



ANS 3217C EQUINE HEALTH MANAGEMENT

Fall 2025: In-person, 2 Credits, Time: Per. 3, R, 9:35-10:25am, Lab: Per. 6&7, R, 1:00-2:45pm

Instructor: Dr. Samantha Brooks

231F ANS

352-392-1981

samantha.brooks@ufl.edu

Office hours are Thursday 10:30-11am or by Zoom. Appointments strongly suggested!

Teaching Assistant: Tyeler Gilliam

231G ANS

352-392-1981

samantha.brooks@ufl.edu

Office hours are Thursday 10:30-11am or by Zoom. Appointments strongly suggested!

Course Description

Principles and practices for planning, executing, and maintaining equine herd health practices.

Course Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this course students will have the ability to:

1. Perform typical measurements of equine physiology and behavior, as well as recognizing deviations from normal for these observations.
2. Understand the biological rationale behind basic health care techniques in the horse.
3. Infer preventative strategies based on the biology of various pathogens and parasites.
4. Develop appropriate skills in the use of biologics, anthelmintics and health care equipment.
5. Perform methods of restraint and training necessary for safe administration of horse health care.
6. Create and execute a herd health management plan.

Course Overview and Purpose

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.”

The horse industry is responsible for producing animals finely tuned to perform a variety of tasks. Horses are now adapted physically to perform as athletes, work livestock, and provide companionship. Keeping horses healthy in these diverse activities is a challenge. We will approach horse health from a physiological perspective. Learning to recognize a sick animal early on is key for successful treatment and prevention of health issues. Understanding how the horse and its pathogens function in their environment allows design of effective preventative strategies. Through class sessions and live animal labs students will learn techniques and gain experience in managing a healthy herd.

Course Prerequisites

ANS 3006C; AL-equine option major. Others with permission.

Textbooks, Learning Materials, and Supply Fees

Course materials and communications will be hosted on our Canvas eLearning site. Some assignments and assessments will only be accepted through Canvas! Correspondence for your instructor or TAs can be sent either through the Canvas messaging service, or the standard @ufl.edu email system.

Textbook

AYHC Horse Industry Handbook, a guide to equine care and management, 9th (2021) edition.

- 1) Yes, the book really is necessary for the course, and yes, you will need it the first week.
- 2) No, you do not need to carry it to class each day.

Published by the American Youth Horse council:

<https://www.ayhc.com/product-page/horse-industry-handbook-9th-edition>

The textbook is available in the bookstore, or you may purchase the textbook online directly from the AYHC using the link above. Please plan for extra shipping time (2-3 weeks) if you order from AYHC. The book is available both new and used elsewhere, but you must be careful that the edition you purchase has all updates and is current through 2021. Older versions can be updated by purchasing update packs directly from AYHC *and* you can use future update packs to keep your textbook as a fresh and relevant reference for many years to come.

Materials and Supply Fees

This course charges a fee of \$80.34 to cover consumables and horse care needed to provide you with the most realistic and hand-on lab experience possible.

Electronic Devices

Cell phones must remain silenced and stored during class and labs unless specifically permitted for an activity or assignment.

Use of laptops, tablets, and internet connected devices is encouraged during specific sessions in this course. In particular, you will need your cell phone or tablet to complete paperless lab worksheets.

However, these devices do come with social responsibility. Students are expected to keep sounds turned off, not to distract those around them, and most of all to limit “multitasking” activities that will be a distraction (ie email and social media.) Excessive multitasking and disruptive use of electronic devices will result in a dismissal from the classroom.

Digital information literacy skills

Generative AI in the classroom

Artificial Intelligence is an exciting new approach to computing and changes the way we interact with digital information. There are many constructive ways AI tools can help you excel as a student. For example, you might consider using large language tools like ChatGPT to generate study guide questions, or to explain a concept to you from a new perspective. AI-based translation tools can also be a great help for students for whom English is their second language. However, when employing AI-tools as a student, remember that the honor code and rules regarding plagiarism always take precedence. Turning in AI-generated work for an assignment that was specifically assigned to you, to be written by you, is still cheating, and can be detected. Don't cheat yourself out of your education, use technology to help you learn, but do not attempt to have it do the learning for you.

