



EQUINE-LIBRIUM

COLLEGE • CLINICS • VHPC • STABLES

A World Class Higher Education and Veterinary Facility

BSc Veterinary Physiotherapy

Equine-Librium is Registered, Accredited and Approved with DHET, CHE, SAQA and SAVC 2018/HE07/004

INFORMATION

2023



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Equine-Librium College (Pty) Ltd

Co Reg No: 2012/220781/07

Plot F11, Airport Road, Harkerville

PO BOX 1679, Plettenberg Bay, 6600

Western Cape, South Africa



Our Mission

Equine-Librium College is a pioneer in the training of Veterinary Physiotherapists recognised by its academic excellence, with a focus on quality teaching and producing independent, knowledgeable and well-prepared professionals.

Our Vision

Equine-Librium College strives to be recognised internationally for its excellence and impact on standards, professionalism and service. We aim to achieve this through training, education, research and installing life-long learning.

Core Values

Collaboration

Working together to achieve our goals

Diversity

Unite in our individual uniqueness.

Equity

Strive to be fair and impartial.

Integrity

Do the right thing. Always. Professionally, with accountability.

Respect

Value others with compassion.

Animal Care

The well-being of our animals/patients is paramount.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR OUT- GOING PRINCIPAL
Professor Sybrand van den Berg
Director of EQUINE-LIBRIUM COLLEGE

Equine-Librium College is a private tertiary center. This College currently offers a 4-year bachelor's degree in Veterinary Physiotherapy. This four years BSc course is unique and does not only equip students with a well-structured and scientifically based degree and education but enables them to stand alone anywhere in the world.

The College educates, trains, and prepares students to become professionals in Animal Physiotherapy both nationally and internationally. The content of this course is approved by all statutory bodies and once qualified, professionals must register with the South African Veterinary Council to practice in this country.

Animal Physiotherapists fill a necessary, essential, needed and long overdue niche in the holistic treatment of the animal body. They form an integral part of the Animal Health Team and are respected for their contribution.

A small group of students is selected each year to enter our course. This enables us to know each student personally and we are able to expose them to a one-on-one educational experience.

Our lecturers are well educated, experienced and maintain high standards at all times.

The College is situated on the scenic Garden Route in South Africa close to the coastal town of Plettenberg Bay.

We look forward to welcoming you as a new student to our Campus.

*Prof. Sybrand van der Berg
Professor Sybrand van der Berg*

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Email info@equine-librium.co.za*



DIRECTORS

Equine-Librium College

Directors

Ronel Van Der Sijde - CEO

Marinette Teeling

Dr Thomas Ovendale

Prof Sybrand van den Berg

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Academic Personnel



OUTGOING PRINCIPAL

Prof Sybrand van den Berg

BVSc, BVSc (hons), MMedVet (Surgery & Radiology), DVSc

PRINCIPAL

Marinette Teeling

BSc Physiotherapy, MSAnimST (Animal Physiotherapy), Cert CN

VICE PRINCIPAL

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BSc, BVSc, PgDip

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Amy Louw

BSc physiotherapy (UCT)

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

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BSc, BVSc, PgDip (UP)

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BSc, BSc (Hons), MSc, Phd Mathematical Sciences

PHYSIOTHERAPY SUPPORT STAFF

Erané Jordaan

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PROGRAM INFORMATION

BSc Veterinary Physiotherapy

Veterinary Physiotherapy is a registered para-veterinary profession with the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC). All students will be registered as students in Veterinary Physiotherapy with SAVC during their studies. Registration is compulsory and must be renewed annually for the duration of study. After the degree has been conferred, graduates are required to register with the South African Veterinary Council as veterinary Physiotherapists before they may practice in South Africa in this capacity.

Admission & Selection Process

Admission

Any person who wishes to register at the College for the first time or after an interruption of studies is required to apply or re-apply for admission. Applications for admission to the program close on the 28th of September of the year prior to the study.

