

HORSEPACKING ADVENTURES

MUSTANGS:
A LIVING LEGACY

June 9–12, 2012

MOUNTAIN
HORSEMANSHIP:
VETERINARY CARE
& HORSEPACKING
IN THE WILDERNESS

July 8–14, 2012

UC DAVIS
EXTENSION
EQUINE PROGRAMS



CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Mustangs: A Living Legacy

Saturday–Tuesday, June 9–12

Track mustangs in the Sierra back country

Track wild horses and relive the Old West in the seldom-visited Pizona area of the Inyo National Forest. From a central meadow camp, riders track mustangs in their natural pinyon forest habitat. Observe and photograph mustang herds and wildflowers. Learn the social behavior of the horses and their current struggle. Enjoy the spectacular sunsets of the Sierra and White Mountains while a cook prepares dinner over an open fire.

This program is a special opportunity that combines a superb outdoor adventure and a unique educational experience in exploring the biology, ecology and behavior of a proud and beautiful animal — the North American wild horse.



Mountain Horsemanship: Veterinary Care and Horsepacking in the Wilderness

Sunday–Saturday, July 8–14

Learn horsepacking and veterinary care in the high Sierra

This deluxe pack trip covers all the essentials of horsepacking in the wilderness—with the Golden Trout Wilderness of the high Sierra as your laboratory. Past participants have acclaimed it as an outstanding adventure. The instructors will discuss equipment, emergency veterinary care, feeding and managing livestock in the backcountry, and more.

Mustangs: A Living Legacy

3 units academic credit.

LOCATION

The program site is the Montgomery Pass Wild Horse Range, a pinyon pine forest and high desert region northeast of Bishop, Calif. This area, on the Nevada-California border, is nestled in view of the Sierra to the west and the White Mountains to the south.

FORMAT

The program consists of a series of informal but structured presentations and discussions spread throughout a wilderness horseback camping experience. The mixture of organized and free time permits you to enjoy the full spectrum of this pristine environment. Throughout this trip, you will be riding with the instructor and his staff members. The group stops periodically for observation, food, informal discussion, rest and seminars. Be prepared to ride at least six hours each day.

LECTURE AND LABORATORY TOPICS

The course highlights:

- The historical background and political evolution of wild horse populations
 - Aspects of the physical environment of the horse range, including climate, geology, water and seasonal changes
 - The relationship between wild horses, other animals and plant life in the ecology of the horse range
 - Aspects of physiology, reproduction, behavior and nutrition of wild horses
 - The principles of wild horse management and the current policies of the federal government
- You will also learn practical skills such as:
- Backcountry and range riding
 - Interpretive field observation and wildlife tracking

ITINERARY

DAY BEFORE It is suggested that you sleep over the night prior to day one at the Benton Hot Springs Bed and Breakfast, where you can rent a room or camp. Advance reservations are required. For more information and directions, visit historicbentonhotsprings.com. Gas and food can be found at the Highway 120 and Highway 6 junction. Detailed information will be mailed to enrolled participants. Below is the scheduled itinerary that may vary according to weather conditions.

DAY 1 Check-in, orientation and breakfast are at 7 a.m. at the Benton Hot Springs B&B. Arrive dressed in riding gear and bring water, a hat, riding gloves, bug spray, a bandanna, sunglasses, rain gear and a jacket. Then the group departs to River Springs, where you meet the horses and ride into the Pizona Springs camp. Discussions begin with:

- General and map orientation
- The history of the wild horse

DAYS 2-3 Spend two full days in the field, tracking and observing horses and other animals on the open range and at watering sites. Topics include:

- The seasonal range and ecology
- Social structure and behavior of wild horses
- Current issues affecting maintenance of free roaming wild horses
- Comparative ecology: U.S. horse ranges and ranges in other countries
- Wild horse population control: methods and application

DAY 4 The morning seminar covers obtaining, training and using wild horses. Then, take a ride to the western range for lunch before returning to your car at River Springs.

ENROLLMENT, COURSE FEE AND REFUND POLICY

- June 9-12: Sat. 7 a.m.-Tues. 3 p.m.
- Bishop, Calif.: Benton Hot Springs B&B, 55137 Hwy 120.
- \$900. Includes horse, saddle, meals and instruction. Enroll in section 114OTH800.
- Refunds, less a \$150 processing fee, will be given only if we receive written notification by May 11, 2012. No refunds will be granted after May 11, 2012.

Mountain Horsemanship: Veterinary Care and Horsepacking in the Wilderness

3 units academic credit.

LOCATION

Originating from Horseshoe Meadows, this course travels through the Golden Trout Wilderness of the high Sierra, near Sequoia National Park.