Critical thinking and Information Quality

To help you navigate finding good quality sources of information, formatting of references, citing sources appropriately and avoiding plagiarism we have partnered with your library to create a resource page specifically for this class: <http://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/equinehealth>.

Communication Guidelines

Please be sure you change your canvas settings so that you receive course announcements daily, not once a week, so that you get messages on time!

Keep in mind that while email is fast and simple, you should always use a courteous and professional attitude when communicating with your instructors and fellow students. Please be polite, use complete and grammatically correct sentences, and limit use of slang and abbreviations. While your Instructor and TA(s) do their best to respond in a timely manner, please keep in mind that a response cannot be guaranteed outside of business hours. Here is a helpful guide on good email etiquette:

<https://writingcommons.org/article/e-mail-guidelines-for-students/>

Class Demeanor/Expectations

Dress Code

Working with horses on the farm requires appropriate clothing as a protective measure from a number of environmental hazards. These may include, but are not limited to: slobber, urine and various body fluids, manure, stinging insects, biting flies, hazardous plants, ropes and equipment, sun and heat exposure and of course, a generous amount of dirt and grime.

For your own protection you are required to wear sturdy closed-toe shoes, long pants and a sleeved (short or long) shirt for ALL laboratory sessions. Flip-flops, sandals, bare midriffs, spaghetti-strap tops, shorts, short skirts and clothing that insufficiently covers your undergarments are epically unwise in a farm environment, and therefore specifically prohibited when in this class. Hats must be removed in the classroom during exams. “Hat-hair” is not grounds for an exception to this rule.

Finally, as representatives of this class, our department, and our university you are always expected to dress and to act in a professional manner.

Attendance and Make-Up Work

This course requires active participation, hands-on labs and discussion with your peers. As such attendance is imperative, even if this attendance is in a virtual space. Our requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.

If you feel ill, have a fever or experience severe symptoms of infectious disease please do not attend an in-person class session. However, as always, it is your personal responsibility to notify the instructor of the necessity of your absence. Provide university approved documentation of that absence, and then to complete the make-up work as soon as it is possible. Documentation of other approved but unexpected absences (family emergency etc.) must be presented *within five days of the absence* in order to receive make-up quizzes and assignments. University approved absences for sports and student organizations travel or pre-professional activities must be disclosed *at least two weeks in advance*.

Late assignments without an excuse will be penalized 25% for the first 24 hours beyond the due date, 50% for 24-48hrs late and will not be accepted thereafter.

Technical Support

UF Computing Help Desk & Ticket Number: All technical issues require a UF Helpdesk Ticket Number. The UF Helpdesk is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. <https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/> | 352-392-4357

Grading Policy

Course grading is consistent with [UF grading policies](#).

Course Grading Structure

40%- Three exams: two Mid-terms and one Final, ~30 questions for each mid-term and ~50 for the final, comprising multiple choice, short answer, and short essay formats. The final is not cumulative, but good comprehension of concepts from the first half of class may be necessary in order to provide meaningful answers to questions on the final. On all exams we calculate the success rate for each and every question. Individual questions with a success rate lower than 50% are dropped from the exam as these may not have been clearly written, or cover a concept missed in the materials. Revised versions of these questions often re-appear on the final. Students have a maximum of 1 week after an exam is returned to dispute a grade on an exam. Disputes must be turned in on paper and include references to primary sources of information supporting the requested alternate answer in NIH format.

20%- Two group Projects: “Disease Wiki” due at mid-term and “Behavior Observations” due at the end of the semester (both on the course schedule.) In the Disease Wiki project you will coordinate within your group to research and summarize key aspects of one infectious disease in the horse. The project will require work with your group both in-class and outside of normal class time. Specifically, the

behavior project requires a two-hour shift observing horses over an evening or weekend. Observations will take place Please plan accordingly, as there is no way to make-up this important lab time.

20%- Twelve reading comprehension quizzes: 6-8 questions each, to be completed prior to the beginning of each class. These quizzes are designed to check your knowledge of the material presented in assigned readings. Our readings provide necessary background material. Completing these prior to class is key for getting the most out of our in-class time together. Quizzes are held in the Canvas system, open 9am Monday, and are due 9am each Thursday of class.

