A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): None
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None
5. MnTC Goals (if any): NA

This course will introduce the student to ways in which horses are used in therapy and personal development programs. Content includes, but is not limited to the study of hippotherapy (physical therapy), equine assisted learning and psychotherapy, and riding for the handicapped. Course might involve service learning, such as self directed field trips to local equine therapy program sites.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): December, 2009

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
1. Horse behavior and communication
2. Safety around horses
3. Horse handling and care procedures
4. Equipment and terminology
5. Evaluating horses for therapy programs
6. National and local therapy organizations and programs
7. Use of horses in therapy and personal development
8. Application of therapy techniques to individuals

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:
1. Use critical thinking to describe how horses are used in therapy and personal development programs
2. Using professional communication, explain how to evaluate horses as therapy animals
3. Identify equipment and tack used in equine therapy
4. Define various types of therapy (Hippotherapy, equine assisted learning and psychotherapy, and riding for the handicapped)
5. Describe safety procedures and reasons for them when working with horses
7. Experience service learning at an equine assisted therapy program in the community

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): NA

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
Methods may include any of the following:
1. Reports, quizzes, tests
2. Discussion and question/answer sessions
3. Group work or team projects
4. Course assignments
5. Essay tasks

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any):
Course may involve service learning, field trips, or volunteering at local equine therapy programs.