



# Engagement of Northern Cheyenne Youth with a Community Equine Program

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Figure 1  
[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e4/Cheyenne\\_using\\_travois.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e4/Cheyenne_using_travois.jpg)

## Introduction:

The era of the horse for the Cheyenne began around 1750, when the Cheyenne began to use them for hunting. The historical importance of horses, and Robert Simpson's program Blackhorse Pride, inspired the research of past cultural associations with horses and trying to determine the current value of the equid to the Northern Cheyenne youth, and adults.

**Hypothesis Tested:** Northern Cheyenne youth living on the reservation have some knowledge of horses, but expansion of the Blackhorse Pride program will have a positive impact on the young adults involved and will increase the youths' knowledge of horses.

## Materials and Methods:

Step 1. Questions about the students experiences and perceptions of horses in the history of their culture and currently.

Step 2. Verbal survey

Step 3. A participatory diagram will be drawn by individual students, or in groups, depending on however the students wish to participate .



Figure 2. Landscape Portrait of Northern Cheyenne Reservation. Photo by Hannah Stewart

## Results:

- Initial visit to Northern Cheyenne Reservation completed
- Engaged in holistic discussion with site mentors
- Designed the survey and holistic activity
- Unable to contact Robert Simpson initially for his opinion of the survey, which was a critical step for the IRB process.
- An injury to my shoulder inhibited my abilities to return to the Reservation.

## Discussion:

- The historical importance of the horse is evident in the desire of men wishing to marry to have multiple horses, as a sign of power.
- Will continue research to gain more information on modern importance of the equine on the Reservation.
- My contacts on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation have been crucial to the information and research that has been collected so far.
- Due to injury, had to rely on my initial visit for information and contacts

## Recommendations:

- Contact your main mentors and ensure that there will be multiple times available to meet.
- Multiple visits are important because this allows student researcher to become more engaged in the community.
- This allows student researcher to become closer to their site mentors as well.

## References:

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