20%- In-class assignments and Lab write-ups (due at the end of each lab). These short assignments are completed in class and cover concepts specific to that activity. Lab locations are listed in the schedule at the end of this syllabus. Most of our in-person labs take place at the IFAS Horse Teaching Unit (link to google maps location).

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage
A	93-100%
A-	90- 92.9%
B+	87-89.9%
B	83-86.9%
B-	80-82.9%
C+	77-79.9%
C	73-76.9%
C-	70-72.9%
D+	67-69.9%
D	63-66.9%
D-	60-62.9%
E	< 60%

Academic Policies and Resources

Academic policies for this course are consistent with university policies. See

<https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>

Campus Health and Wellness Resources

Visit <https://one.ufl.edu/whole-gator/topics> for resources that are designed to help you thrive physically, mentally, and emotionally at UF.

Please contact [UMatterWeCare](#) for additional and immediate support.

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.

Privacy and Accessibility Policies

- Instructure (Canvas)
 - [Instructure Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Instructure Accessibility](#)
- Zoom
 - [Zoom Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Zoom Accessibility](#)

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online. Students can complete evaluations in three ways:

- The email they receive from GatorEvals,
- Their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or
- The central portal at <https://my-ufl.bluera.com/>

Guidance on how to provide constructive feedback is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/> . Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/> .

Weekly Course Schedule (Subject to change to accommodate guest speakers and natural disasters!!!)

Due dates listed here **supersede** those listed in Canvas. Just because there is no due date on Canvas does not mean that the assignment has been cancelled!!! (Usually due to technical difficulty.) Do check your Canvas module/ class announcements for the location of each lab, as we use a number of facilities including teaching farms and laboratory rooms and occasionally have to change our plans in case of inclement weather.

Date	Topic	Readings	Assignments Due
8/21	CLASS- Intro/Euthanasia		Get a textbook! Register for CFEI
8/21	LAB- Acupuncture Demo and Q&A – Dr. Mallicote		In-lab worksheet
8/28	CLASS- Alternative Therapies		Pre-class Quiz Class Survey
8/28	LAB- The Normal Horse		Canvas Lab Worksheet
9/4	CLASS- Infectious Disease I		Pre-class Quiz
9/4	LAB- First Aid		Canvas Lab Worksheet
9/11	CLASS- Infectious Disease II		Pre-class Quiz
9/11	LAB- Vaccinations		Canvas Lab Worksheet
9/18	CLASS- EXAM 1		---
9/18	LAB- Dentistry Demo and Q&A – Mr. Rowles		Canvas Lab Worksheet
9/25	CLASS- Central Florida Equine Institute	CFEI Program Book	Disease Wiki Topics
9/25	LAB- Central Florida Equine Institute		Post-field Trip Quiz
10/2	CLASS- Lameness I		Pre-class Quiz
10/2	LAB- Managing hoof health demo- Mr. Billy Bishop/ TBA		Canvas Lab Worksheet
10/9	CLASS- Lameness II/ Pre-purchase		Pre-class Quiz
10/9	LAB- Evaluating Lameness		Canvas Lab Worksheet
10/16	CLASS- Behavior- Dr. Wickens		Disease Wiki Projects!
10/16	LAB- Behavior Observations /Group Projects Intro		Canvas Lab Worksheet
10/23	CLASS- EXAM 2		---
10/23	LAB- Restraint Demo – Mr. McQuagge		Canvas Lab Worksheet
10/30	CLASS- Internal Parasites I		Pre-class Quiz
10/30	LAB- Internal Parasites II /Parasite Evaluation		Canvas Lab Worksheet
11/6	CLASS- External Parasites- Dr. Hogsette		Pre-class Quiz
11/6	LAB- External Parasite ID/Control- Dr. Hogsette		Canvas Lab Worksheet
11/13	CLASS- Colic- Dr. House		Pre-class Quiz
11/13	LAB- Biosecurity/ Facility Design/Sand		Canvas Lab Worksheet
11/20	CLASS- Non-infectious Disease		Pre-class Quiz
11/20	LAB- Observations Presentations		Presentations and peer-evaluations
12/8	FINAL EXAM!- Group B, 10:00 a.m - 12:00 p.m.		Have a great holiday!