

# ***Timber Hole Taxidermy and Taxidermy School, LLC.***

## ***School Information***

**Address: 1898 SE Hwy AA, Clinton Missouri 64735**

**Faculty: Thomas Dunlap, Owner/Operator/Instructor**

**Ashley Dunlap, Owner/Office Manager**

**Cindy Cunningham, Master Taxidermist/Instructor**

### **History & Institutional Philosophy**

Timber Hole Taxidermy (THT) was established in the fall of 2017. Mr. Tom Dunlap owner and operator of THT graduated from National American University School of Business in 2008 with a B.S. in Business Management. Prior to opening THT, Tom served and retired from the United States Air Force with over 20 years of Service, during his time in the USAF he served as a Master Instructor earning a degree in Education and Instructional Systems. Tom has always been an outdoorsman and supports numerous conservation organizations. As a sportsman Tom was always intrigued by taxidermy and everything associated with it leading to his attendance and graduation from Second Creation Taxidermy School. There he learned every aspect of taxidermy under guidance and direction of Master Taxidermists. With his knowledge of the taxidermy industry in combination of his keen ability to educate and teach others it only made sense that Tom passed on his information on to those who want to learn the art of taxidermy and the taxidermy business. THT is a member of the Missouri Taxidermist Association, United Taxidermist Association and the National Taxidermist Association just to name a few.

### **Facilities**

Timber Hole Taxidermy and Schooling, LLC. Is a fully licesed and insured commercial taxidermy studio and school. THT is located at 1898 SE Hwy AA, Clinton, Missouri 64735. The facility consists of a large working and instructional area, restroom, paint and storage area, freezer and wet room, and an adminstrative area. This facility is barrier free to assist students who may be confined to a wheel chair.

### **Equipment**

At THT we use a wide array of tools and equipment to include but not limited to the following to complete instructional courses and commercial work. Mounting stands, fleshing machine, band saw, belt sander, washing machine, double sinks, bench grinders, freezers, work benches, common hand tools, drills, knives and sculpting tools.

### **Educational Objectives**

1. To teach the required skills to become a proficient and successful commercial taxidermist.
2. To employ these skills by providing knowledge, experiences in every aspect of the taxidermy industry.
3. To teach students the necessary business skills, procedures, licensing vital to a commercial taxidermy operation.

### **Academic Calendar**

All Courses are taught from January thru September each year. Dates are all flexible to accommodate each student's needs and THT's daily commercial operations.

### **Holidays and Hours**

THT is Closed on all Federal and State Holidays.

Courses will run daily from 8am-5pm with a 1 hr lunch break.

### **Admission Requirements**

1. Prospective students must be at least 17 years of age or older
2. Students should be able to discern the various colors of the spectrum.
3. No prior taxidermy experience is needed to attend.
4. Any medical conditions that could lead to emergencies (I.e. Allergies, seizures) need to be addressed prior to admission.

### **Tuition and Courses**

THT offers several different courses and can be taken individually or in conjunction with each. These courses are separated to accommodate those students who may only want to learn one species such as deer or those who want to learn all aspects. Two weeks prior to the start of each course a 50% deposit is required, the remaining balance is due on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the course. (deposits are non-refundable). Prior to each course a 2 hr orientation will be completed. The list of offered courses are below.

**Whitetail Deer- (\$3500-5 days 40+ hrs)** Each student will learn from the time of harvest to a finished mount. The student will learn proper field care, skinning, fleshing, aspects of tanning hides, air brushing and other finish techniques. Each student will observe an instructor complete a deer mount, then the student will mount 2 deer shoulder mounts. All antlers, capes, necessary tools and equipment will be provided. At the end of the course the student can keep mount for their show room.

**Mammal Course- (\$3500- 7-10 days 80+ hrs)** Each student will complete 2 small to medium size mammals which may include, fox, coyote, raccoon, bobcat etc. During the course, the student will learn field care, proper skinning techniques, fleshing, measurements, form selection and

alterations. All specimens, forms, tools and equipment will be provided for the completion of the course. At the end of the course the student can keep their mounts for their showroom.

