



**Diploma – Trainer and Riding Teacher
programme description**

Diploma – Trainer and Riding Teacher

Course Description for the Diploma Examination in accordance with guidelines on higher education and degrees, Ministry of Education, Science and Culture 8. February 2007
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Name of programme	Diploma in Training and Riding Instruction
Final degree	The course leads to a Diploma in Training and Riding Teaching
Department	Department of Equine Science
Entrance qualifications	Diploma in Young Horse Training from Hólar University College. Riding test.
Aim of course	The length of the course is about 5 months. (30 ECTS). The aim of the course is to provide the student with specialized knowledge and practical skills in riding and riding teaching. The student will be able to organize and implement programs in riding teaching, carry out specialist tasks in horse training, horse shows, competitions and other expert work in the field of horsemanship.
Standards of knowledge, understanding, skills and abilities at the end of the course:	<p>1. Knowledge and understanding The student should possess knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main principles of teaching methodology. • Main teaching methods, techniques of teaching, organization and evaluation methods. • Methodology of riding instruction and its special character of the interaction of the rider and horse. • Methods in training riders, e.g. balance, seat, commands and control. • The training levels and methods of evaluating the training stage of a horse. • Training of a horse, from basic training to competition and show horses at top level. • Competition events and judgment systems for the Icelandic horse as well as show technique in competitions. • Facilities and equipment of rider and horse for training and riding instruction. <p>2. Areas of knowledge The student should possess knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General teaching methodology and special characteristics of riding instruction. • Methods of training riders. • Riding and training of the Icelandic horse. • Competition events and appropriate rules for the Icelandic horse. <p>3. The student should possess the following practical abilities and</p>

	<p>skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper voice control for teaching. • To organize riding instruction, draw up a teaching plan and evaluation scheme for various categories of rider ability. • To evaluate the level of a rider and a horse and organize riding instruction accordingly. • To undertake all general riding instruction, practical and theoretical, for the Icelandic horse. • To evaluate the training level of a horse and make a training plan accordingly. • To undertake training of a horse at any level of ability. • To participate in shows and competition events at the highest levels. • To provide riders with guidelines in organizing shows in competitions and exhibitions. • To display initiative and independence in training and riding instruction. <p>4. Theoretical knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To use knowledge of biology, behaviour and nature of a horse to ensure its well being and a systematic methodology in horse management and training. • To make practical use of teaching methodology and knowledge of the interaction between rider and horse in riding instruction. <p>5. The student should possess these skills in communication, information technology and computer literacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To organize a communication network within the field. • To describe, present and outline issues in connection with horse training and riding teaching. • To work with others on a variety of projects. • To make use of numerical and visual data. <p>6. Learning skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To gather information and resources in the field, make use of them and make correct reference to sources. • To write a source-based essay on a well-defined subject and with findings based on sound argument. • To acquire further knowledge and establish new methods in the field
Teaching methods:	The emphasis is on the combination of theoretical and practical work. The theoretical section consists of lectures, instructional videos and demonstrations. Independent study of the subject outside lectures is emphasized through further reading and project work. The practical

	section of the course consists of individual and group instructions, demonstration, practice in riding instruction as well as individual projects.
Evaluation:	Course evaluation is in most cases a combination of written/oral final examination, project work, teacher's evaluation marks based on assessments and/or performance in class as well as a practical final examination which is a major component of the final mark. External examiners are called in from the Association of Horse Trainers for this part of the examination.

DIPLOMA IN TRAINING AND RIDING TEACHING - COURSES

NR	NÁMSKEIÐ	ECTS
01.31.12	Riding and Training	12
01.32.14	Pedagogy and Riding Teaching	14
01.33.04	Judging Competition Horses	4
Total		30

Course number 01.31.12	Riding and Training Credits: 12 ECTS
Faculty/term	Department of Equine Science / spring term
Level	Diploma in Training and Riding Instruction
Course description	Riders seat, aids and control of the horse are covered in detail. Students receive training in methods and precise coordination of aids in training in groundwork, dressage and training of gaits. Emphasis is placed on applying knowledge of the natural behaviour and perception of the horse in all training. The importance of proper posture and outlines of the horse is discussed and students receive training in controlling the horse's form and movements. The development and exhibition of competition horses and the training of pace horses are discussed specifically. The student trains two competition horses throughout the learning process, participates in the training of specialized school horses and participates in shows and competitions.
Learning outcomes	<p>Goals of the course; student's knowledge, understanding and skills <i>Upon completion of the course, the student should:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be able to assess the physical and psychological state of a riding horse and its level of conditioning • understand and be able to explain how proper training influences the physical and psychological makeup of a riding horse • understand and be able to explain how the rider's control influences the form, movement and gaits of the horse • be able to conduct all general training and development of riding horses as well as the training of competition horses on all levels • be able to retrain horses with common training flaws • be able to participate in shows and competitions at the highest levels of Icelandic horsemanship
Methods of study and instruction	Lectures: 50 hours Teaching demonstrations: 20 hours

