **STOCKSCH 150-154 Equitation Class**
- **ANIMLSCI 155 Special Problems in Riding**
 - **STOCKSCH 155 Special Problems in Riding**
- **ANIMLSCI 241 Breaking and Training to**
 - **STOCKSCH 441 Breaking and Training**
- **ANIMLSCI 247 Horse Breeds, Types and Selection to**
 - **STOCKSCH 247 Horse Breeds, Types and Selection**
- **ANIMLSCI 257 Sport Horse Management to**
 - **STOCKSCH 257 Sport Horse Management**
- **ANIMLSCI 344 Theories and Methods of Equitation Instruction to**
 - **STOCKSCH 344 Theories and Methods of Equitation Instruction**
- **ANIMLSCI 397F Community Riding Instruction to**
 - **STOCKSCH 397F Community Riding Instruction**
- **ANIMLSCI 442 Practice Teaching Equitation**
 - **STOCKSCH 442 Practice Teaching Equitation**

The following persons certify their approval of the Rubric changes to the above courses:

Rafael A. Fissore, Department Head, Vet. Animal Sciences

Date

William L. Mitchell, Dean/Director Stockbridge School

Date

Steve Goodwin, Dean, College of Natural Sciences

Date

The University of Massachusetts is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution