

## Equine

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- BSc (Hons) in Equine Management
- FdSc in Equine Management
- Certificate/Diploma in Science (Equine Science) through distance learning

## Equine

**“the combination of academic study, practical skills and IT experience really helped me to get my job.”**

Career profile: Anthony O'Donnell



Anthony graduated from the Foundation Degree in Equine Management in June 2008. While studying at Enniskillen Campus he regularly rode out and represented CAFRE in numerous point-to-point races demonstrating the practical knowledge gained during the course. During his work placement, Anthony was based in England at the yard of the famous British champion racehorse trainer, Paul Nicholls. There he worked as a key member of this successful training team. He also got ample opportunity to visit leading racing festivals. On graduating from Enniskillen, Anthony joined Horse Racing Ireland (HRI) as an Assistant Race Planner.

“I really enjoyed my time studying at Enniskillen Campus and feel that the combination of academic study, practical skills and IT experience really helped me to get my job in HRI and undertake the tasks involved.

The social aspect of being at Enniskillen was great with lots of study tours, fundraising events and nights out regularly organised throughout the year. All in all it was a great experience, one that I would recommend to anyone who is interested in pursuing a career in the equine sector.”

## Equine

The equine industry is truly international with many job opportunities enabling graduates to travel the world and enjoy challenging careers.

The UK horse industry currently has a gross output of £3.4 billion with around 5 million people having an active interest in the industry. There are approximately 50,000 full-time jobs working directly with horses and over 100,000 jobs in ancillary industries.

Enniskillen Campus aims to produce students who can succeed in a wide range of careers within the equine industry. A course at the Campus will develop both academic and practical skills thus ensuring that students have greater versatility and increased employment opportunities.

Enniskillen Campus currently provides the widest range of courses in Equine studies in Ireland. The courses have been developed to meet the needs of the industry and satisfy the career aspirations of students.

The Campus aims to promote the development of a competitive equine industry and provide students with an insight into the many different international equine related employment opportunities.



# Equine

Careers in the equine industry

Enniskillen Campus has built up an extensive portfolio of contacts, which helps students find work placements to broaden their experience and outlook. The following are some of the typical careers available to equine graduates.

### Technical sales representatives

Due to the changes and developments within the equine market there are an increasing number of companies supplying a wide range of materials and equipment to the industry. These can vary from feed merchants and equipment retailers, to bloodstock sales companies and businesses selling alternative therapies. Sales representatives must have a thorough knowledge of their products and the ability to establish a positive rapport with customers.

### Equine lecturers

There is a growing number of equine related education and training job opportunities for graduates. Equine lecturers require good technical knowledge, the ability to transfer specialist expertise and good communication skills.

### Equine business owners / managers

To successfully manage an equine business, people require technical and practical competencies and the ability to make sound business decisions in a changing environment.

### Technical advisers

Technical advisers help equine owners to identify and deal with problems and also assist and advise on the possibilities for business development. Advisers need sound technical and business management knowledge, as well as the ability to assess the impact of new information and technology. They also require an innovative outlook and good communication skills.

# Equine

Careers in the equine industry

### Racehorse trainers

The racing industry requires highly skilled people to work as racehorse trainers. Successful racehorse trainers require well developed business management and people skills as well as excellent horsemanship.

### Riding instructors

A teaching vocation within the equine industry will offer a challenging career and a high level of job satisfaction. Riding instructors need to be enthusiastic, self-confident, patient and articulate with a sense of humour and good communication skills.

### Service industries

A variety of industries within the service sector such as insurance brokers and the tourism industry employ people with equine related backgrounds to provide a service to their clients.

### Administration

Opportunities also exist with governing bodies such as Weatherby's, the Jockey Club and Show Jumping Associations. There are other posts within industry involved in handicapping, marketing and development.

### Competition and stud grooms

Grooms should be in excellent health, physically fit, hard working, skilled and motivated. Some grooms also ride and compete in their chosen industry. Progression to head groom or travelling groom will become available with experience.

### Riders

There are a number of jobs worldwide for lightweight, experienced work riders. Talented, dedicated riders can progress in their area of expertise to become competition riders or jockeys.