	<p>Practical sessions: 150 hours Student work: 80 Total: 300 hours of work</p>
Learning assessment	<p>Training reports: 15% Final examination: practical examination: 85% For successful completion of the course a minimum grade of 5.0 must be achieved on the final examination. . Attendance is required in practical sessions and teaching demonstrations. A minimum grade of 5.0 must be achieved in the grade assigned by the teacher and also for the practical final examination</p>
Reading material	<p>Required: Collection of articles assembled by the instructor. Various video recordings.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Dressage with Kyra</i>. Kyra Kirklund and Jytte Lemkow. Kenilworth Press 2006. 2. <i>The Principles of riding and Advanced Techniques of Dressage</i>. The official instruction handbook of the German National Equestrian Federation. Kenilworth Press 2005. 3. <i>Schooling Horses In-hand</i>. Richard Hinrichs. J.A. Allen, London 2003. 4. <i>Simplify your riding</i>. Wendy Murdoch, , Carriage House Publ. 2004 5. <i>Dressage Tips and Training Solutions</i>. Wolfgang Hölzel, Petra Hölzel og Martin Plewa. Trafalgar Square 2005. 6. <i>Downunder Horsemanship</i>. Clinton Anderson. Trafalgar Square Publishing North Pomfret, Vermont. 2006 <p>Supplementary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Reading the horse's mind. How to utilize the horse's inherent nature to enhance training</i>. Jackie Budd. Howell Book House, NY 1996. 2. <i>Lessons with Lendon</i>. Lendon Gray. Primedia Equine Network, 2003. 3. <i>Dressage, The Art of Classical Riding</i>. Sylvia Loch. The Sportsman's Press 2001. 4. <i>The Complete Training of Horse and Rider</i>. Alois Padhajsky. Doubleday and co. Inc 1967. 5. <i>Reflections on Equestrian Art</i>. Nuno Olivera. J.A. Allen 6. <i>Balance in Movement</i>. Susanne von Dietze. J.A. Allen 1999

Course number 01.32.14	Pedagogy and Riding Teaching Credits: 14 ECTS.
Faculty/term	Equine science /Trainer and C-riding teacher /spring term
Level	Diploma in Training and Riding Instruction
Course description	Methods of teaching, organization, preparation of teaching and learning assessment are discussed. The student receives training in making oral presentations and in teaching methods, the preparation of syllabi and the use of instructional materials. Riding paths, instructions and exercises in the arena are addressed, along with the development and organization of riding instruction. Emphasis is placed on the distinctive features of riding teaching with respect to the interaction among the riding teacher, the student and the horse. The student receives advanced training in instruction and instructional methods in a class room situation, such as lectures and group work, and in practical instruction, such as teaching demonstrations, private instruction and group instruction in the arena.
Learning outcomes	<p>Goals of the course, student's knowledge, understanding and skills <i>Upon completion of the course, the student should:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be able to explain pedagogical concepts and the advantages and disadvantages of different teaching methods • be able to explain the specialized methodology of riding instruction and to assess the skill level of rider and horse based, on theoretical knowledge and competence relating to the horse, training and riding • be able to organize riding teaching, prepare a teaching plan and conduct assessment of student achievement. • be competent in all general riding teaching, practical and theoretical, for Icelandic horses
Methods of study and instruction	Lectures: 50 hours Teaching demonstrations: 20 hours Teaching practicum: 180 hours Student work: 100 hours Total: 350 hours
Learning assessment	<p>Pedagogical exercises: Lectures, assignments and teaching practicum 15%</p> <p>Theoretical examination or essay at the end of the course 15%</p> <p>Grade assigned by the teacher: based on performance in practical riding teaching 20%</p> <p>Examination on teaching demonstrations: 15 %</p> <p>Riding teaching with a group: 35%</p> <p>In order to pass the course, a minimum of 5.0 must be achieved in all</p>

	components of the basis for learning assessment. Required attendance in practical sessions.
Reading material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required : Collection of articles 2007. (Assembled by Helga Thoroddsen) • Hassler-Scoop, Jill K. (2002). <i>Equestrian Education, Professional Development for Riding Instructors</i>. Montana, Goals Unlimited Press. • Hassler-Scoop, Jill K. (2000). <i>Equestrian Instruction. An Intergrated Approach to Teaching and Learning</i>. Montana, Goals Unlimited Press. • Helga Thoroddsen, (2006). <i>Knapamerki 3</i>. Reykjavík, Hólar.

Course number 01.33.04	Judging Competition Horses Credits: 4 ECTS.
Faculty/term	Department of Equine Science / spring term
Level	Diploma in Training and Riding Instruction
Course description	Laws and regulations regarding sports and gait competitions for Icelandic horses, both the international regulations of FIPO and rules for competitions for Icelandic horses ("gæðingakeppni"). The regulations, guidelines and judgement scales of all areas of competition are covered. The execution of shows and showing methods are discussed. Students receive training in judging competitions.
Learning outcomes	<p>Goals of the course, student's knowledge, understanding and skills <i>Upon completion of the course, the student should:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know all the regulations for sports competitions for Icelandic horses as well as for the Icelandic gait competitions ("gæðingakeppni"). • know the judging scales in all areas of competition for the Icelandic horse. • be able to apply knowledge of judgement systems to organize and execute a show so as to promote the best possible outcome in each instance • know the guidelines and have the ability to assess competition horses based on the relevant guidelines
Methods of study and instruction	Lectures: 20 hours Practical exercises: 40 hours Student work: 40 hours Total: 100 hours of work
Learning assessment	Final examination: Written examination 1 hr 30%, practical examination 70% For successful completion of the course a minimum grade of 5.0 must be achieved on the final examination. .
Reading material	Required : FIPO, The National Association for riding clubs guidelines for quality competitions, special folder of reading material from the instructor, practice video recordings, etc.