

FEATHER RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

570 Golden Eagle Ave., Quincy CA 95971

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www.frc.edu

AGRICULTURE INSTRUCTOR / EQUINE PROGRAM

DEFINITION:

Under the general direction of the Vice President of Instruction, the person in this position also works closely with the Agriculture Department Chair within the Professional and Technical Studies Division. The agriculture instructor will teach courses in agriculture and equine studies toward department degrees and certificates, with specialization in teaching western equitation, horse training, cow work, ranch skills with horses, horse performance techniques, and other courses as assigned. Additional responsibilities include assisting in managing the department's horse training activities, program horse procurement and development, program horse soundness and health management, annual sale horse preparation and sale organization, develop networking and career opportunities for students. Summer duties include teaching courses and other related activities. This position also includes student recruiting and participating in local agriculture professional communities and activities to provide optimal educational experiences and support for student success and workforce development. The person in this position should have professional equine industry experience managing and training horses and should have a repertoire of effective teaching and horse training methods.

CLASSIFICATION:

- FLSA Exempt
- Faculty
- Date Modified: October 2021
- 11 months

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: The following duties are typical of those performed by employees in this job title; however, employees may perform other related duties, and not all duties listed are necessarily performed by each employee in the job title

- Teach a variety of agriculture/equine courses and specialize in teaching western equitation, horse training, cow work, ranch skills with horses, horse performance techniques, and other courses as assigned including but not limited to laboratory and lecture formats.
- Apply equitation skills and knowledge to assist in teaching courses as needed
- Create and implement culturally responsive and equity minded course material, teaching practices, and learning assessment strategies that enhance student success and persistence toward academic/career goals and that help close equity gaps.
- Use and develop a variety of effective teaching and assessment methods, including the use of technology to promote student interest and learning.
- Evaluate and train the current program horses to enable the success of students of varying abilities.
- Assist in daily operation of the equine facility to prepare for daily coursework (groom and maintain arenas, set up for lab activities, communicate with student employees).
- Supervise and assist students assigned a project horse (such as young or sale horses).
- Fulfill teaching related assignments such as maintaining scheduled office hours, selecting textbooks, evaluating course materials, developing and revising curriculum, developing course schedules, and assessing student learning.
- Develop and maintain cooperative relationships with the local and regional equine industry leaders.
- Help oversee student employees and volunteers.
- Facilitate the coordination and production of equine program events (field trips, recruiting, fundraiser coordination, graduation).
- Perform livestock healthcare including basic animal-care procedures.
- Set up labs and classroom teaching materials.
- Travel to livestock shows and sales to promote the agriculture department.
- Develop and implement annual college horse sale.
- Provide academic and career advising to new and continuing students.
- Assist students in applying for scholarship part-time job and full-time job placement, and encourage students to participate in extracurricular activities.
- Assist in completing program reviews and budget development.
- Participate in college and shared governance committees.
- Participate in professional growth and remain current in the subject area(s).
- Oversee and ensure the provision of safe facilities and equipment for the agriculture department's activities.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with faculty, staff, students and individuals with special needs, including learning, physical and behavioral disabilities.

- Perform other related duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Bachelor's degree in agriculture, agriculture science, education with a specialization in agriculture or other agricultural area (including but not limited to: agricultural business, agricultural engineering, agricultural mechanics, agronomy, animal science, enology, environmental (ornamental) horticulture, equine science, forestry, natural resources, plant science, pomology, soil science, viticulture or other agriculture science) **AND** two years full time professional equine industry experience **OR** the equivalent.
2. Demonstrated sensitivity to and understanding of the diverse academic and socio-economic, cultural, disability and ethnic backgrounds of community college students and staff.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS: Preference will be given to candidates who have:

- Master's or doctorate degree in agriculture or related fields.
- Commitment to working with a wide range of learners, including those with minimal experience in working with livestock and other agricultural settings.
- Teaching experience, preferably at the community college level, especially as it relates to teaching agriculture and equine courses, including experience in areas such as riding instruction, and familiarity with the community college student population.
- Participation and successes in equine competitions.
- Enthusiasm for agriculture/equine industry and the ability to create engaging, cooperative and collaborative academic learning environments.
- Experience in mentoring, training, or teaching adults to work in agriculture/equine industry.
- Ability to incorporate innovative instructional technologies.
- Experience in building and maintaining relationships with community organizations and the ability to work with employers to meet the vocational needs of the current labor market.
- Knowledge of agriculture business/equine industry, animal science and related industry systems, certifications, and regulations.
- Knowledge of agriculture land conservation, stewardship best practices, and animal welfare.
- Current knowledge and mastery in the field of agriculture/equine industry.
- Demonstrated ability to plan, organize and revise curriculum and academic programs to meet student and community needs.
- Possess a valid class A driver's license and have experience hauling livestock trailers.

OTHER INDUSTRY EXPERIENCES REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant shall demonstrate knowledge and proficiency in the following areas:

- Handling and managing livestock (horses, cattle), including livestock health care.
- Applying ranching and farming techniques and practices.
- Operating standard farm machinery, including tractors, loaders, backhoes, and dump-trucks.
- Having a CPR and First Aid certification (if not held, to be obtained within three months of hire).
- Effective communication skills, both oral and written.
- Advanced horsemanship skills and the ability to perform, school and train horses.
- Performing general health care and maintenance to livestock.
- Establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with fellow staff members.
- Operating standard computer software for Windows and Adobe based platforms such as: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook.
- Familiarity with online course management systems (e.g., Canvas).

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS: The physical abilities involved in the performance of essential duties with or without reasonable accommodations are:

- Instruction involves work in an agricultural setting, including moderate to heavy physical effort. Lifting, pushing and pulling equipment weighing up to 75 pounds (saddle a horse, feeding bales of hay), walking, standing, stooping, kneeling, reaching and climbing.
- This work may require most of the work day horseback, riding at different levels of speed, demonstrating various advanced horse training and equitation techniques, assisting other students on horseback.
- While performing the responsibilities of the job, the employee is required to talk (somewhat above normal conversation level) and frequent hearing use (ordinary conversation level). The employee is often required to sit and use their hands. The employee is frequently required to stand, walk, reach, carry, bend, and raise or lower an object from one level to another (75 lbs. or more); vision abilities required by this job include close vision such as that for reading and color vision.
- Evaluative and cognitive thinking and decision making.
- This work is performed on horseback, in a classroom, office and outside learning setting in various weather conditions both on and off campus.
- Vision to read and review student work, administer and score tests and assist students with other academic materials.
- Hearing and speech to understand and respond to questions and provide instructions and lead group instructional sessions.