Students enter the equine industry at different levels depending on their qualifications and experience. The skills and knowledge gained through Enniskillen Campus courses are also relevant to careers outside the equine industry.



# Equine

## Equine facilities

Equine courses offered at Enniskillen Campus incorporate a strong practical dimension and the philosophy of 'learning by doing' is applied throughout all programmes.

The Campus was founded in 1967 and has provided over 40 years of high quality education and training with equine courses being offered since the early 1990s. The combination of excellent equestrian, teaching and residential facilities at the Campus and at Necarne Castle enables students to develop their practical and theoretical skills in a pleasant environment. The students receive excellent support from members of the local equine industry.

The College racing enterprise, sited on the Enniskillen Campus rural estate, gives students invaluable experience in handling and riding racehorses in training. A specialist breeding unit, managed by the students, enables them to gain experience in managing a yard and participate in the events within the equine stud calendar.

The equitation aspects of the courses take place at the Necarne Castle estate.

The equitation centre is one of the largest in Ireland and provides first class facilities for training the horse and rider at all levels as well as facilitating national and international competitions. The estate has been redeveloped to provide an impressive range of indoor and outdoor facilities. The refurbished courtyard which is now converted into modern stables provides a timeless reminder of a golden era. Each year at Necarne Castle, an international 3-day event is held featuring cross country, dressage and show jumping competitions. There are stabling facilities for student livery horses, a horse walker, an indoor arena and a warm up arena, two outdoor all-weather ménages and three all-weather grass arenas.

Students also have the opportunity to be directly involved with the management of the Equine Breeding Unit at Enniskillen Campus. This project helps students to develop management and organisational skills including maintaining detailed physical and financial records. The Unit also provides students with the opportunity to get hands-on experience in the daily care and handling of brood mares and youngstock.



# Equine

## Equine facilities

Currently there is a range of brood mares in the breeding unit including Flat and National Hunt Thoroughbred mares and Sport Horse mares. Students are involved in all aspects of the stud calendar including preparation for foaling, monitoring mares around foaling, stallion selection and preparation of the Thoroughbred foals for the sales.

In addition to completing their formal academic studies, students have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities throughout the academic year, which complement formal course work. These activities include the Campus Racing Club, the Show Jumping Club and the Equine Riding Club.



**"The equitation centre is one of the largest in Ireland and provides first class facilities for training the horse and rider at all levels."**

# Equine

## BSc (Hons) in Equine Management

### Fact file

**How to apply:**  
UCAS

**Institution code:**  
A45

**Course code:**  
D322

**Course Location:**  
Enniskillen Campus

**Course Duration:**  
3 years full-time

**Entry Requirements:**  
240 UCAS tariff points

**Course Manager:**  
Finbarr Daly

**Email contact details:**  
finbarr.daly@dardni.gov.uk  
enquiries@cafre.ac.uk

**Website:**  
www.cafre.ac.uk

**Telephone:**  
028 6634 4603  
(Use 048 6634 4603 from RoI)

**Text Phone:**  
028 9052 4420

**Progression Opportunities:**  
Students can progress onto relevant postgraduate studies or research.

### Course aim

The Honours Degree in Equine Management, which is validated by the University of Ulster, aims to produce motivated graduates who can understand and apply modern scientific and management principles in an ever-changing equine industry. These students will be equipped to carry out a range of practical and managerial activities in equine and non-equine enterprises.

### Careers

A range of opportunities exist for graduates in Ireland and abroad in the equine industry and related services including equine enterprise management, technical advisory duties, marketing, sales, tourism and lecturing. Equine graduates have also used their qualification to enter other professions.

### Student's view

Anna McSparron



" I had the opportunity to progress from the Foundation Degree in Equine Management to the BSc (Hons) programme. I am delighted I availed of this chance. The combination of the practical based elements of the Foundation Degree and the theory within the Honours programme will enhance my employability. I find the staff at Enniskillen Campus very approachable and helpful, offering their support at all times. I'm glad I chose Enniskillen because it gives me a chance to study something I am really passionate about – horses."

