

ANS6711 Current Topics in Equine Nutrition

Fall 2025

Course Format: In-person, Credits: 2

Location: ANS Rm 156

Meeting Time: Tues & Thurs 8:30-9:20am

Instructor

Dr. Lori K. Warren

Office: Animal Sciences building, Suite 210, Office 210G

Office phone: 352-392-1957

Email: LKWarren@ufl.edu (*email or CANVAS messaging are the preferred ways to reach me)

Office hours: by appointment (in-person or Zoom options available)

Course Description

Equine science with emphasis on current topics of interest. Offered fall term in odd-numbered years.

Course Learning Objectives

1. Evaluate and select appropriate feeds for different types of horses.
2. Identify the strengths and weaknesses in the current approach used to derive the nutrient requirements of horses.
3. Design feeding programs that meet the horse's anatomical, nutritional and psychological needs.
4. Analyze feeding-related problems and formulate practical, evidence-based solutions.
5. Critically evaluate published material relating to equine nutrition.
6. Strengthen critical thinking skills on experimental design and research techniques in equine nutrition.

Course Overview and Purpose

ANS 6711 offers a detailed study of the anatomical, physiological and behavioral factors influencing nutrient requirements and feeding management of horses for maintenance, reproduction, lactation, growth, and work. Topics will include feed analysis and selection, feeding behavior, digestion and utilization of feeds by horses, derivation and application of nutrient requirements, and feeding considerations for different classes of horses. Course activities will integrate the science of nutrition with practical horse management and promote the use of evidence-based solutions to common feeding problems.

Course Prerequisites

Greater success in this course can be achieved if you enter with the following:

- ✓ A course in animal or human nutrition
- ✓ One or more courses in biochemistry, metabolism, and/or physiology
- ✓ Experience formulating rations for horses or other livestock

Textbooks and Learning Materials

Textbooks: No textbooks are required for this course; however, other learning materials will be used and provided in CANVAS. Refer to the section “Course Resources” in this syllabus for further information.

Material and Supply Fees

\$0

Course Resources

This course has no required textbooks; however, two books are recommended (see References at right). Additional reference material (eg, journal articles, trade articles, external videos, websites) will be made available in relevant modules in CANVAS. When required, I will ask you to review materials prior to coming to class; otherwise they will serve as supplementary material (ie, if you need additional background information, or simply want to learn more about any of the topics covered this semester). The Course Tools section of CANVAS also warehouses some additional resources you may find useful.

Reference Materials

Below are some books and online resources that are suggested as reference material for this course:

- Nutrient Requirements of Horses, 6th Rev. Edition (2007) | National Research Council | ISBN: 978-0-309-10212-4. Access on CANVAS, or through the UF Library, or purchase from the National Academies Press.
- Equine Applied & Clinical Nutrition (2013) | R.J. Geor, P.A. Harris, M Coenen (Eds.) | ISBN: 978-0-0720-3422-0.
- Scientific / Trade Articles – articles for class will be posted within relevant modules in CANVAS. Your Case Study Project will require access to scientific literature; reach out to library support if you need help.

CANVAS

All course materials and communications will be hosted on CANVAS, accessible at:

<https://elearning.ufl.edu/>

Check the “Notifications” settings for your CANVAS account. Set Announcements to ‘notify me right away’ to receive timely announcements about the course.

CANVAS will contain:

- ✓ Syllabus
- ✓ Announcements
- ✓ Course Schedule
- ✓ Lecture Videos and Notes
- ✓ Assignments and In-Class Activities
- ✓ Reading / Resources
- ✓ Course Tools
- ✓ Your Grades
- ✓ Messaging (to contact Dr. Warren)

Course Notes

Lecture “notes” will be made available in CANVAS within each Module. Lecture notes consist of copies of PPT slides (in PDF format) and mirror content presented during class time. Your notes can be used to help you complete in-class activities, so I recommend you have access to them during class (either print out and bring with you or access electronically on your laptop or tablet). NOTE: anything said in lecture videos or in class is fair game for questions that might appear on exams!

Course Assessments

Your grade for this course will be determined by your performance on homework assignments, in-class activities, and exams (also see the “Grading Policy” in this syllabus).

