

## **Global competencies**

Over this course I have gotten to learn about the skills that are required to be a good leader while getting to analyze the different corporations and leaders. In doing so I have been equipped with the tools I need to lead others with compassion while pushing them to accomplish goals they never thought achievable. In this same vein, there are three global competencies that I feel I have developed through my personal growth during this course. They include collaboration, Innovation, Creativity, and entrepreneurship, as well as self directed learning. There is an expression that goes, “if you want to go fast you go alone if you want to go far you go together.” This is the essence of the importance of collaboration. By learning the vital skill of collaboration, team projects have resulted in great success. Everyday tasks can be collaborative but without the knowledge and maturity to work with others, everyday tasks can be made much harder and problems may arise that were not necessary from the beginning. For example, one part of our everyday training is jumping the horses over a set of jumps known as a course; and to make the course we all work together to decide what the pattern will look like to give our horses the best possible training. Innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship is a large part of my daily business life as I make deals to buy and sell horses. In order to get a horse ready, I must decide on the best care and make adjustments; determining if they need a cut or how to keep them at their physical peak in both health and appearance (change feed, add supplements, up or down exercise). As a professional equestrian, I spend a lot of my day training other people how to ride their horses better but I personally don't always get the external support or feedback I needed to improve my own riding. Because of this, I must rely on myself to learn and improve. I have learned how to be honest and critical with myself. I spend time everyday trying to improve. I insist that I am videoed whenever possible to look back and reflect on what I have done wrong and right to fix my and my horses mistakes. I also have mirrors set around the riding arena so I can see myself and my horses as we train because I can look and correct my posture or correct and errors I see in my horses without needing anyone else's help.

## **Self Reflection #1**

Business management has guided me to become a better leader not only for my team and colleagues but also for myself as it has reminded me that there are many components to creating a happy work environment. I have learned that I am a flexible leader who invites progress for all my employees and allows them to learn and grow through any platform they so choose whether that be from books and youtube videos or my guidance and tips. I try to be supportive but mostly hands off once the employees prove they master their task work. Learning how to manage a group has taught me that even though someone might look happy on the outside or to your face does not mean that they feel the same inside and are happy with where their career is taking them. I now know that if I ever feel unhappy in the workplace then i should have a simple conversation with my employer or my employees with me to build a better work environment. If something is not done to satisfy my needs or my employees then maybe the party should just think about separating into a new direction.

## **Reflection 2**

For the past few weeks I've been looking at my work environment through new eyes. I have begun to notice that this course has colored my lens in showing me the changes I would make in the workplace. When you spend time in only one industry, it is almost like blinders get put on and I feel like I lost sight about what "normal" working conditions were like. I now notice the problems that we deal with everyday that get brushed aside keeping us from a normal work environment. At the local equine pharmacy, employees must house overloaded stock from the store in their private homes with no compensation. Since my dreams live at the forefront of most decisions I make, I cannot help but learn from these failings. As I advance in my career to higher positions of power, I will make sure to create a work environment that fosters growth while maintaining professionalism. I have learned a lot about things not to as an employer so I am just excited for opportunities to prove I have also learned what to do as an employer.

## **Reflection 3**

In the wise words of Ru Paul, "If you can't love yourself, how the hell you going to love somebody else?" On the same vein of working on one's self before involving others, this course has encouraged me to be more self-disciplined. I have been keeping myself accountable by setting deadlines for completing my work in addition to make sure to

create a schedule, where I work on school for a few hours everyday instead of trying to get it done in huge painful 10 hour chunks every other week. Reflection is very important because it encourages me to one up myself and reminds me that I can always add more to my resume and not be stuck in one spot or quicksand. As I reflect on my reflection, I have come to notice how many discrepancies there are between my work environment and what i would say is a “normal” work environment. Because of its uniqueness and typical inclusivity the equestrian world has become a place with its own rules and standards that don’t reflect a safe and stable work environment.