**"The combination of the practical based elements of the Foundation Degree and the theory within the Honours programme will enhance my employability."**

# Equine

### Course content

#### Year 1

- Anatomy and physiology
  - Breeding and stud management
  - Equine industry awareness
  - Horse management
  - Horse management practice
  - Introduction to business management
  - Introduction to the principles of horse management
  - Principles of nutrition
- Options
- Equitation
  - The Horse Racing Industry

#### Year 2

- Animal health
  - Applied nutrition
  - Enterprise management
  - Event management
  - Grassland and forage management
- Options
- Behaviour and rehabilitation
  - Young stock production
  - Equitation / Instruction / Thoroughbred industry

#### Year 3

- Applied equine veterinary technology
- Advanced enterprise management
- Business development and management
- Contemporary issues
- Equine project

### Entry requirements

'A' Level  
240 tariff points, equivalent to three 'A' levels at Grade C or higher including a scientific subject, or equivalent.

Irish Leaving Certificate  
380 points to include one Science subject at Higher Level.

National Diploma  
Please contact the Admissions Office.

Progression from FdSc or HND  
Applicants with a relevant Foundation Degree or Higher National Diploma may be admitted to Year two of the Degree programme.

### Additional qualifications

During the course, students may have the opportunity to achieve additional, nationally recognised qualifications, to complement their Degree, which can give them a competitive advantage in employment or career progression.

These qualifications may include:

- British Horse Society Exams
- NVQ Level 2 & 3 Awards in Racehorse Care and/or Level 3 in Breeding
- Basic Health & Safety Certificate
- Emergency First Aid
- European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL)

These programmes are classified as competency-based courses and are widely recognised by the industry.



# Equine

## FdSc in Equine Management

### Fact file

**How to apply:**  
UCAS

**Institution code:**  
A45

**Course code:**  
D422

**Course Location:**  
Enniskillen Campus

**Course Duration:**  
2 years full-time

**Entry Requirements:**  
100 UCAS tariff points

**Course Manager:**  
Finbarr Daly

**Email contact details:**  
finbarr.daly@dardni.gov.uk  
enquiries@cafre.ac.uk

**Website:**  
www.cafre.ac.uk

**Telephone:**  
028 6634 4603  
(Use 048 6634 4603 from RoI)

**Text Phone:**  
028 9052 4420

**Progression Opportunities:**  
Students can progress onto the second year of the BSc (Hons) in Equine Management or onto postgraduate studies or research.

### Course aim

The Foundation Degree (FdSc) in Equine Management, validated by the University of Ulster, is unique within Ireland. The course aims to produce motivated graduates with practical and managerial skills, to enable them to make sound judgements in all aspects of managing an equine enterprise. Students on the FdSc in Equine Management have the opportunity, through the emphasis on 'learning by doing,' to acquire a wide range of practical equine skills, develop an understanding of the principles of good husbandry practices and gain valuable work experience within the industry. The Foundation Degree in Equine Management has been developed in consultation with the equine industry, to meet their needs. The course gives students an academic qualification as well as developing their practical skills.

### Careers

Students will take up posts in the Sport, Racing and Breeding sectors of the industry. Career options include equine business owners / managers, technical advisers, sales representatives and a range of jobs in the service and related industries.

### Student's view

Jill Bloomer



" I am really enjoying my time at Enniskillen. Having completed the National Diploma in Horse Management, the Foundation Degree was an excellent opportunity to develop my practical skills and knowledge. I really feel that my participation on the Foundation Degree is helping me to develop my skills base all round."

# Equine

### Course content

Students undertake core subjects and select optional subjects depending on their specialisation.

#### Level 1

- Anatomy and physiology
- Breeding and stud practices
- Equine industry awareness
- Equine facilities management
- Horse management practice
- Introduction to biological science
- Introduction to business management

#### Options

- Equitation
- The horse racing industry

#### Level 2

- Animal health
- Applied investigative project
- Principles of horse management
- Work placement

#### Options

- Behaviour and rehabilitation
- Improving business opportunities
- Young stock production / Equitation and training techniques

### Entry requirements

'A' Level  
100 tariff points, equivalent to one 'A' level pass, plus three GCSE subjects at Grade C including English or equivalent.