**Bird Course-(\$3000-5 days 40+ hrs)** Each student will complete 3 birds which will be provided by THT. During this course students will learn field care, laws and licensing associated with bird taxidermy, skinning, fleshing, washing, sewing and mounting of a bird. Each student will complete 1 Mallard duck and 1 Pheasant and 1 other Puddle Duck. This course does not include Turkeys.

**Habitat Course-(\$2500 4 Days 32+ hrs)** This course teaches the student all aspects and techniques of adding habitat to mounts. This includes types of habitat, techniques, and artistic composition. Students will learn, how to make ice, water scences, dirt bases, etc. All materials will be provided by THT, this course is strongly encouraged to be taken in conjunction with one other course.

**Gamehead Course-(\$4500 5-7 Days 56+ hrs)** This course has been designed for the aspiring taxidermist who looks to broaden their horizons outside of Whitetail Deer. Each student will complete 2 gameheads. These could include exotic goat species, antelope, elk, caribou etc. each specimen will be provided by THT. Each specimen will be determined by THTs availability.

#### **Advanced Whitetail/Mammal Course \$2500 5 days**

THT offers an advanced course for all of the above courses which are taught specifically by Award Winning Master Taxidermist. These courses prices vary depending on specific species. For more Information contact THT.

#### **Weekend Seminars- (\$1000 2-days 16+ hrs)**

To accomadate those who are unable to attend a full course weekend seminars are offered for Whitetail deer ONLY. Prior exposure to taxidermy is highly recommended as this is a very fast paced course.

#### **Tools/Equipment cont.**

At the complete of 3 main courses student will have the opportunity to purchase a tool kit that will include near every tool that one may need to get started in taxidermy. Common hand tools, air brush kit, tool box, etc. This can be purchased seperately at the request of the student. As prices vary since some student may already have tools of their own. In addition, to common tools, other supplies and equipment can be purchased as well at the students request.

#### **Method of Payment**

Payments can be made for tuition either by check, cash or credit card. There will be a \$40 returned check fee at the resposibility of the student. In the event of a returned check, all future payments must be made in cash.

#### **Enrollment Procedures**

Students wishing to enroll in 1 or more courses must fill out an enrollment application which will need to be mailed or emailed back to THT. A non-refundable 50% deposit is required 2 weeks prior to the start of the course, the remaining course balance is due on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the course. Students will be accepted up to 2 days prior to the start of a course. At THT we take pride in a true educational experience so we keep classes small which affords each student with 1 on 1 attention and instruction. Our course sizes will not be larger than 4 students at 1 time.

### **Graduation Requirements**

Students will complete for grades with the following specimens depending on their respective course:

- 2- Whitetail deer
- 3- Birds, a Mallard, and pheasant and a puddle duck
- 2- Mammals
- 2- Game Heads
- 2- Habitat composition

### **Grading/Award**

Each student shall be graded/judged by a Master Taxidermist upon completion of each course. Each course is based on a Pass or Fail criteria. Once each student receives a Passing critique from a Master Taxidermist they will be awarded a certificate of completion.

### **Lodging**

Students will be required to make their own lodging arrangements prior to the start of their course. Within a 5 mile drive to the facility, there are several lodging establishments within the town of Clinton, MO. Contact THT for more information.

### **Food**

Clinton, Missouri has numerous food establishments all within a few minutes of our facility. Students will be required to leave the facility during the lunch hour, and their responsibility to provide their own food.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Upon enrollment at Timber Hole Taxidermy and Schooling, LLC. You have taken the very first important step in learning to become a professional taxidermist. Taxidermy can be one of the most exciting and rewarding businesses in which an individual can embark on. You are the future of the taxidermy industry, with the number of fisherman and hunters growing each year and conservation organizations supporting the cause, taxidermy is here to stay! By enrolling with THT you will have chosen the most extensive, in-depth, and personal taxidermy school in the midwest.

