

Montana University System
PROGRAM REVIEW

Institution: **University of Montana Western**

Program Years: **2014-2021**

List of the programs reviewed:

Department of Health & Human Performance (B.S. Kinesiology, Minor in Coaching)

Decision(s) concerning the future of the program(s), based on the program review criteria established at the campus:

The University of Montana Western resolves to continue offering the B.S. Kinesiology Major and the Minor in Coaching.

Rationale or justification for the decision based on the program review process established at the campus. Include graduation numbers and student majors for each of the last seven (7) years for every program under review.

The Department of Health and Human Performance is committed to the experiential education of its students in the multidisciplinary human movement sciences through authentic and modern pedagogical practices linked to measurable graduate and student learning outcomes. The curricula and experiences employed by the Department are intentionally and continuously updated to integrate modern research and techniques to best serve its students in their own pursuits of career preparation and success.

Program Enrollment and Graduates							
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Major Enrollment							
Kinesiology (titled Health & Human Performance prior to 2019)	61	72	79	84	86	90	73
Minor/Option Enrollment							
Coaching	7	5	6	8	9	11	18
Graduates by Major							
Kinesiology (HHP)	7	15	16	20	18	15	15
Graduates by Minor/Option							
Coaching	0	0	0	0	0	3	0

While other kinesiology programs exist within the MUS and surrounding region, the unique focus and mission of Montana Western and our Kinesiology program creates a distinct advantage for our students. Independent of the specific career track our programs' students choose to pursue, our singular focus on undergraduate education and the immersive Experience One scheduling model allow students to benefit from instructional practices and opportunities that are not standard practice in other programs.

Montana University System

PROGRAM REVIEW

Institution: **University of Montana Western**

Program Years: **2014-2021**

List of the programs reviewed:

Department of Equine Studies (B.S. in Natural Horsemanship, A.A.S. in Natural Horsemanship, A.A.S. in Equine Studies)

Decision(s) concerning the future of the program(s), based on the program review criteria established at the campus:

The University of Montana Western resolves to continue offering the B B.S. in Natural Horsemanship, A.A.S. in Natural Horsemanship, and A.A.S. in Equine Studies.

Rationale or justification for the decision based on the program review process established at the campus. Include graduation numbers and student majors for each of the last seven (7) years for every program under review.

The courses taught in the Equine Studies Department educate undergraduate students by combining hands on experience and the knowledge of working with a horse to succeed and be confident in several avenues of the equine industry.

The mission of the BS: Natural Horsemanship program is to provide students with an education in equine theory and science combined with the practical skills of natural horsemanship. Horsemanship skills taught in the practical classes are heavily based on the principles of equine behavior along with horse training methods of experts renowned in natural horsemanship and similar disciplines. Academic aspects of the program are designed to increase students' knowledge of the science, care, and management of horses, and to expand their awareness of the equine industry well above that of the average horseperson. The University of Montana Western's experiential approach and broad-based curriculum allows the successful graduate to pursue a wide range of equine-related professions.

The mission of the AAS: Natural Horsemanship is to provide students with an education in equine theory and science combined with the practical skills of natural horsemanship. Horsemanship skills taught in the practical classes are heavily based on the principles of equine behavior along with the horse training methods of experts renowned in natural horsemanship and similar disciplines. Academic aspects of the program are designed to increase students' knowledge of the science, care, and management of horses, and to expand their awareness of the equine industry well above that of the average horse-person. Montana Western's experiential approach and broad based curriculum allows the successful graduate to pursue a wide range of equine-related professions.

The mission of the AAS: Equine Studies is to provide students with a realistic venue for pursuing their passion for horses. The program is designed to increase students' knowledge of the science, behavior, care, and management of horses, and to expand their awareness of the equine industry well above that of the average

Montana University System
PROGRAM REVIEW

horse-person. Montana Western’s experiential approach and broad-based curriculum allow the successful graduate to pursue a wide range of equine-related professions.

Major Enrollment	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
A.A.S Equine Studies	15	17	22	14	11	13	9
A.A.S. Natural Horsemanship	18	27	18	9	13	11	28
B.S. Natural Horsemanship	73	74	83	80	73	62	61
Equine Studies Minor	2	2	4	3	2	0	1
TOTAL	108	120	128	107	102	88	100
Graduates by Major							
A.A.S Equine Studies	2	8	5	13	4	5	6
A.A.S. Natural Horsemanship	1	4	13	16	5	6	4
B.S. Natural Horsemanship	3	17	9	26	15	16	18
TOTAL	6	29	27	55	24	27	28

Experiential learning activities and HIPs occur daily within the Equine Studies Department. The skills courses are all excellent examples where students are working with their own horses or sales colts to further not only their knowledge but the horse’s and also their classmates knowledge through observation and participation. Classroom lecture activities are too numerous to list, but examples include: Guest Speakers on range management (local county extension agents), realtors, and equine AQHA judges. Field trips to equine facilities on management are common such as Kissock boarding facility and Harrington Ranch. Basic horse care and equine science HIPs include: bandaging labs, nervous system localization labs, live animal anatomy, necropsy labs, dentistry, and endoscopy. Clubs such as the Biology Club and Vet Science Club also provide labs such as a suture lab to help students aspiring to gain more knowledge prior to applying to graduate programs.