Admission Requirements

Entry requirements have been set in accordance with the HEQSF (CHE,2013), the Higher Education Act for Minimum Entrance Requirements (Government Gazette No. 32743, 2009), and the Amendments to the Higher Education Act for Minimum Entrance Requirements (Government Gazette No. 42068, 2018).

The minimum entry requirement:

National Senior Certificate (NSC) or the National Certificate (Vocational) (NCV) with 50% or greater in Mathematics & Physical Sciences as well as in two additional 20 credit NCS subjects.

Or

All applicants who obtained a school-leaving qualification other than the National Senior Certificate or IEB must submit a Certificate of Exemption from USAf.

<https://mb.usaf.ac.za/foreign-qualifications/>

Or

Alternatively, a Higher Certificate or an Advanced Certificate or Diploma in a medical, veterinary, animal-related, allied health professional, or health sciences cognate field would suffice.



Or

Students who completed a tertiary education qualification in a country other than South Africa should apply for a SAQA evaluation
<https://www.saqqa.org.za/evaluation-foreign-qualifications>

All candidates with school-leaving qualifications will be required to submit NBT results.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for exemption:

Applicants who meet the entry criteria of a programme and believe that they have acquired the relevant knowledge and experience for a particular module/s through prior experience or other forms of learning (informal), may apply for exemption from those modules through RPL.

The following guidelines will apply to RPL for exemption:

- RPL applications are evaluated against the modular outcomes of the particular module/s applied for; RPL cannot be used to grant an individual exemption from a full qualification, in terms of the CHE's policy only 50 % of a qualification may be exempted.
- Exemption/s granted for module/s in higher education that is/are obtained through RPL, do not have any credits assigned to them; and
- Applicants will be required to complete and pass an RPL assessment (minimum of 50%) to be exempted from the module.

How to Apply

The following documents need to be submitted along with your application:

- Application Form, this can be downloaded from our website, alternatively, the form can be requested via email from: info@equine-librium.co.za
- R1000 Application Fee (Banking details can be obtained from info@equine-librium.co.za) Please include proof of payment along with the application.
- A Certified Copy of ID or Passport (for International Students).
- A Certified Copy of the National Senior Certificate (NSC) or National Certificate (Vocational) (NVC) or latest statements of symbols.
- A Certified Copy of Transcripts from Higher Education Degree or Courses.
- A Letter of request for Recognised Prior Learning (RPL) of any subject, please include the Subject Outcomes along with this letter (if applicable).
- A Certified Copy of National Benchmark Test (NBT) results (AL, QL & MAT).



- A Curriculum Vitae (CV), please include prior work experience with animals as well as any Leadership Positions held by the applicant and any Sporting Achievements obtained.
- Reference Letters.
- Motivational Letter (written by the applicant).

NATIONAL BENCHMARK TEST

All applicants must provide NBT (national benchmark test) results with their application form. The cost incurred for this test is the responsibility of the applicant.

STATEMENT OF SYMBOLS

When registering at Equine-Librium College an applicant must submit a record of symbols obtained for each subject in Grade 12.

Applicants with International Qualifications

International student and students who do not have a:

- South African National Senior Certificate (NSC);
- Independent Examination Board (IEB) or
- A Cambridge A levels.

Qualification must apply for a SAQA (South African Qualifications Authority) Certificate of Evaluation.

Higher Education Institutions must allow alternative routes of entry that are equivalent to the National Senior Certificate standard, but foreign qualifications need to be evaluated and recognised by SAQA.

Evaluation is a two-phased process by SAQA to:

1. **Verify** foreign qualifications by ensuring the following
 - Issuing bodies are accredited/recognised in the national systems they operate in
 - Qualifications are legitimately issued by those issuing bodies and part of the national qualifications of that country
 - Qualifications documents are in order and awards claimed by individuals are genuine
2. **Compare** foreign qualifications with South African qualifications, considering the structure and outcomes of the foreign qualifications, to locate them within the South African NQF.



SAQA issues a Certificate of Evaluation (SCoE) to reflect its recognition decision on the comparability of a foreign qualification and its appropriate location on the NQF.

