

TECHNIQUES IN EQUINE SCIENCE

ANS 3239L FALL 2025

Ranch Section

INSTRUCTORS

Mr. Joel McQuagge
210-B Animal Sciences Bldg.
Phone: 352-538-3536 - cell

mcquagge@ufl.edu

Office Hours: by appointment

Ms. Alyssa Ohmstede
231-D Animal Science Bldg.
Phone: 407-952-2803 - cell

imatwist@ufl.edu

Office Hours: by appointment

Other Emergency contacts: HTU Main: 376-0562, Angela Chandler, Farm Manager 334-740-2628

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Emma Joyal, emmajoyal@ufl.edu

Ansley Bo, boansley@ufl.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

ANS3239L is designed to teach the knowledge, horseback, and management skills required for proper daily horse care and conditioning. Students will participate in a series of laboratory activities to increase their knowledge of equine behavior and horsemanship. Students will also learn practical skills to use in a ranch setting such as handling a rope and how to effectively work cattle.

Working with Livestock is inherently risky. Many of these animals are capable of injuring people, especially when they are in flight or fight mode inspired by a stressful situation. Instructors will work to provide students with the ability to manage horses with minimal stress, thus lowering the risk of injury to people and animals.

The riding portion of this course is physically demanding and requires that students be able to mount horses unaided and maintain balance while riding.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Upon completion of this course, students will have a better understanding of basic daily management techniques.
- Students will have an increased awareness of safe horse handling practices, on and off a horse.
- This course will teach horse tack and equipment selection, care, and use.
- Students will develop foundational skills needed to effectively utilize a horse in a ranch setting.

COURSE FORMAT

- All classes meet at the UF Horse Teaching Unit, 1934 SW 63rd Ave.
- Tuesday and Thursday, 6th – 7th period (12:50 PM – 2:45 PM)
- Students will receive credit for attendance and active participation in the class. There will be 3 mini practicums and a comprehensive final practicum. The practicum will include only non-riding skills.
- There will be ONE extra credit opportunity which is due on **11/13 at the latest.**

COURSE WEBSITE ON CANVAS

The canvas website will contain the syllabus and resources, such as hand-outs and assignments. Email communications will be sent via the course website. There is no specific textbook for this class.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

This course requires a large time commitment in order to increase your competency with horses. If you are unable to make this commitment, do not take this course.

Regular attendance is expected, and active participation is necessary for success. If you know you will be absent, please contact your instructor at least 24 hours before the class to be missed. For classes missed due to unforeseen emergency, you will need to provide written documentation to support your absence.

MAKE-UP WORK

The opportunity to make-up missed work will not be offered without a valid excuse. This applies to all attendance credit, quizzes, and assignments. Class attendance and make-up work policies are consistent with UF policies found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.

LATE WORK

Without a valid absence, assignments turned in late will receive the following penalty:

- Up to 24 hrs late -20%
- 24-48 hrs late -40%
- >48 hrs late will not be accepted

GRADING

Attendance, participation, and progress (progress & skills will be monitored daily).	45 pts.
▪ <i>There are 27 class meetings to convert to 45 points. Therefore, each class is worth ~1.6 points of the final grade.</i>	
Final Practicum – handling horse and preparing to ride (not riding skills)	25 pts.
Three 10-point mini practicums of horse handling skills	<u>30 pts.</u>
A = 90-100% C = 70-74.9%	100 pts.
B + = 85-89.9% D + = 65-69.9%	
B = 80-84.9% D = 60-64.9%	
C + = 75-79.9% E = <60%	

EXTRA CREDIT, optional: 1 report on Horsemanship articles or videos relating to your riding, worth up to 5 pts

Information regarding University Policy on grade point equivalencies and calculation of grade points is located at the following web address: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies>

ACADEMIC HONESTY

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.” On all work submitted for credit by students 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.” The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

DIGITAL DEVICES (CELL PHONES, IPADS, LAPTOPS)

Cell phones must remain powered off and stored during class and when with horses unless specifically permitted for an activity or assignment. Unless students are taking notes on their laptops, laptops should be off during class. If students are found to be using social media during class, they may be asked to turn in their device for the remainder of the class and may be docked that class's participation credit. This is primarily for your own safety when working around the horses.

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>."

CAMPUS HELP RESOURCES

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being or lacking clear career or academic goals which interfere with their academic performance, are encouraged to utilize the University's support resources. You can utilize the following link to find university wide academic policies and resources available to you: <https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center (<https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started>, 352-392-8565) and provide them with appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter. They should share this letter with the instructor and discuss their access needs as early as possible in the semester.

SCHEDULE*

Topic			Instructor/Guest
R	8/21	Basic behavior, catching, haltering, safety around the horse.	McQuagge, Ohmstede
T	8/26	Leading, tying (learning knots), basic grooming.	McQuagge, Ohmstede
R	8/28	Daily horse care and management: Feeding, stall cleaning, etc.	McQuagge, Ohmstede
T	9/2	Equine Identification & Evaluation	McQuagge, Ohmstede
R	9/4	First aid basics	McQuagge, Ohmstede
T	9/9	Hoof Trimming and evaluation of a proper shoeing job	Mr. Bruce Martin
R	9/11	Equine Dentistry	Mr. Rodney Rowles
T	9/16	Tractor utilization on a horse farm <u>Mini-practicum 1</u>	McQuagge, Ohmstede & HTU Crew
R	9/18	Trailer types, hauling, hooking up & safety	McQuagge, Ohmstede
T	9/23	Driving a trailers	McQuagge, Ohmstede
R	9/25	No class at HTU – attend <u>Equine Institute</u> (must turn in proof)	
T	9/30	Identification & parts of tack, Saddle fitting, cleaning, storage of tack.	McQuagge, Ohmstede
R	10/2	Proper tacking up procedure.	Team
T	10/7	Demonstration of ranch horse type techniques.	TBA
R	10/9	Longeing of a horse and the longe ring <u>Mini-practicum 2</u>	Team
T	10/14	Longeing of the horse, use of line and longe whip.	Team
R	10/16	Proper mounting and dismounting; Rider on the longe.	Team
T	10/21	Rider on the longe.	Team
R	10/23	Rider on the longe.	Team
T	10/28	Rider in the longe pen.	Team
R	10/30	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides	McQuagge, Ohmstede
T	11/4	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides	McQuagge, Ohmstede
R	11/6	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides <u>Mini-practicum 3</u>	McQuagge, Ohmstede
T	11/11	HOLIDAY – Veteran’s Day, no class	
R	11/13	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides (Extra credit assignment due)	McQuagge, Ohmstede
T	11/18	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides	McQuagge, Ohmstede
R	11/20	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides	McQuagge, Ohmstede
11/24-11/28		Thanksgiving break – No Class	
T	12/2	Class Review for Final Practicum	McQuagge, Ohmstede
R	12/4	Final Practicum	McQuagge, Ohmstede

*Logistics may require us to switch dates of topics. Any changes will be revised on the Canvas syllabus and announced in class.

Watch the course site on Canvas for materials made available before each class and other announcements.

CRITICAL DATES

Quizzes, practicum, and assignment due dates are bolded in the schedule above. Even if topics must be rearranged, these critical dates should remain the same (unless UF-wide schedule changes).