Irish Leaving Certificate  
100 UCAS points equivalent, including two Grade C1s at Higher level or equivalent.

National Diploma  
A National Diploma in an appropriate subject with at least one Merit eg. Pass Merit Pass.

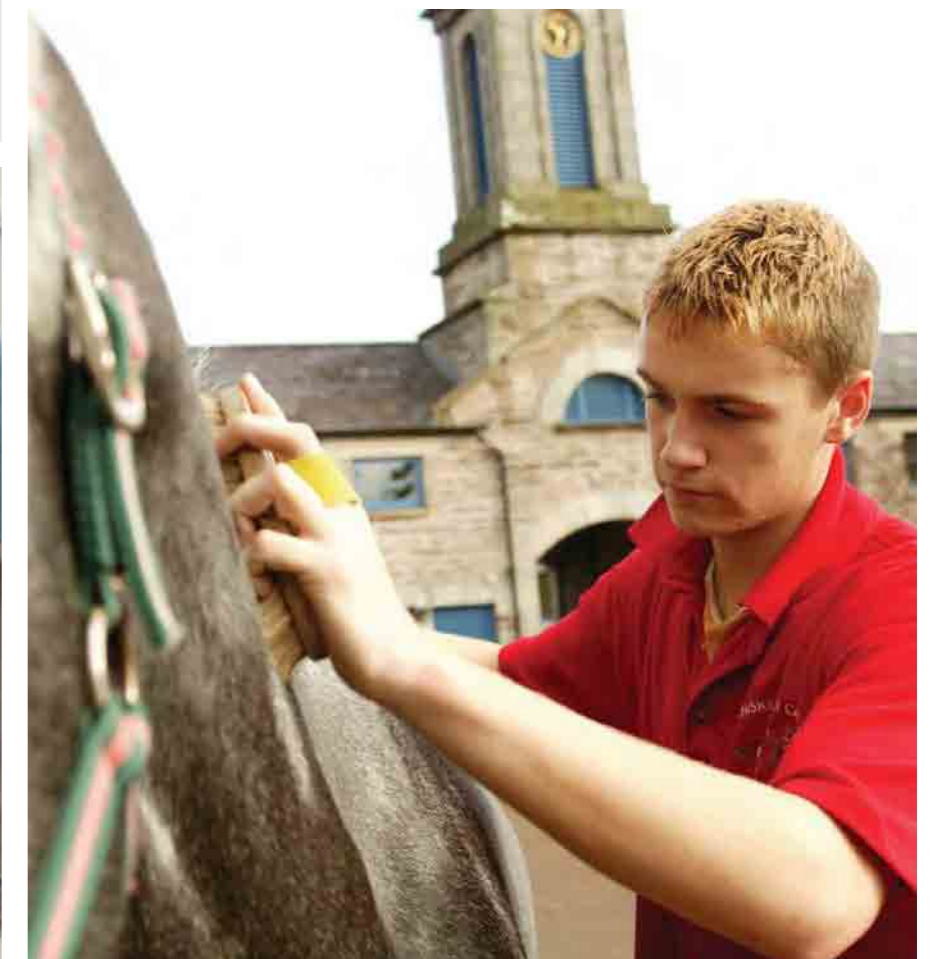
### Additional qualifications

During the course, students may have the opportunity to obtain additional, nationally recognised qualifications to complement their course and this can give them a competitive advantage in employment or career progression.

These qualifications include:

- British Horse Society Exams
- NVQ Level 2 & 3 Award in Racehorse Care and/or Level 3 in Breeding
- Basic Health & Safety Certificate
- Emergency First Aid
- European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL)

These programmes are classified as competency-based courses and are widely recognised by the industry.