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTIONS

At Equine-Librium College classes and notes are given to students in English. Afrikaans speaking students can decide to communicate in Afrikaans, it is however required that all students be fluent in English.

BURSARIES AND LOANS Applicants should apply at an accredited financial institution for student loans.

Selection Process

Our first acceptance of students for intake will be done at the end of July of the year prior to study. After compiling a short list, the prospective students will then be invited for an admission interview at the College, if deemed necessary.

The selection process is thorough and fair. Each student is allocated a score based on the following weighted criteria:

- 18% - Previous Animal Experience
- 18% - Leadership, Sport achievements and Community Engagement
- 10% - Tertiary education
- 18% - School results - Mathematics, Physical Sciences and Life Sciences.
- 36% - NBT results - AL, QL, MAT (Please refer to below link for NBT interpretation. <https://www.nbt.ac.za/content/interpreting-your-results>)

Applicants are ranked according to the score that they receive. We use the most current results we have at the time of selection. The selection panel then evaluates the top-ranked applications and selection is made based on the ranking score, the CV and in certain cases an interview. Transformation in accordance with demography, gender, and geographic origin may also be taken into consideration. **Applicant must have a minimum score of 32 to apply for the BSc Veterinary Physiotherapy.**



Name: _____

Score: _____

		Admission Score Sheet								Total
18%	Equine Experience	Competitive		Owned		Vet Clinic		None		
		9		6		3		0		
18%	Small Animal Experience	Competitive		Owned		Vet Clinic		None		
		9		6		3		0		
18%	Leadership	Head boy/girl Prefect		Sport Captain		Leadership course		None		
		9		6		2		0		
	Sport Achievement	National team		Provincial Team		School Team		None		
		9		6		2		0		
18%	Community Engagement	Volunteer work				Job shadowing				
		9				8				
10%	Tertiary Education	Degree finished		Degree 1 st year		Diploma 1 st year		Other		None
		10		7		3		1		0
18%	Mathematics	NSC/IEB	A lev	NSC/IEB	A Lev	NSC/IEB	A Lev	NSC/IEB	A Lev	
		80-100%	A	70-79%	B	60-69%	C	50-59%	D	
		6		3		1		0		
	Physical Science	NSC/IEB	A lev	NSC/IEB	A Lev	NSC/IEB	A Lev	NSC/IEB	A Lev	
		80-100%	A	70-79%	B	60-69%	C	50-59%	D	
		6		3		1		0		
Life Science	NSC/IEB	A lev	NSC/IEB	A Lev	NSC/IEB	A Lev	NSC/IEB	A Lev		
	80-100%	A	70-79%	B	60-69%	C	50-59%	D		
	6		3		1		0			
36%	NBT AL	68%	54%	39%		Below 39%				
		12	6	1		RED FLAG				
	NBT QL	70%	55%	40%		Below 40%				
		12	6	1		RED FLAG				
36%	NBT MAT	69%	52%	38%		Below 38%				
		12	6	1		RED FLAG				

Min 32 (applying for a BSc Vet Physiotherapy)



COURSE DETAILS

BSc VETERINARY PHYSIOTHERAPY- 4 Year

Equine-Librium College Academic Curriculum

First Year	Code	NQF	Credit
Veterinary Anatomy	VAN106E	6	36
Veterinary Physiology	VPS105E	5	24
General Sciences	GEN115E	5	12
Canine & Equine Conformation	CEC125E	5	12
Applied Physiotherapy	APT015E	5	36
Physiotherapy Science	PTS115E	5	6
Academic Literature	ACL115E	5	6
			132
Second Year	Code	NQF	Credit
Introduction to Veterinary Nutrition	IVN216E	6	6
Veterinary Pathophysiology	VPA216E	6	24
Equine Pathology & Surgery	EPS226E	6	12
Small Animal Pathology & Surgery	SPS226E	6	12
Physiotherapy Science	PTS216E	6	12
Applied Physiotherapy	APT216E	6	18
Applied Physiotherapy	APT226E	6	18
Clinical Physiotherapy	CPT226E	6	18
			120



