

# Jennifer A. Pearson

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## EDUCATION

University of Denver  
Graduate School of Social Work  
Doctor of Philosophy, May 2015 (expected)

University of Edinburgh  
College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine  
Master of Science, November 2009  
Applied Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare

University of Denver  
Graduate School of Social Work  
Master of Social Work, Animal-Assisted Social Work certificate, June 2006  
Clinical, high-risk youth, animal-assisted therapy

University of Connecticut  
Bachelor of Arts (*Magna Cum Laude*), May 2002  
Philosophy (major) and Classics (minor)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Psychopathologies of human-animal interactions, including physical, psychological and sexual abuse, neglect
- Hoarding of animals, objects
- Human-animal bond
- Intersection of human health, animal welfare and the environment
- Ethical and welfare standards development for animal-assisted interventions
- Welfare assessment for animals involved in therapeutic interventions

## TEACHING INTERESTS

- Clinical courses in animal-assisted interventions
- Trauma-based intervention strategies
- Attachment theory and human development
- Ethics
- Animal behavior and animal welfare

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Institute for Human-Animal Connection, University of Denver's Graduate School of Social Work, Denver, CO. Institute director: Philip Tedeschi.

- Principal Investigator, exploratory qualitative study assessing current state of ethics in animal-assisted interventions (completed). Results presented at the International Association of Human-Animal Interactions Organizations 13<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conference, July 2013.

Anxiety Disorders Center, Institute of Living, Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT. Supervisor: David Tolin, *June – August 2012*

- Research assistant on RO1-funded study on hoarding

Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Scottish Agricultural College, Easter Bush, Penicuik, Midlothian, United Kingdom. Supervisors: Francoise Wemelsfelder, R. Edward Clutton.

MSc dissertation, *March – August 2009*

- Data collection and analysis of a Free Choice Profiling methodological study of equine recovery quality following general anaesthesia

MSc coursework, *October – December 2008*

- Behavioural observation, data collection and analysis of play and aggression in captive gelada baboons

Mental Health Center of Denver, Dumb Friends League, Denver CO  
Research assistant, *February-May 2006*

- Data collection and analysis of an animal-assisted intervention pairing at-risk youth and shelter dogs

## GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

University of Denver

*Doctoral Fellowship, 2011, \$4500 per annum*

*Full tuition waiver and graduate teaching assistant, 2011-present*

University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work

*High Merit Scholarship, 2005-2006, \$15000 per annum*

University of Connecticut

*New England Scholar, 2001 & 2002, partial tuition credit*

## PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

Pearson, J.A. and Rollin, B.E. Ethics and welfare of U.S. service dogs: Unanswered questions and concerns. Manuscript under review (*Anthrozoos*)

Pearson, J.A. Animal use in animal-assisted interventions: A roadmap to ethical practice. Manuscript under review (*Anthrozoos*)

Pearson, J.A. Ethics in animal-assisted interventions: The capabilities approach. Manuscript under revision.

Pearson, J.A., Wemelsfelder, F., & Clutton, R.E. The qualitative assessment of behaviour in horses recovering after general anaesthesia. Manuscript under co-author revision.

#### OTHER PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Pearson, J. (2005). Rage (poem). *Journal of Progressive Human Services*, (16) 2. 77.

Pearson, J. (2005). Untitled (poem). *Journal of Progressive Human Services*, (16) 2. 78.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

EFMHA Membership Committee (task force member). (2009). How to start an EFP/EFL program. Denver, CO: Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International.

#### PRESENTATIONS – PEER REVIEWED

Pearson, J.A. (2013). Animal use in animal-assisted interventions: A roadmap to ethical practice. Paper presentation. International Association of Human-Animal Interactions Organizations 13<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conference, in conjunction with the American Veterinary Medical Association Annual Convention. Chicago, IL. 19-23 July.

Rechkemmer, A., Tedeschi, P., Des Marais, E., and Pearson, J.A. (2013). Preparing social work students to address issues of One Health, biodiversity conservation, animal welfare and social-ecological resilience. Panel presentation. 19<sup>th</sup> International Symposium for Society and Resource Management. Estes Park, CO. 4-8 June.

Pearson, J.A. (2012). Ethics in animal-assisted interventions: The capabilities approach. Paper presentation. Council on Social Work Education, Annual Program Meeting. Washington, DC. 10-12 November.

Pearson, J.A. (2012). The role of veterinarians in animal-assisted interventions. Poster presentation. 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Veterinary Education Symposium. Edinburgh, United Kingdom. 12-13 July.