Case Study Project

You will be assigned a case study project that will require you to formulate evidence-based solutions for practical problems in equine nutrition. It will involve searching the scientific literature, interpreting research data, evaluating feeds and supplements, developing feeding programs, and designing research studies to address industry-relevant questions. You will need to put in consistent effort on this project throughout the semester – it is not something that can be done at the last minute! Projects will be assigned Sept 2. An outline of your approach to addressing each portion of the project will be due Sept 30. A written project report will be due Nov 18. Reports are typically 15-30 pages. You are also expected to prepare a 15-minute presentation on your solutions. Oral presentations will take place during the last 3 class periods of the semester. Further detail will be provided when the projects are assigned.

In-Class Activities

Many class sessions will have an activity to complete. Several of the in-class activities will be graded (1–10 pts each). Even if it’s not graded, it’s still a good idea to attend all class meetings, as activities are designed to enhance your understanding! Graded activities may include knowledge checks (quiz-like), application of lecture material to solve problems, discussion of scientific and trade journal articles, response to reflective questions, product evaluation, and math problems. Activities will involve both individual and group work. These items will be submitted on the same day at the end of class for feedback and/or grading. In some cases, the completed activity may need to be scanned and uploaded to CANVAS for submission.

Exams

Two (2) exams (125 pts each), each covering about half of the course material. While the second exam is not technically cumulative, new material builds upon previous information throughout the semester. Exam format will consist of multiple choice, short answer, essay questions, and math problems. Exams will be closed-book and will be administered in-person during scheduled class time.

Attendance, Makeup, and Late Work

Attendance

Regular attendance is expected, and active participation is necessary for successful completion of this course. If you know you will be absent from class, please notify the instructor at least two weeks in advance of the expected absence. If you become ill or have an unforeseen emergency, notify the instructor as soon as you can. Documentation of approved but unexpected absences must be presented

within 1 week of the absence to be eligible for make-up exams and assignments. Requirements for class attendance and makeup exams, assignments and other work policies are consistent with UF policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.

Makeup Work

It is your responsibility to contact Dr. Warren to develop a plan to make up any work you miss. Makeup work for approved class absences will be accepted with no penalty if completed by the agreed-upon extended deadline.

Late Assignments

It is expected that ALL assignments will be submitted on time. Because you may have research or travel obligations, or because sometimes “life happens,” I will entertain a *reasonable* deadline extension to submit work late without penalty. To qualify, you must notify Dr. Warren BEFORE the established deadline and propose a new deadline that you will submit the work. I reserve the right to reject your proposal if it is unreasonable or you appear to be abusing this courtesy (eg, repeat offender). In the case of many in-class activities, you may be able to complete it on your own without being physically present in class that day and a deadline extension may be unnecessary. If you fail to reach out to me, and you do not have a valid excuse for submitting work late (refer to the Attendance Policy), a -20% late penalty will be applied for each day past the original due date. Please note this late policy does NOT apply to exams, which require a valid excuse for missing the exam or an agreed upon arrangement made with Dr. Warren at least 1 week in advance of the exam.

Grading Policy

- Course grading is consistent with [UF grading policies](#).
- Note that plus/minus letter grades will not be assigned in this course.
- Scores on individual assignments and exams, as well as a running tally of your cumulative course grade will be available on CANVAS > *Grades*.
- You have 1 week after the return of any graded item to resolve questions or disputes. After that, the grade is finalized.

Course Grading Structure

Assessment	Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Exam 1	125	25%
Exam 2	125	25%
Assignments and In-Class Activities	125	25%
Case Study Project	125	25%

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage
A	90 – 100%

Grade	Percentage
B	80 – 89.9%
C	70 – 79.9%
D	60 – 69.9%
E	Less than 60%

Course Schedule

See the CANVAS homepage, CANVAS > *Schedule 2025*, or CANVAS > *Modules* for the most up-to-date information on the course schedule. These locations also detail what type of preparation (eg, watching videos, reading articles) may need to be completed BEFORE coming to class.

Week	Topic
1	Anatomy of Equine Gastrointestinal Tract
2	Digestion and Absorption
3	Digestion and Absorption
4	Digestion and Absorption
5	Feed Analysis
6	Feed Selection
7	Feed Selection
8	Feeding Behavior and Feeding Management
9	Nutrient Requirements
10	Ration Balancing
11	Maintenance Requirements
12	Requirements for Work / Performance
13	Requirements for Broodmares & Stallions
14	Requirements for Growth

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.uf.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.

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