Third Year	Code	NQF	Credit
Veterinary Pharmacology	VPG326E	6	6
Veterinary Exercise Physiology	VEP327E	7	6
Fariery	FAR317E	7	6
Veterinary Imaging	VIG316E	6	6
Research	RES307E	7	18
Applied Physiotherapy	APT317E	7	18
Applied Physiotherapy	APT327E	7	18
Clinical Physiotherapy	CPT307E	7	48
			126
Fourth Year	Code	NQF	Credit
Research	RES408E	8	24
Applied Physiotherapy	APT408E	8	36
Clinical Physiotherapy	CPT408E	8	72
			132
		TOTAL	510

List of subjects for BSc Veterinary Physiotherapy

ACADEMIC LITERACY ACL115E

This induction module will prepare the student for the academic writing and oral skills required for tertiary education and the Veterinary Physiotherapy profession. Communication skills and presentation designs using PPT will be covered. Developing critical thinking skills forms part of the core of the module. Principles of plagiarism will be taught to adequately prepare students for completing assignments and projects without plagiarising.



APPLIED PHYSIOTHERAPY APT105E

In this module students will be introduced to the principles of Applied Physiotherapy. We will start with the basic principles of animal behaviour and stress. Understanding and recognising behavioural traits are crucial in the clinical setting for animal welfare and safety for the therapist. Different desensitizing techniques and basic learning strategies will form part of the process to overcome behavioural obstacles. Appropriate re-action and referrals to behaviourists and trainers will be covered. Basic and safe handling of patients and animals will prepare the students to start working with animals in clinical practise. Students will need to differentiate between different breeds and their intended function. This will form the underpinning knowledge for conformation, biomechanics and other modules in the program. Basic First Aid skills is required to equip students with the knowledge to react appropriately in animal emergency situations. Progressing from this foundation, we will move onto assessing the surface anatomy of companion animals. Identifying, with palpation, all the important anatomical landmarks. The core focus of this module is to master the skills of palpation and Passive and Active Range of motion of all joints on companion animals. The theory, key concepts, core principles and terms of palpation and passive and active range of motion will form the base on which the practical application will be built. As this is a practical profession and programme, communication and professional conduct will form part of the teaching and application.

APPLIED PHYSIOTHERAPY APT105E

Students need to explore the indication and contra-indications for specific soft tissue techniques used in companion animals such as massage. The theories and dosages behind the different massage techniques as well as the affects will be covered. Student will then practically apply massage techniques to various companion animals. They need to be aware of the animal's response and adapt their techniques accordingly. Students need to identify the anatomical structures they are working on. The stretching component will include the indication, contra-indication, types and dosages of stretching techniques. Student will need to understand muscle function to correctly determine which movements will place which muscles on stretch and be able to demonstrate this.



EQUINE AND CANINE CONFORMATION CEC125E

This module focuses on understanding and recognising normal conformational traits of the equine and canine. It is important to identify conformation traits that are desired for specific disciplines as well as conformational faults that will predispose to injury or lead to dysfunction of other structures. The concepts of posture and postural adaptation will be covered.

GENERAL SCIENCE GEN115E

The focus of this module is to introduce the student to the basics of the sciences, specific to Biology, Physics and Chemistry. The concepts covered in this module will prepare the student for further science modules. The student will be able to apply his/her knowledge of Biology, Chemistry and physics to prepare for progression of these subjects into subjects such as Physiotherapy Science and Physiology. Upon completion of the module the student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of Biology, Chemistry and Physics to prepare them for progression of the science-based subjects

PHYSIOTHERAPY SCIENCE PTS115E

This module investigates the underpinning theory of biomechanics in companion animals. Core concepts and principles such as kinematic and kinetics as they relate to quadrupedal motion are covered. Specific biomechanical tissue principles are considered. From this foundation the focus moves to movement analysis of quadrupedal action. The core concepts of gait, different gait types and how to identify gait abnormalities are studied.

