

Syllabus

Introduction

Darley Flying Start is an International Management Training Programme specializing in thoroughbred breeding and racing. It was founded in 2003 by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum of Dubai.

Darley Flying Start has strong relationships with many world leaders in the thoroughbred industry which support the dynamic and challenging two year course and lead to excellent career opportunities for graduates.

With modules accredited by a number of the world's leading universities and endorsed by industry professionals, Darley Flying Start offers a unique opportunity to those striving for excellence in their personal development and careers.

The combination of a rigorous academic programme, practical horsemanship and global industry networking opportunities requires those selected to commit fully to becoming future industry leaders. Potential trainees can apply annually for the scholarship, limited to 12 fully funded places.

Horse Management

Trainees are expected to develop expert horse handling skills by working daily with mares, foals, yearlings and racehorses. Experience in horse riding and handling are pre-requisites to the course. Trainees have the opportunity to take part in management meetings, evaluation of stock, veterinary and farriery processes. Equine nutrition, pedigree analysis and horse management records complete a thorough foundation of knowledge .

Business Management

Marketing, finance, information technology and people management modules provide the building blocks to excellent business planning skills. Entrepreneurship is learned through lectures, case studies and visits to entrepreneurs operating in the thoroughbred industry.

Thoroughbred Industry

The global nature of the thoroughbred industry is reflected in the Darley Flying Start itinerary with trainees based in at least five countries over two years. Established roles and business models can be compared across markets and cultures giving trainees opportunities to identify niche products and services.

Leadership and Networks

The key to the success of Darley Flying Start is the emphasis on personal development, communication and leadership skills. A powerful network of graduates and industry leaders give support to trainees through the mentor programme and group meetings in each location.

Work Experience

Trainees are afforded three individual work placements during the programme which allow them to specialize and develop their own contacts and skills.

Horse Management Modules

Practical Horsemanship

Horse Handling
Stable Management
Grooming
Clipping
Health Care and Bandaging
Feeding and Exercise Routines
Horse Transportation
Fitting Saddlery
Yearling Breaking
Health and Safety
Conformation Evaluation

Sales Preparation

Yearlings
Broodmares and Foals
Two-Year-Olds In Training
Sales Conditions
Sales Consignments

Racehorse Training

Racehorse Management
Fitness Programmes
Racing Injuries and Lameness
Therapies and Rehabilitation
Track Surfaces
Race Conditions and Race Planning
Handicapping and the International Classifications

Stud Management

Care of Mares and Foals
Foaling
Teasing and Documentation
Stallion Care
Pasture Management
Stallion Psychology and Management
Design of Stud Facilities
Waste Management
Stud Administration and Records
Nomination Sales

Veterinary

Anatomy and Physiology
Fertility and Reproduction
Routine Veterinary Care
Exercise Physiology
Clinical Pathology
Radiography
Equine Surgery and Aftercare
Wind Soundness
Orthopaedic Problems of the Young Horse
Blood Analysis
Dystocia
Equine Neonatal Care
Equine Dentistry
Equine Physiotherapy
Import, Export and Quarantine Regulations

Nutrition

Chemical Composition of Feeds
Digestive System
Ration Formulation
Feeding for Performance
Body Condition Scoring and Horse Weight Management

Farriery

Anatomy of the Leg and Foot
Practical Foot Care and Shoeing
Corrective Farriery
Shoeing the Problem Horse

Pedigree Analysis

Pedigree Conventions and Catalogue Standards
Pedigree Evaluation
Pedigree Databases
Stallion Statistics and Stallion Selection
Mating Decisions

Business Management Modules

Finance

Bloodstock Accounting and Taxation
Funding, Loans and Banking
Budgets and Management Accounts
Financial Statements
Bloodstock Valuations
Currencies and Fund Transfers
Employee Pensions and Benefits

Human Resource Management

Legal Issues
Recruitment and Selection
Training and Development
Motivation and Retention
Conflict Resolution
Appraisals
Health and Safety
Customer Management

Information Technology

Microsoft Windows
Computer Networks
Horse Management Software
Website Design
Digital Photography and Photoshop

Legal/Insurance

Legal Issues in Breeding and Racing
Stallion Contracts and Syndicate Agreements
Equine Mortality and Fertility Insurance
Property and Personal Insurance
Employer's and Public Liability Insurance
Property Transactions
Dispute Resolution

Marketing and Advertising

Principles of Marketing and Advertising
Market Research
Advertising
Promotion
Sales
Marketing Horses to Domestic and International Buyers
Stallion Performance Statistics and Marketing

Enterprise Development

Enterprise Skills
The Business Plan
Sourcing Finance
Company Structures
Running a Successful Business
Business Ethics

Personal Development

Communication Skills
Presentation Skills
Psychology of Success
Personal Development Planning
Career Planning
Leadership Skills
Negotiation Skills
Occupational First Aid

Thoroughbred Industry Module

International Breeding and Racing
The Economics of the Horse Business
Racing Administration
Industry Associations
Regulation of Racing
Roles and Responsibilities of Racing Officials
Shuttle Stallions
Industry Statistics
Thoroughbred Auctions
Bloodstock Agency
Racecourse Management
Bookmaking and Betting

Certification

University College Dublin, Ireland
University of Kentucky, USA
University of Arizona, USA
BHEST, UK
TAFE, Australia
Order of Malta, Ireland