



Big Dreams BOLD FUTURES  
[www.averett.edu](http://www.averett.edu)



## Find Yourself at Averett

Averett is one of a few colleges and universities to offer a bachelor's degree in equestrian studies. Students can choose from three areas of concentration: equine management, dressage instruction and eventing instruction—an equestrian studies minor is also available.

Students graduate with a strong foundation in horsemanship, an attitude of professionalism and have opportunities to make valuable connections within the equine industry.

Internships range from eventing and dressage barns to training barns and camps and tack stores. Students have interned at Garland Arabians in Powhatan; Poulin Dressage, Deleon Springs, Fla.; Braeburn Farm in North Carolina; Timber Ridge Ranches Development in Pagosa Springs, Co.; and Peterson and Smith Equine Hospital in Ocala, Fla.

Students also have a variety of independent studies in which they can participate including advanced dressage, chef de quip for eventing competitions, show management, equine certification programs, teaching beginning jumping and re-schooling the off the track thoroughbred.

The program offers students a chance to participate in the ES Club. Members of the club work on various projects including working with the Admissions Office talking to prospective students, designing videos for use at recruiting activities and coordinating the annual "Equine Educational Day" in the community, where they serve as presenters on various equestrian topics.

## Compete on a Nationally Ranked Team

Averett offers several opportunities for competition through its Intercollegiate Dressage Team, the Combined Training Team and IHSA. All equestrian studies majors and minors are encouraged to try out for both teams. Competitions are held throughout the academic year.

*"I chose Averett because it offered dressage and eventing. It's also a wonderful location, not only for the health of the horse, but it's great for networking in this area. Plus, I can get another degree here. Averett has shown me there are other options out there as far as careers. They give you a good overview."*

### Meaghan Byrne, '09

While at Averett, Byrne became the youngest person certified as a United States Dressage Federation (USDF) Instructor. Meaghan is working for German Olympic Dressage rider Hieke Kemmer.

## Contact Us

Averett University Office of Admissions, Danville, Va. 24541

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## Learn From the Fields' Top Professionals

Clinicians who have visited Averett include:

- Richard Lamb, nationally recognized event rider and course designer
- Cindy Sydnor, long listed for Olympic Team in Dressage, USDF Faculty and Examiner
- Nancy Lindroth, Pan-Am Games Medallist in Eventing
- Elizabeth Clarke, Equine Law Specialist
- Jane Savoie, internationally known dressage rider, coach and author
- Colleen Kelly, world renowned biomechanics expert
- Bailey Cook, FEI level Dressage competitor, USDF Faculty
- Darren Chiacchia, 2004 Olympic Team Member, 2007 Pan American Games U.S. Equestrian representative
- Sarah Geikie, "S" dressage judge, USDF Faculty and Examiner, FEI Level Competitor
- Robin Walker, nationally known three day eventing trainer and member of the USEA faculty

In addition to hosting clinicians, Averett hosts United States Dressage Federation (USDF) and United States Eventing Association (USEA) pre-certification clinics on site to help students prepare for teacher certification. Plans are underway to begin hosting ARIA certification workshops and equine assisted psychotherapy workshops.

Graduates of the program have a variety of careers to choose from including small business ownership/ entrepreneurship; tourism; sales: pharmacy, tack, feed, equipment; preparatory for large animal veterinarian; instructor/trainer: preparatory for USDF or USEA certification exam; competition rider/trainer; and equine journalism.

Recent graduates are in veterinary school, instructing and training, managing boarding and teaching facilities, web masters for national equine organizations and therapeutic riding instructors.

## Study With Experienced Faculty

**Jane Faulkner**, assistant professor; B.S., Colorado Women's College; A.A.S., Ohio State University; M.S., North Carolina State University

**Interests:** dressage, TREC and trail riding

**Virginia Henderson**, assistant professor; B.S., Averett; MEd. Lynchburg College  
Henderson coaches the IDA team and IHSA teams.

**Interests:** dressage, breeding sport horses and combining fields of psychology and equestrian activities

**Beth Spencer**, adjunct professor; B.S., Virginia Intermont College  
Spencer works with the students in the combined training instruction concentration. She competes at the Intermediate level.

**Dr. Mark Wallace**, adjunct professor; M.S., Virginia Tech; Ph.D., Atlantic Veterinary College at the University of Prince Edward Island  
Wallace teaches equine science courses such as nutrition, lameness and disease, anatomy and physiology. He is also part of a large, active animal practice.

## Facilities

Averett's 100-acre equestrian center is one of the finest on the East Coast. Students enjoy a variety of riding experiences in our indoor arena, dressage and jumping rings, round pen and cross-country course.

## Alumni Success Stories

- **Elise Atwood, '07**, is working for an FEI Trainer in Virginia.
- **Shellie Neubauer, '05**, is working as a pharmaceutical representative for Lextron, a distributor of animal health products for the livestock industry.
- **Jessica Grosklos, '03**, attended North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Her goal is to be an equine practitioner.
- **Stephanie Church, '99**, who double majored in journalism and equestrian studies, serves as the news editor of *The Horse: Your Guide to Equine Healthcare* and freelances as a writer and photographer for other equestrian magazines.
- **Ashley Fornell, '95**, is a Grand Prix dressage rider/trainer.