VETERINARY ANATOMY VAN106E

The student will be able to apply and integrate his/her knowledge of the anatomy in Osteology, Myology, Arthrology, Neurology, Cardiovascular, Respiratory, Dental, Gastrointestinal, Urinary system and Integument.

Upon completion of the module the student will be able to demonstrate a sufficient understanding in the key concepts of anatomy of the above mentioned systems, being able to identify, palpate and assess all structures to show understanding of the normal anatomy of animals and how it relates to conformation, biomechanics and ultimately to the techniques of Veterinary Physiotherapy.



VETERINARY PHYSIOLOGY VPS105E

Knowledge of veterinary physiology is used to explain how muscles, bone, joints, fascia, neural tissue and organs function and interact as a holistic living system in an animal and prepares the learning for pathophysiology concepts, pathologies and dysfunction of the neuro-musculoskeletal system and the cardiorespiratory system.

Upon completion of the module the student will be able to demonstrate a sufficient understanding in the key concepts of Physiology of the above-mentioned systems to show understanding of the normal physiological responses and activities of the above-mentioned areas. This will prepare student for Veterinary Pathophysiology and pathology where abnormal functioning of these systems is taught.

APPLIED PHYSIOTHERAPY APT216E

The focus of this module is Manual therapy. Students will be introduced to the use of Manual Therapy as assessment tool and as a treatment intervention. Specific manual techniques and tests for tissue and joint dysfunction are covered, specific to the axial and peripheral joints. Special tests of joints are included. Different treatment protocols are explored including Maitland, Mulligan and Kaltenborns principles of addressing tissue dysfunction. The importance of myofascial, myofascial dysfunction and myofascial techniques are included.

APPLIED PHYSIOTHERAPY APT226E

The content for this module will include the underpinning knowledge of all electrotherapy modalities and how to apply them as part of a treatment program. The students will also be introduced to the evaluation and treatment techniques for patients with neurological dysfunction. Evaluation techniques will assist in identifying neurological dysfunction as localising lesions. The concepts of neural dynamics will include the evaluation and how to address neural dynamic dysfunction.

CLINICAL PHYSIOTHERAPY CPT226E

The focus of this module is to introduce the student to clinical practise. The ability to evaluate a patient in a clinical setting. The student must show an ability to recognise dysfunction and interpret their evaluation technique responses. The focus will be on cold orthopaedics and the geriatric patient.



VETERINARY PATHOPHYSIOLOGY VPA216E

Students will be able to integrate knowledge of pathophysiology processes associated with neuromusculoskeletal systems. The focus is on the processes of tissue dysfunction and breakdown and the associated healing phases.

SMALL ANIMAL PATHOLOGY AND SURGERY SPS226E

Students will be able to integrate the knowledge of pathological conditions affecting the neuromusculoskeletal system of the small companion patient. They will also have a detailed understanding of the surgical interventions performed by Veterinarians

EQUINE PATHOLOGY AND SURGERY EPS226E

Students will be able to integrate knowledge of pathological conditions affecting the neuromusculoskeletal system of the Equine patient. They will also have detailed understanding of the surgical interventions performed by Veterinarians.

INTRODUCTION TO VETERINARY NUTRITION IVN216E

The student will be able to apply his/her knowledge of Veterinary Nutrition to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the role Nutrition plays in different life stages, different pathologies and different disciplines of equine and small animals. They will be able to identify different feeding regimes, available options and recommended changes within their own scope of practise.

PHYSIOTHERAPY SCIENCE PTS216E

This module will build on the foundation of joint biomechanics with a focus on the axial spine. It will include the TMJ, SIJ and tail. They will further investigate the biomechanical principles of tissue changes from aging, immobilisation and healing. The focus of movement analysis will be on the athlete and their functional activities, with the aim to recognise dysfunction and poor technique or skill. The students will then explore the theories and principles of Motor Control and how it relates to motor learning and how to implement the principles in practise.



