

# Current Concepts in Equine Nutrition

ANS 6711 Course Syllabus  
Fall 2015

Department of Animal Sciences  
University of Florida



## Instructor

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Please call or email to schedule an appointment. In most cases, I will respond back to you within 24 hours.

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## Course Description & Objectives

ANS 6711 is a graduate-level course offering detailed study of the anatomical, physiological and behavioral factors influencing the nutritive requirements and feeding management of horses for maintenance, reproduction, lactation, growth, and work. Lectures will cover common equine feeds, factors influencing the utilization of feeds by horses, derivation of nutrient requirements, and common feeding management practices. Students will complete a case study project that involves problem solving for an equine feeding situation.

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- ✓ Appreciate the digestive anatomy & digestive process unique to equids;
- ✓ Understand the basis for current nutrient requirements for horses;
- ✓ Design effective feeding programs to meet the horse's nutritional and psychological needs;
- ✓ Become proficient at critically analyzing published material relating to equine nutrition;
- ✓ Recognize feeding-related problems & evaluate potential solutions.

## Time & Location

Tuesdays & Thursdays  
Period 2 • 8:30 – 9:20AM  
Animal Science Bldg • Room 102

## Prerequisites

- A course in animal/human nutrition
- Experience formulating rations
- BONUS = a course in biochemistry

## Textbooks

Required:

Nutrient Requirements of Horses, 6<sup>th</sup> Revised Edition (NRC) ISBN-13: 978-0-309-10212-4. ★ *NOTE: this publication can be accessed online for FREE at [http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record\\_id=11653](http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=11653) and is linked on CANVAS.*

Recommended:

Equine Applied & Clinical Nutrition (2013), Edited by RJ Geor, PA Harris, and M Coenen; ISBN: 978-0-0720-3422-0

## IMPORTANT DATES

EXAMS:

- ★ Oct 6
- ★ Dec 15

PROJECT DUE:

- ★ Oct 15 (outline)
- ★ Dec 1 (report)
- ★ Dec 1-8 (present)

## Course materials provided on CANVAS

- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>
- Click the BLUE “e-Learning in CANVAS” button on the left, then enter your Gatorlink ID & password.
- Check Settings and Notifications in your CANVAS account – make sure the “Announcements and “Conversation” settings are set to ASAP in order to receive timely announcements about the course.

CANVAS will contain:

- ✓ Announcements
- ✓ Lecture Notes
- ✓ Assignments
- ✓ Your Grades
- ✓ Articles
- ✓ Useful Links

## Lecture Notes



- *Posted on CANVAS under the "Modules" link.*
- *★NOTE: if materials are not posted by 6:00pm the night before the lecture, I will provide copies in class for you.*
- *Format = PowerPoint slides, handouts, articles, etc (★all as PDF files).*
- *Print BEFORE coming to lecture or bring your laptop/tablet to class and type directly on the notes (★requires latest version of Adobe Reader)*

*Cell phones, laptops, tablets and other electronic devices should be silenced during class time.*



*You will need a calculator for this course. Use of the calculator function on your phone will NOT be allowed during quizzes & exams.*

## Case Study Project

Each student will be assigned a case study project that must be completed by the end of the semester. The project will involve practical equine nutrition problems that will require literature searching, interpretation of scientific papers, and formulation of diets.

An overview of format and expectations is provided here, with additional detail provided when projects are assigned.

## Other Assignments

Throughout the semester there will be periodic assignments that will be turned in for credit. Assignments may include, but are not limited to: feed/supplement evaluation, basic nutrition calculations, ration formulation, critique of research or popular press articles, and answering questions from horsemen.

## Exams

This course will have two exams. Each exam will cover approximately half of the material (lectures and assignments).

Projects will be assigned in September. A 2-3 page outline of your approach to addressing each portion of the project will be due Oct 15. The final project report will be due Dec 1. Typically reports are 10-20 pages (excluding literature cited). You are also expected to prepare a 15-min presentation on your solution(s). Presentations will take place during the last 3 class periods of the semester.

Some assignments may involve an activity that occurs during class time, whereas others will require you to use the library or the internet outside of class.

There will be some assignments that will be discussed in class. Your ability to participate in the discussion may be a part of the grade you receive for the assignment.

Exam format may include multiple choice, short answer, essay, and diet/feeding-related calculations.

## Attendance & Make-Up Policy

Regular attendance is expected & active participation is necessary for successful completion of this course.

If you know you will be absent from class, please contact the instructor at least one week in advance of the date(s) missed.

If you have an unforeseen emergency, you will need to provide written documentation to support your absence (eg, if you are sick, a doctor's note with justification is necessary).

It is your responsibility to contact the instructor to develop a plan to make-up missed work. Missed work for excused class absences will be accepted with no penalty if completed by the extended deadline. The opportunity to make-up missed work will not be offered without a valid excuse.

