

MAY 24 –
AUG. 13, 2010



SUMMER EXPERIENCE IN
EQUINE
MANAGEMENT

THE WILLIAM H MINER AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE



Send completed applications and
letters of recommendation to:

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**APPLICATION
DEADLINE:
FEBRUARY 15, 2010**



Visit Our Homepage

www.whminer.org

THE WILLIAM H MINER AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

ABOUT MINER

The William H. Miner Agricultural Research Institute is located in Chazy, New York, about 40 miles south of Montreal in the Champlain Valley. For more than a quarter of a century, the Institute has conducted programs in education and research, foremost of which are in-residence undergraduate programs in agriculture and environmental science. The Summer Experience programs in Equine Management, Farm Management, and Agricultural Research offer credits through a combination of workshops, field trips, and independent study.

The William H. Miner Agricultural Research Institute consists of 8,600 acres of land, mostly densely wooded areas with limited accessibility. The 660 acres of cropland and improved pasture includes 130 acres of corn and 160 acres of alfalfa. A dairy facility, newly constructed in 2008, houses approximately 300 registered Holstein cows in an automated free stall barn and 16-stall tie stall barn used for conducting research trials. The dairy and crop operation serve as a learning environment for students enrolled in the Summer Experience in Farm Management program. The most prominent original farm building is currently home to Miner Institute's herd of approximately 25 Morgan horses. In addition, there are horses boarded for various purposes including stallion or mare reproductive services and training. A phantom breeding mount and fully-equipped laboratory at the barns allow for on-site collection and processing of fresh-cooled and frozen semen.



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The emphasis of this program is the management of a commercial equine facility and improved horse handling and training skills. Students will learn ground training techniques including halter breaking, lunging, longlining, and ground driving. The versatility of the Morgan and varied ages and abilities of horses at Miner Institute allow for students to experience many different disciplines to varying degrees: saddleseat, huntseat, dressage, western pleasure and driving. Students become proficient at stallion handling, semen collection, and processing as well as broodmare management. Students will have an opportunity to participate in other Miner farm operations including milking, pasture management, and a variety of field work activities. All students will be asked to work long hours on occasion, but no more so than would normally be expected on a busy farm. Students work approximately every other weekend.

Weekly meetings update the students about farm activities; equine, dairy, crops and research. Extended sessions on relevant topics such as nutrition, reproduction, training, health and field crops will be held throughout the summer. Instructors include Miner Institute faculty members Katie Ballard, Kurt Cotanch, Heather Dann, Wanda Emerich, Rick Grant, Karen Lassell, and graduate students. The small class size makes it possible to tailor the program to better meet the needs of each student. Students interested in careers in stable or breeding management, agricultural extension, and veterinary medicine have found this program to be particularly useful.

Each student will choose a project horse to evaluate, train, and market for sale. Responsibilities for this project will include preparing a video of the horse as well as oral and written final presentations on the horse and the process. An active research program at Miner includes aspects in the equine area such as stallion semen preservation and horse behavior. The students are crucial to making these studies happen and are invited to become more involved if interest takes them in that direction.

ENROLLMENT, CREDITS & COMPENSATION

This program is available to agriculture and life science students in their junior or senior years of study. The number of students for the Equine Management program is limited to ensure the intensity of this "hands-on" experience. Equine Management applicants must be at least intermediate riders. Students are encouraged, but not required, to register for college credit at their home institution. Students are responsible for determining which option best suits their courses of study. These programs are designed as 4-credit courses, although other arrangements may be made through the student's home institution.



Each student's wage for the 13-week semester is \$3,000. The students live at Miner Institute, where housing and breakfast/lunch each weekday is provided at a cost of \$300 for the summer session.

This program begins on Monday, May 24, 2010 and ends on Friday, Aug. 13, 2010. Adjustments can be made for students whose classes have not ended by May 24. Applicants are required to provide the following:

- completed Summer Experience application
- copy of college transcript, does not have to be official
- two letters of recommendation, one must be from a previous employer
- letter outlining career goals and reasons for application
- short video of you riding (DVD, MPG digital clip, or link to online video)

Miner Institute provides equal employment opportunities