# Equine

Certificate and Diploma in Science (Equine Science) through distance learning

## Fact file

**How to apply:**  
Direct to CAFRE

**Course Location:**  
Home and Greenmount Campus including out centres for tutorials and group work

**Course Duration:**  
Minimum 2 years - Certificate  
Minimum 3 years - Diploma

**Entry Requirements:**  
Certificate course - five GCSE passes if under 23 years of age.  
Diploma course - Certificate in Science (Equine Science)

**Course Manager:**  
Deirdre Cooper

**Email contact details:**  
deirdre.cooper@dardni.gov.uk  
enquiries@cafre.ac.uk

**Website:**  
www.cafre.ac.uk

**Telephone:**  
Telephone:  
028 9442 6815  
(use 048 9442 6815 from Rol)

**Text Phone:**  
028 9052 4420

**Progression Opportunities:**  
Graduates of the distance education programme Diploma in Science (Equine Science) obtaining a second class first division classification (2:1) may be considered for entry to the full-time, BSc (Hons) in Equine Management at Enniskillen Campus or the BSc Science (Equine Science) at the University of Limerick.

## Course aim

The distance learning programmes provide an opportunity for people interested in the equine industry to gain a University of Limerick accredited qualification in Equine Science. Course delivery is sufficiently flexible to accommodate work commitments, personal circumstances and geographical location and allows those who are presently in employment to further their studies.

## Distance learning student support

All students are invited to an induction evening when they register for modules on the programme. This induction course informs students about the programme and prepares them for study. Greenmount Campus has a study centre where distance learning students can meet and share experiences with their tutors and each other at regular tutorials and workshops.

## Careers

Graduates of the programme will have acquired key competencies and skills, technical knowledge, an appreciation of scientific principles and management expertise, which they can apply within their daily work in the equine industry. This will enhance their employment and career prospects.

## Student's view

Bree Rutledge



" I have always been fascinated by horses, but didn't have the advantage of coming from a horsey background. I bought my first horse after leaving university with a degree in Food Science. I quickly realised there was so much I had to learn! When I heard about the Certificate in Science (Equine Science) by Distance Learning, I was intrigued. I thought it was the perfect way to educate myself about horses, whilst looking after my own horse and working full-time. It was hard work, but very interesting and most enjoyable. In fact, having finished the Certificate course, I immediately signed up for the Diploma! While studying for the Certificate, I changed jobs and ever since I have compiled the Horse Week section of Farm Week newspaper. Along with my other qualifications and experience, the fact that I was undertaking the Distance Learning course was a definite advantage on my CV."

# Equine

## Course content

The Certificate in Science will be awarded to students who accumulate 48 points (12 modules plus work placement) and the Diploma in Science to those who accumulate an additional 24 points (eight modules).

Certificate in Science  
Level 1 stage 1

- Horsemanship 1 or Horsemanship 1A
- Introduction to economics
- Introduction to information technology
- The Irish horse industry

Level 1 stage 2

- Equine anatomy and physiology
- Equine reproduction and management of mares and stallions
- Horsemanship 2 or Horsemanship 2A
- Introduction to accounting

Level 2 stage 3

- Enterprise formation
- Equine health and disease
- Horsemanship 3 or Horsemanship 3A
- Marketing (non business)

Level 2 stage 4

- Work placement

Diploma in Science (Equine Science)  
Level 3 stage 5

- Equine breeding and genetics
- Grassland and grazing management
- Language 1 or Equine performance

Business option

- Enterprise development

Equitation option

- Advanced riding techniques and problem analysis

Level 3 stage 6

- Equine nutrition
- Language 2 or Marketing in the equine industry or project
- Risk management

Business option

- Business consulting

Equitation option

- Problem identification and practical solutions

## Course structure

A learning support system, including self-study packages to provide additional material during the programme is available. The use of study packs is supported by regular tutorial sessions and workshops.

## Entry requirements

Certificate in Science  
There are no specific requirements for applicants over 23 years of age. Those under 23 years require five GCSE passes including Mathematics and English plus a language.

Diploma in Science  
Applicants must hold a Certificate in Science (Equine Science) at a minimum Quality Credit Average (QCA) of 2.6 or equivalent.

Prior Experiential Learning  
Industrial experience and prior qualifications are taken into account and for some modules it may be possible to apply for Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL).

