

MISSION FARRIER SCHOOL
Course II – 8-Week Practicing Farrier
Outline & Standards of Progress
Tuition \$12,000

Students will be presented with practical work, as they might find in their clientele and cases will be taken as they present themselves in class. Given that it is impossible in an 8-week program to work on every type of case one may encounter, all aspects contained below will be discussed via instruction in the most up-to-date and relevant hoof science available. Students will be expected to work more efficiently on hoof mapping, trimming, shoe shaping, nailing and finishing feet. They will be expected to demonstrate these skills to the instructor and show that they are able to think thru a protocol by developing a “feel”, using the 5-Guidelines for Evaluating Hoof Health, Hoof Mapping, common sense and knowledge. To be eligible to take the Practicing Farrier Course, applicants must have graduated from Mission, or any other recognized school, or have 2 years of experience.

Week 1

Review: Anatomy- External Structures of the Hoof
Review: 5 Guidelines of Foot Function.
Review: Forging and Anvil
Review: Hoof Mapping
Use the 5 guidelines to assess and shoe.
Work on time mgmt.

Week 2

Review: Anatomy- Sensitive Structures of the Hoof
Show advancement in shoe shaping.
Communicating Pre-Shoeing Analysis and discussion of foot falls with clients.
Recognition/discussion of Hoof Distortion.
Practice becoming proficient in Barefoot Trims & Practical shoeing with consideration to performance expectations.

Week 3

Review: Anatomy- Bones of the Lower Leg.
Practice Trimming/Shoeing/Shoe Shaping.
Developing a shoeing plan.
Discussion/Application of Glue-on Shoes (steel, aluminum, composites).
Diagnostics: Hoof Testing, Leverage Testing,
Reading Radiographs, understanding Vet reports.

Week 4

Review: Anatomy- Tendons & Ligaments

Practice Shoe Shaping.

Show progress in trimming and shoeing.
Demonstrate progress in making your own shoeing decisions with respect to choosing shoes, pads, packing, adjustments and glue applications.

Week 5

Understand and demonstrate how to shoe the following:
Distorted Feet
Non-distorted Feet.

Show Horsemanship Skills on both the lead rope and In Round Pen Work. Understand the Pressure & Release principal and demonstrate it.

Week 6

Choosing the correct shoe and Shoeing Performance Horses.
Proficient in Shoe Shaping!
Demonstrate your ability to stay on task and accomplish your work in a timely manner.
Dissection of the Lower Limb.

Week 7

By week 7 & 8, you should be making all the decisions for the horse, with very little input from the instructor. Putting it all together, with your work getting done efficiently. Pulling, trimming, mapping feet, shoe selection, shoe shaping, nailing, and finish work.

Week 8

Review: Shoeing for Soundness & Conformation
Farrier/Client Relations
Discussion of Certification Levels 1-3.
Discussion of AFA and ELPO Certifications.
Practical Test: Observation, Discussion and Using the 5-Guidelines for Hoof Health, Hoof Mapping, trim, select shoe, shoe shaping, nail, finish, discuss.
You should be able to explain to the client and the instructor the following:

Discussion of the horse's soundness and performance expectations.
Where the heels of the foot belong.
Where the heels of the shoe belong.
Where breakover needs to be on the foot.
What shoe you are choosing and why.