



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE
NEUROFARBA
DIPARTIMENTO DI NEUROSCIENZE,
PSICOLOGIA, AREA DEL FARMACO
E SALUTE DEL BAMBINO



Associazione "Lapo" ONLUS
Associazione Italiana Famiglie, Enti e Professioni
contro le Malattie Neurologiche e Psichiatriche dell'Età Evolutiva

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE - FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
DEPARTMENT OF NEUROSCIENCE**

in collaboration with "LAPO" ASSOCIATION

**Academic Years 2020/2021- 2021/2022
Xth Edition**

UNIVERSITY MASTER

IN ANIMAL-ASSISTED INTERVENTIONS:

THERAPEUTIC RIDING

consistent with the National Guidelines on Animal-Assisted Intervention (AAI)
inclusive of the whole scheduled training for the specific professionals
accredited at National level

UNIVERSITY MASTER DEGREE IN AAI: TR
ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE IN AAI specific for the individual professionals

It has been set up since a.y. 2002/2003 (it comes from the conversion of the previous "University Advanced Course in TR: Education/Training" a.y.1999/2000-2000/2001); **duration: two years, University Credits-ECTS: 90** (equivalent to 2.250 hours of total workload).

It represents one of the first and still one of the few university experiences in TR on the world-wide level.

DIRECTOR OF THE MASTER: Prof. Maria Pia Amato, Chair Professor in Neurology

SCIENTIFIC COORDINATOR: Prof. Anna Pasquinelli, Associate Professor of Chair of Child Neuropsychiatry, specialized in EAAT/TR

TOPICS: AAI, child neuropsychiatry, neurology, psychiatry, sensorineural disorders, psychology, orthopaedics, rehabilitation and re-education, EAAT/TR, EAAT/TR methodology, veterinary medicine, horse biomechanics, horse management/welfare and riding necessary to conduct EAAT/TR

activities and to acquire the indispensable theoretical-practical competencies required for multi-disciplinary integration within the TR team.

In addition to the above programme, according to the National Guidelines for AAI (2015), University Master is also inclusive of their whole training path (Preparatory Course, Basic Course, Advanced Course) for the specific professionals: Project Manager, Person in Charge of intervention, Horse Handler, Veterinarian expert in AAI.

OBJECTIVES: providing in-depth cultural education and training in the fields of AAI and specifically in EAAT with particular attention to the methodology of application, child neuropsychiatry, neurology, psychiatry, sensorineural disorders, psychology, orthopaedics, rehabilitation, re-education, veterinary medicine, equestrian/riding (horse biomechanics and biodynamics, horse management/welfare, riding and vaulting techniques), necessary to conduct EAAT/TR activities and to acquire the indispensable theoretical-practical competencies required for multi-disciplinary integration within the TR team.

AIM:

- **MASTER DEGREE IN AAI/TR issued by the Rector of the University of Florence:** setting up and training the professional figure of “*Therapeutic Riding Technical Coordinator*” (role: setting up and organizing of a TR Centre; coordination and conduction of TR activities in collaboration with the TR team; collaboration in the training of TR professionals and TR training courses) (Rectorial Decrees)
- **ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE in AAI, accredited at the National level,** specific for the individual professionals **according to the National Guidelines for AAI:** Project Manager, Person in Charge of Intervention, Veterinarian expert in AAI, Horse Handler.

TEACHERS AND SERVICES: Teachers University Professors of Chair of Child Neuropsychiatry specialized in EAI/TR, Chair of Neurology, Psychiatry, Audiology, Ophthalmology; Typhology; Child Neuropsychiatrists, Physiotherapist, Social Education Workers specialized in EAI/TR; Psychologist specialized in AAI; Therapists of Lapo TR Centres; Equine Veterinarians specialized in EAI and Ethology; FISE (The Italian Federation of Equestrian Sports) Horse Riding Instructors; FISE Judge; Vaulting Instructor.

Services for practical experience and training: National Lapo TR Centres accredited by the University; F.I.S.E. Horse Riding Centres and Vaulting Centre.

ORGANISATION:

Lectures: University Educational Centre, Firenze

Theoretical-Practical activity: at accredited Lapo TR Centres

3 Theoretical Practical Workshops (one week each): Integrated Vaulting (Mantova), Sport Riding for the Disabled (Aosta), Horse management and riding (Aosta)

Internship of 150 hours in TR at accredited National Lapo TR Centres.

Duration: two years

Compulsory attendance

Ongoing and final exams on AAI, Neuropsychiatry, Rehabilitation, TR, Veterinary Medicine, Horse management, and riding. Evaluation of the Internship

Final Thesis: consists of a written elaboration and an oral discussion provided of an assembly of serial video recordings relative to the follow up of a subject personally followed during the TR training and of the evaluation of the results.

ENTRY CRITERIA:

A) *Curriculum Requirements*:- *University Degree - University Diploma* in one of the following areas: social/health care, rehabilitation, and education or equivalent professions.

B) *Horsemanship Requirements*: good riding ability even not on competitive level (comparable to a FISE (Italian Equestrian Federation) Horse Riding License B and good knowledge of horses. Candidates who do not possess F.I.S.E. Horse Riding License B must acquire them during the 1st year of the course).

Maximum No. of participants: 20 persons.

Cost: € 4,900 paid in two installments: € 3,000 the first one for the first year and € 1,900 the second one for the second year.

Notice and Application form on the Rectorial Decree: www.unifi.it

UNIVERSITY SECRETARIAT: email: master-bio@unifi.it

ORGANISATIONAL SECRETARIAT: Prof.ssa Anna Pasquinelli: anna.pasquinelli@unifi.it

Note:

TR= Therapeutic Riding

EAAT= Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies

EAI = Equine-Assisted Intervention,

EFI= Equine Facilitated Intervention

TR, EAAT, EAI, EFI have an equivalent meaning.

AAI= ANIMAL ASSISTED INTERVENTION is a goal oriented and structured intervention that intentionally includes or incorporates animals in health, education and human service (e.g., social work) for the purpose of therapeutic gains in humans. It incorporates human-animal teams in formal human services such as Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT), Animal Assisted Education (AAE), or under certain conditions Animal Assisted Activity (AAA)». IAHAIO White Paper 2014, 2018.