



Course Syllabus

Camp Counselor Certificate Training

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Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to leadership, horsemanship and safety skills for youth desiring to be counselors at summer horse camps. It will focus on leadership, teamwork, communication and emergency preparedness. You will learn how to work with horses through a willing partnership rather than fear and intimidation. You will carry these principles from the ground up into the saddle, and then pass them on to campers. You will spend 15 hours, over three days, in an intensive class learning advanced horsemanship skills, horse care and feeding, basic first aid, job responsibility, and teaching skills. The class will prepare you to be a valued counselor at any horse camp. A passing grade is required to earn a certificate. Successful completion results in a Certificate in Camp Counselor Horsemanship.

Pre-requisite:

Basic horse handling and confidence around horses is expected. This is for advancing students. Must be at least 12yrs or have approval from Workshop Director to attend

Required materials:

Notebook or journal and pen
Open mind and willingness to learn
Sack lunches for Saturday and Sunday
Boots with slick soles and at least a 1" heel required while handling horses

Recommended materials:

Water bottle
Helmet (NWNHC has helmets to use if you do not own your own)
Snacks for Saturday and Sunday
Rain jacket
Rubber boots
Work gloves



Goals: All students will be able to demonstrate leadership, teamwork, communication and emergency preparedness through simulations and group projects. Students will understand the foundation of safe horsemanship, demonstrate an ability to teach these principles and conduct themselves professionally. Successful completion of coursework is at the discretion of the instructor(s).

Expectations:

1. Student will review and study required materials
2. Student will participate in all group activities and be fully present
3. Student will be supportive and respectful of students, teachers and horses (including no texting or phone use during class)

Outcomes:

You will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamentals of gaining respect and partnership from your horse on the ground and in the saddle.
2. Demonstrate an attitude of fairness and respect towards horses and humans.
3. Present safe horse handling skills to children, building knowledge and confidence in both child and horse.
4. Solve problems within a group, finding the strengths of each individual to accomplish a task.

5. Demonstrate proper, basic grooming techniques and procedures and how to teach them
6. Demonstrate how to ride with a balanced seat, independent rein and with lightness.
7. Demonstrate an awareness of your own, your students' and the horses' learning pace, and style; working as a leader to guide them, setting them up for success
8. Know the basic parts, temperature, pulse rate, respiration rate, coat colors and markings of horses
9. Know how to handle minor cuts, abrasions, skin irritations and other wounds of horses
10. Understand and demonstrate strong work ethic, professionalism and communication skills.

FRIDAY Evening

Icebreakers:

- The Party
- Musical Paper Bags
- Knee-to-Knee

Pizza will be provided for a light dinner

Class: Counselor 101

- Seeing what needs to be done and doing it
- Personal connections with campers
- Professionalism, casually
- Do's and Don'ts of Counseling

Class: Horsemanship Theory

- Horse nature; answering the Why
- Natural horsemanship equipment

SATURDAY

Class: Basic Horsemanship Safety

- Catching/Leading etiquette and safety
- The Seven Games and how they integrate into "normal" riding/horse handling
- The Power of Focus and Intent

Class: Team Leadership

- How to read situations, anticipate needs, guide peers

Class: Horse Management 101

- Care and Feeding
- Handling camp horses
- Basics of Horse First Aid
- How to Handle Emergencies with children

Class: Ship-Shape

- Getting things in order

SUNDAY

Class: Teaching 101

- Basic Horsemanship and Children
- Coaching Activity*

Class: Teaching Simulations

- Catching, Grooming, Leading
- Ground Skills
- Riding Basics

Assessments