#### PRESENTATIONS – NON-PEER REVIEWED

Ash, H., Blumenthal, H., Lendo, D.E., & Pearson, J.A. (2008). Gelada baboons (*theropithecus gelada*). Edinburgh Zoo - Royal Zoological Society of

Scotland, Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Edinburgh, College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine  
International Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law (Master of Science program)

- April 2013
- Invited guest lecturer (two sessions) on animal-assisted interactions, welfare of assistance and therapy animals

University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work  
Teaching Practicum, *Winter 2013*

- Animal-Assisted Social Work Applications  
Teaching Assistant, *2011 - present*
- Animal-Assisted Social Work Applications (three courses to date)
- Animals in Therapeutic Settings (two courses to date)
- Introduction to Statistics; Guest lectured on correlation
- Methods for Evaluating Practice and Programs; Guest lectured on qualitative research methodology

University of Denver, Institute for Human-Animal Connection  
Adjunct Faculty, *2008 - present*

- Animals and Human Health professional development series; online instruction, curriculum development and revision
- Courses taught: Applications of Animal-Assisted Interventions, Animal Partners in Animal-Assisted Interventions (sixteen courses to date)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Institute for Human-Animal Connection, University of Denver  
MSW field supervisor, *2011 – present*

- Supervising MSW students for field internship requirements

American Canine Academy – Henderson, CO  
Behavior and kennel associate, *2011 – present*

Zuma's Rescue Ranch - Littleton, CO  
Clinical supervisor, *2010 - 2011*

- Supervised graduate level mental health interns from the University of Denver's Graduate School of Social Work, Naropa University and Prescott College, research consultant, program development and evaluation of equine-assisted learning activities for at-risk youth, families and adults

Freedom Riders – Warren, ME  
Equine Care Specialist, *2010*

- Horse manager, head groom and welfare advisor for a NARHA seasonal

therapeutic riding program serving physically- and/or developmentally-disabled children and adults

Spurwink Services – Portland, ME  
Clinical social worker, 2007 - 2008

- Individual and family therapy service and educational support provider to high school students at Gardiner Area High School

Canine Connections – Warren, ME  
Assistant trainer and instructor, 2008

- Conducted group and individual sessions in obedience, agility, Canine Good Citizen and therapy dog qualifications

Green Chimneys Children's Services – Brewster, NY  
Clinical social worker, 2006 - 2007

- Individual, group and crisis therapist to students aged 7-15 in the Therapeutic Day Program, extended school year setting; utilized experiential treatment modalities including animal-assisted therapy (equine and canine); supervised international BSW student; coordination of external resources and support for students and families; IEP development and implementation

Griffith Centers for Children – Larkspur, CO  
Clinical intern, 2005 - 2006

- Individual, group, family and equine-facilitated psychotherapy provider in a residential treatment center for adolescent males in sex offender, conduct disorder and crisis units; case management; crisis intervention; community-based equine experiential programming

Hidden River Equestrian Centre and Sukee Kennels – Warren, ME  
Instructor, trainer, animal care, 1996 – 1998 and 2002 - 2005

- Instruction, training, animal management and care, customer service to clients at both locations (dressage stable and German Shepherd kennel) of the corporate partnership

The Hole In The Wall Gang Camp – Ashford, CT  
Equine specialist, staff and volunteer, 1999 - 2001

- Managed staff, horses, daily programming and camper safety protocols at a NARHA-affiliated summer camp for children with serious and/or life-threatening illnesses

## TRAINING

Institute for Human-Animal Connection, University of Denver  
Denver, CO, 2012

- AniCare Child
- Animal-assisted Play Therapy
- Advanced Animal Abuse Forensic Risk Evaluator

Institute for Human-Animal Connection, University of Denver

Denver, CO, 2011

- Animal Abuse Forensic Risk Evaluator for the State of Colorado

Michael Ellis School for Dog Trainers

Fairfield, CA, 2011, 2013

- Obedience Intensive, Advanced Obedience I, II

Spurwink Services

Portland, ME, 2008

- Public school counseling, Medicaid reimbursement, Red Cross, Cornell Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (TCI)

Green Chimneys Children's Services

Brewster, NY, 2006

- Red Cross, Cornell TCI

Equine Facilitated Mental Health Association, North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, Fort Collins, CO, 2006

- Equine Specialist certification

Trails to Trust, Griffith Centers for Children

Larkspur, CO, 2005

- Equine-facilitated psychotherapy, Red Cross, Cornell TCI

Delta Society, Denver Pet Partners

Denver, CO, 2005

- Pet Partners certification

Meredith Manor International Equestrian Centre

Waverly, WV, 1992-1993

- Riding Master VI
- Riding Instructor certification

## MEMBERSHIPS

Human Development and Capability Association

International Society for Applied Ethology

Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour

Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (past committee member)

Pet Partners (retired Pet Partner)

Rocky Mountain Siamese Rescue (volunteer)