Class attendance and make-up work policies are consistent with UF policies found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

## Grading Policy

### Grade distribution:

|                         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Exam 1 .....            | 125 pts |
| Exam 2 .....            | 125 pts |
| Assignments.....        | 100 pts |
| Case Study Project..... | 125 pts |

### Grading Scale:

|   |             |              |
|---|-------------|--------------|
| A | 90 - 100 %  | 428 -475 pts |
| B | 80 - 89.9 % | 380 -427 pts |
| C | 70 - 79.9 % | 333 -379 pts |
| D | 60 - 69.9 % | 285 -332 pts |
| E | < 60 %      | 0 -284 pts   |

- No +/- grades will be assigned.
- There will be no grading curve.
- YOUR GRADE (%) = pts earned / 475 pts
- You have one week after the return of any graded item to resolve questions. After that, all grades are final.
- Retain all graded items until you are assigned a final course grade.
- For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

## Academic Honesty

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: *"We the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."* You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."*

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (eg, assignments, papers, quizzes, exams).

Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action.

For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>

This policy will be vigorously upheld at all times in this course.

### ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

A higher level of academic work is expected of graduate students than of undergraduate students. For each hour spent in class, students should devote 2 to 4 hours of time outside of class to study and work on assignments. Graduate students in this course are expected to pursue independent reading and critical thinking in the topic area.

## Software Use

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or

criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

## Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the University's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- University Counseling & Wellness Center  
3190 Radio Road • (352) 392-1575  
[www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/)
  - Counseling Services
  - Groups & Workshops
  - Outreach & Consultation
  - Self-Help Library
  - Wellness Coaching
- Career Resource Center  
First floor JWRU • (352) 392-1601  
[www.crc.ufl.edu](http://www.crc.ufl.edu)

## Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services, and mediating faculty-student disability related issues.

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Disability Resource Center  
0001 Reid Hall • (352) 392-8565  
<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>

## GATORRATER

### ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION PROCESS

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching & learning. At the end of the semester, you will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. You will be notified when the evaluation system is open (typically the last two weeks of the semester). It is expected that you will contribute your feedback for this course and the others in which you are enrolled this term. Summary results of course evaluations are available at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>

## Tentative Schedule★



★NOTE: the schedule of topics may change, but exam and project due dates are firm.

| DATE         | TOPIC   | ASSIGNMENT                 |
|--------------|---|----------------------------|
| Aug 25 - Tu  | Introduction to course<br>Review of Equine GI Tract Anatomy |                            |
| Aug 27 - Th  | Review of nutrients   |                            |
| Sept 1 - Tu  | Feed Selection  |                            |
| Sept 3 - Th  | Feed Selection  |                            |
| Sept 8 - Tu  | Feed Selection  |                            |
| Sept 10 - Th | Feeding Behavior - <i>Carrisa Wickens, UF</i>               |                            |
| Sept 15 - Tu | Dietary Enrichment - <i>Carissa Wickens, UF</i>             |                            |
| Sept 17 - Th | Feed Manufacturing - <i>Kelly Vineyard, Purina</i>          |                            |
| Sept 22 - Tu | Digestion and Absorption                                    |                            |
| Sept 24 - Th | Digestion and Absorption                                    |                            |
| Sept 29 - Tu | Digestion and Absorption                                    |                            |
| Oct 1 - Th   | Digestion and Absorption                                    |                            |
| Oct 6 - Tu   | <b>EXAM #1</b>  |                            |
| Oct 8 - Th   | Nutrient Requirements                                       |                            |
| Oct 13 - Tu  | Nutrient Requirements                                       |                            |
| Oct 15 - Th  | Nutrient Requirements                                       | Project Outline due        |
| Oct 20 - Tu  | Feeding for Maintenance                                     |                            |
| Oct 22 - Th  | Feeding Performance Horses                                  |                            |
| Oct 27 - Tu  | Feeding Performance Horses                                  |                            |
| Oct 29 - Th  | Feeding Performance Horses                                  |                            |
| Nov 3 - Tu   | Feeding Broodmares  |                            |
| Nov 5 - Th   | Feeding Broodmares  |                            |
| Nov 10 - Tu  | Feeding Broodmares  |                            |
| Nov 12 - Th  | Feeding Growing Horses                                      |                            |
| Nov 17 - Tu  | Feeding Growing Horses                                      |                            |
| Nov 19 - Th  | Feeding Growing Horses                                      |                            |
| Nov 24 - Tu  | Nutrition & Disease   |                            |
| Nov 26 - Th  | THANKSGIVING - NO CLASSES                                   |                            |
| Dec 1 - Tu   | Oral project presentations                                  | Written project report due |
| Dec 3 - Th   | Oral project presentations                                  |                            |
| Dec 8 - Tu   | Oral project presentations                                  |                            |
| Dec 15 - Tu  | <b>EXAM #2 - 7:30 - 9:30AM, Room 102</b>                    |                            |