APPLIED PHYSIOTHERAPY APT317E

In this module students will need to integrate knowledge of anatomy, physiology and pathology to evaluate and treat cardiorespiratory dysfunction presenting in a variety of different patients. Furthermore, during this module hydrotherapy and taping as treatment modalities will be covered. Emphasis is placed on identifying and reasoning which patients will benefit from hydrotherapy and/or taping and how to incorporate these modalities into a veterinary physiotherapy program. It is essential to understand the physiological benefits of these modalities and the properties of the modalities that contribute to the desired effects. Tack and canine training equipment can have an influence on performance of the equine and canine athlete. Veterinary Physiotherapists need to evaluate the equipment to recognise influence of equipment and adjust or refer to the appropriate professional, acting within their scope of practise

APPLIED PHYSIOTHERAPY APT327E

The focus of this module is to integrate and interrogate understanding from students' body of knowledge to develop clinical reasoning skills with specific focus on surgical cases, neurological cases and soft tissue dysfunction. Students will need to draw on knowledge from previous years of studies to adequately approach and address familiar and unfamiliar cases, as Veterinary Physiotherapists, within the required context

CLINICAL PHYSIOTHERAPY CPT307E

This module is mainly made up of WIL. Students will be gaining valuable hands-on experience in different Veterinary Physiotherapy clinics across South Africa. There are comprehensive Guidelines to prepare students for optimal learning during WIL. Students will have contact class time to prepare for WIL and to have reflection after WIL placements. The goal of the contact sessions also includes preparation and reflection on cases for clinical assessments.

FARRIERY FAR317E

The student will be able to apply his/her knowledge of Farriery to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how the equine hoof conformation, abnormalities, pathologies and farriery can influence the outcome of their patients..



RESEARCH RES307E

Research methodology principles and practises underpins the foundation of critically evaluation literature. The contact time in this module is to prepare the student to critically evaluate literature. Students then need to identify a topic to investigate. The next step is to search for relevant scientific articles, critically evaluate the information and write up their findings in a Literature Review format. Students will also present their findings in a short PowerPoint presentation.

VETERINARY EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY VEP327E

The student will be able to apply his/her knowledge of Veterinary Exercise Physiology to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Exercise physiology plays a role in the equine and canine athlete and how to integrate this knowledge into the successful rehabilitation of patients.

VETERINARY IMAGING VIG316E

The student will be able to apply his/her knowledge of Veterinary Imaging to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of diagnostic imaging to integrate theory and practice to treat patients with a variety of neuro- musculoskeletal and cardiorespiratory dysfunctions whilst using sound clinical reasoning to recognise when Patients require different Imaging intervention by the Veterinarian to achieve and plan the desired Veterinary Physiotherapy goals and refer appropriately to the Veterinary Health Team.

VETERINARY PHARMACOLOGY VPG326E

The student will be able to apply his/her knowledge of Veterinary Pharmacology to adequately evaluate and recognise when patients require referral to appropriate Veterinary Health Team Member for pharmacological interventions required to assist in their Veterinary Physiotherapy treatment outcomes. Upon completion of the module the student will be able to Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the main areas of Veterinary Pharmacology and recognise their own limitation of scope of practice relating to prescription, dispensing and administration of medication



APPLIED PHYSIOTHERAPY APT408E

The focus of this module is to integrate and interrogate understanding from students' body of knowledge to develop clinical reasoning skills. The Concepts of practise management including ethics, law and professionalism will be covered too, to prepare the student for working in practise.

CLINICAL PHYSIOTHERAPY CPT408E

This module is mainly made up of WIL. Students will be gaining valuable hands-on experience in different Veterinary Physiotherapy clinics across South Africa. There are comprehensive Guidelines to prepare students for optimal learning during WIL. Students will have contact class time to prepare for WIL and to have reflection after WIL placements. The goal of the contact sessions also includes to preparation and reflection on cases for clinical assessments.

RESEARCH RES408E

Students will identify a research topic. Design the research protocol. Apply for ethical approval. Collect the data and write up their findings in the format of an article. They will also present this and produce a poster presentation. Students will be covering the principles of statistical analyses, to build on theory knowledge of Research Methodology, and how to interpret these finding in their own research.