

A photograph of a farm entrance. A paved driveway leads through a stone gate into a fenced area. In the background, there is a white barn with a green roof and some trees with autumn foliage. The sky is overcast.

Ballyhigh Show Stable, LTD.

Lesson Barn Manager

Cecilia Kurkowski

Abstract

- Brinsfield Farm LLC, Versailles KY
- Hunter, Jumper, Equitation
- Specialize in OTTBs
- Boarding, Lessons, Shows
- UK Equestrian Team



Responsibilities and Activities

A person is riding a dark horse over a white jump in an outdoor arena. The arena has a sandy floor and is surrounded by trees and a fence. There are other jumps visible in the background.

- Turnout and bringing in
- Mucking stalls
- Organizing barn
- Soundness checks
- Lessons riding and shadowing
- Holding for Dentist and Farrier
- Pony Club

Evaluation Of Equine Courses



- **EQM 105: Equine Behavior and Handling:** Although I had always handled horses on my own, this introductory course gave a guideline to proper handling and understanding basic behaviors.
- **ASC 310: Equine Anatomy:** Not only did this course help me learn proper terms for the external anatomy, but also internal parts. This was especially important understanding horses that went lame.
- **ASC 389: Equine Nutrition and Feeding:** This was a very useful course understanding the feeding programs of performance horses from a nutritional standpoint as well as financial.

Growth Goals and Outcomes

- **Contribute ideas and actions to change daily operations:** Ask everyone else working their thoughts, compile lists and solutions, follow through. → I did say what I was thinking and changed routine on the weekends to be more efficient. I was able to collaborate with others to start larger projects/tasks.
- **Understand financials of and equine facility:** Interview Joyce, research, spreadsheets. → When interviewing Joyce, I was able to understand the costs of running an operation as well as how valuable it is to have connections.

Growth Goals and Outcomes

- **Know how to train a hunter/jumper horse:** Work with OTTB, ask questions, ground work younger horse, shadow. → Shadowing lessons of younger horses and the retraining of an OTTB has given me a greater understanding of how to go about this training.
- **Become a better rider to train in the future:** Continue riding, attend lessons, shadow, watch advanced riders on green horses. → Taking lessons twice a week with varying groups helped me focus on my movement as well as be aware of those around me.

Project Development

A photograph of three horses in a grassy field behind a wooden fence. The horses are brown and appear to be looking towards the camera. The background shows a rolling green landscape with more fences and trees under a clear sky.

- **Project Overview**

- All new lesson horses and restart a lesson program.
- No one knew much about these horses

- **Objective of Project**

- Helpful to the team and anyone in the lesson program.
- Reduce the unknown of riding a new horse.

- **Plan of Action:**

- Each horse with their picture and a quick physical description
- Section of special tack or aids
- Background of the horses from Joyce
- Riding experiences from Joyce and other people for more insight

- **Reflection:**

- I plan to keep it updated until I graduate
- Afterwards, I will leave it to future interns or the equestrian team