

HS 299

Clinical Experience

3 Credits

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HS 299 Version: 1



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Calendar Description

This is the final course for students in the animal assisted wellness program. Emphasis is placed on students working with animals and determining their individual scope of practice to integrate an animal into their chosen profession. Students observe, identify, demonstrate programming which partners with animals, facilitates change and supports clients or students within an ethical framework.

Rationale

This is a required course for Animal Assisted Wellness certificate students. Students further their knowledge and skill development through demonstrating and discussing scenarios while partnering with animals. The focus of experiential learning is on the integration of classroom theory into professional practice. Students apply their knowledge and skills as an Animal Assisted Wellness practitioner.

Prerequisites

Students must be in the process of successfully completing their ninth course in the program to register for HS 299.

Co-Requisites

None

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

1. demonstrate professional workplace behaviour.
2. identify ethical considerations for clients/students and animals
3. role play scenarios related to integrating animals into a setting.
4. demonstrate incorporating skills into professional practice.
5. incorporate feedback and adjust activities and interventions accordingly.
6. identify needs, strengths, vulnerabilities, and resources to formulate plans, activities and/or interventions appropriate for the client/student within the scope of practice.

7. articulate and abide by the ethical obligations consistent with their professional designation and the scope of practice as an Animal Assisted Wellness practitioner.

Resource Materials

Required Textbook:

None

Reference Textbook:

None

Conduct of Course

Students attend an intensive animal assisted interventions internship. The internship is offered through Dreamcatcher Animal Assisted Wellness Academy. Students attend either virtually or in person. In person is preferred to fully grasp the concepts as it is experiential in nature.

Evaluation Procedures

Students are evaluated through direct observation and communication with the Assigned College Instructor.

The student is required to have a formal and approved scope of practice for both themselves and for their partner animal if they have one at the time. If they do not have one at the time of the course, they must ensure their animal is trained and certified and given a formal scope of practice before the animal works in professional practice.

This evaluation is designed to give students and instructor an opportunity to discuss performance and suggestions for improvement. *If a student is having serious difficulties, he/she may be requested to withdraw from the course.*

Final Evaluation and Mark

A Pass/Fail grade is awarded upon completion of this course.

Grade Equivalents and Course Pass Requirements

This is a pass/fail course.

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for success in any course as this is an intensive course in a condensed model. Students are required to attend the entirety of the course to receive a final grade. Dates for the course are determined well in advance. If a student is unable to attend the entire internship virtually or in person, they are asked to register for another time.

In cases of an emergency or illness, the student is requested to submit a medical certificate.

Course Units/Topics

1. Professional Behaviour
 - a) attitudes and behaviours
 - b) ethics within professional practice
 - c) parameters of professional practice
 - d) documents and program plan
 - e) relationships in settings
2. Observing Animal Behaviour
 - a) care and treatment
 - b) specific behaviours
 - c) screening process
 - d) appropriate settings
3. Activities and Interactions
 - a) demonstrations
 - b) client/student role play
 - c) practitioner role play
 - d) planning and goals
 - e) documentation
4. Ethical Considerations
 - a) animal
 - b) clients/students
 - c) practitioner
 - d) settings



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