LECTURE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Wilderness conduct of people
2. Trail riding
 - a. Safety
 - b. Horse equipment, knots
3. Methods of feeding livestock in the backcountry
 - a. Nutritional requirements of horses
 - b. Nutritional characteristics of available feedstuff
 - c. Formulating rations
 - d. Methods of feeding horses: review of options
 - e. Wrangling
4. Management of livestock in the backcountry
 - a. Government regulations
 - b. Choice of itineraries and campsites
 - c. Managing animals in camp
 - d. Camp clean-up
5. Preventive medicine
 - a. Infectious disease control: vaccination programs
 - b. External and internal parasite control
 - c. Housing
 - d. Physical conditioning
6. Evaluating the normal horse
 - a. Physical exam of horses
 - b. Understanding physical parameters: temperature, HR, RR, etc.
7. Treating a hurt or sick horse in the wilderness
 - a. Digestive system
 - i. Colic
 - ii. Choke
 - iii. Grain overload
 - b. Musculoskeletal system
 - i. Sole bruise
 - ii. Cuts/lacerations/abrasions
 - iii. Rope burns
 - iv. Tendonitis
 - v. Puncture wounds
 - vi. Shoeing-related problems
 - vii. Saddle sores
 - viii. Tying up syndrome
 - ix. Infectious joint disease
 - x. Laminitis
 - xi. Fractures
 - c. Respiratory system
 - i. Influenza
 - ii. Bacterial pneumonia
 - iii. Allergies
 - iv. Emphysema (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
 - d. Eye problems
 - i. Foreign object
 - ii. Abrasion/ulcer
 - iii. Uveitis
 - iv. Trauma
 - e. Snake bite
 - f. Poisonous plants
 - g. Exhausted horse syndrome
8. Mules
 - a. History
 - b. Physiology
 - c. How to buy and train them

GENERAL I

These courses are conducted by Rock Creek Pack Station as a permittee of the Inyo National Forest and the Bureau of Land Management.

INSTRUCTORS

CRAIG LONDON, D.V.M., is co-owner of Rock Creek Pack Station and Mt. Whitney Pack Trains in the southeastern Sierra Nevada mountains. He practices veterinary medicine in Bishop and has taught many UC Davis Extension courses on veterinary care and wilderness horsepacking.

JANET ROSER, Ph.D., is a professor with the Department of Animal Science at UC Davis. She directs and teaches the equine program, and is currently researching hormone regulation of reproductive function in the stallion and mare.

LABORATORY TOPICS

1. Packing: equipment, fitting saddles, making loads, hitches, leading strings of mules, etc.
2. Backcountry shoeing
3. Veterinary skills: physical examination, floating teeth, intramuscular/IV injections, applying wraps, animal restraint and aging horses
4. Evaluating conformation
5. Shoeing
6. Diagnostic techniques in evaluating lameness

ITINERARY

Below is the scheduled itinerary that may vary according to weather conditions. Meet at the corrals of Mt. Whitney Pack Trains next to Cottonwood Pack Station. Rock Creek Pack Station operates as Mt. Whitney Pack Trains in the Golden Trout Wilderness. For those who want to camp out the night before, you will find camping at Diaz Lake just south of Lone Pine. While mules are being loaded, breakfast will be served.

DAY 1 Meet at Horseshoe Meadows for breakfast at 7 a.m.—ride over Trail Pass to Kern Peak Stringer

DAY 2 Layover—ride to the top of Kern Peak

DAY 3 Kern Peak Stringer to Little Whitney Meadow

DAY 4 Layover—ride to Volcano Meadow

DAY 5 Layover—ride to Volcano Falls or Kern River

DAY 6 Little Whitney Meadow to Big Whitney Meadow

DAY 7 Big Whitney Meadow to Horseshoe Meadows via Cottonwood Pass. Expect to arrive back at your car around 5:30 p.m.

ENROLLMENT, COURSE FEE AND REFUND POLICY

- July 8–14: Sun. 7 a.m.– Sat. 5:30 p.m.
- Lone Pine, Calif.: Horseshoe Meadows Pack Station, Horseshoe Meadows Rd.
- \$1,400. Includes horse, saddle, meals and instruction. Enroll in section 121OTH800.
- Refunds, less a \$150 processing fee, will be given only if we receive written notification by June 10, 2012. No refunds will be granted after June 10, 2012.

ENROLL

extension.ucdavis.edu/equine

ONLINE

INFORMATION

WHO MAY ATTEND

These programs are open to anyone 18 or older. Those under 18 may attend only by special permission from Craig London. Although riding experience is not required, the trips require riding up to six hours some days, so you should be in reasonably good physical condition.

Prior approval is required for persons weighing more than 200 pounds or those who are very heavy for their height, and for persons with physical traits or disabilities that may pose a safety risk to themselves.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE PROGRAMS

For general information or to enroll, please contact UC Davis Extension at (800) 752-0881. For specific program information, call (530) 757-8899, fax (530) 757-8634, email extension@ucdavis.edu or visit our website.

EXTENSION.UCDAVIS.EDU/EQUINE

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University of California
1333 Research Park Drive
Davis, California 95618-4852

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