

Techniques in Farrier Science

ANS 4212L Spring 2025

Instructors:

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Office Hours: Typically Monday, Wednesday 9:00-11:00. Please call for an appointment as my schedule varies.

Alex Fisk 352-598-6539

Fisk Farrier Service fiskfarrierservice@gmail.com

Usually available before or after class for questions

Teaching Assistant: Sage Bledsoe

Department Chair: Dr. John Arthington Rm 100 Animal Science Building
352/392-1911

Course Description:

This course will teach the student to evaluate and trim the horse's hoof and develop a working knowledge of corrective farrier techniques.

Scope and Objectives:

- Safety for the farrier will be stressed at all times. Students will learn low-stress animal handling techniques designed to protect the farrier and inspire confidence in the horse.
- Learn and understand hoof growth and development. Students will learn the parts of a lower limb and their function.
- To develop skills in trimming a hoof. This will include learning proper balance and angle as well as learning different trim styles.
- Recognizing the properly shod horse. Students will be exposed to the shaping of shoes and proper nailing practices.
- To recognize logical progression in dealing with hooves in problem horses. This will include dealing with challenges as they arise in young horses and correcting problems in older horses.
- To develop skills regarding methods of restraint, their uses and proper application.

Course Format:

2 credits; Tuesday, Thursday; 3rd & 4th periods: 9:35 – 11:30AM

This course will be taught in the Farrier Teaching Area and the classroom at the UF Horse Teaching Unit.

Text:

No textbook is used in this course. Exams will cover handouts and materials covered during class hours.

Grading:**Participation and Progress****50% Total Grade**

1. Participation in the discussion and hands-on activities are essential in this course. This will be based on observations by the instructor and teaching assistants.

- **Attendance and Participation for Labs Attended = 5 points maximum per lab; 130 points maximum per semester**

Level of Participation in Lab	Points Possible
Attended lab and participated freely and volunteered without hesitation with outstanding attendance	5
Attended lab, but student had to be asked to participate on a regular basis	4
Attended lab, but slow to participate and had to be strongly encouraged to be involved with multiple absences	3
Attended lab, but often did not participate	2
Attended lab, but failed to participate	1
Did not attend lab	0

Each day students will be graded on a 0 – 5 scale following the rubric above. A minimum of zero points will be assigned to students on labs they fail to attend and a maximum of 5 points will be assigned to students who attended and participated freely in that week's lab. After each lab, students will receive notice of their lab score so they have the opportunity to improve their score in subsequent labs. A maximum of 145 total points may be used to calculate a student's lab grade for attendance and participation throughout the semester. With approximately 29 labs per semester, this will allow for two dropped lab grades in the case of an absence(s). If a student has more than 2 absences for excused absences or emergencies consistent with university policies, then the student must make arrangements with the instructor for make-up assignments or assessments as soon as possible.

Three Videos & summaries**20% Total Grade**

You will watch three videos on some aspect of Horseshoeing or Farrier Science. These may be how-to videos, lameness therapy related or conformational correction videos. You may get a video from your instructor or find one on the internet. Please indicate your source in your summary. You will then write a one-page evaluation of the video and your critique of its effectiveness.

All three video summaries are due by April 17th.

Three 20-point quizzes

Quiz Dates 2/13, 3/27, 4/17

30% Total Grade

A = 90-100%

B + = 85-89.9%

B = 80-84.9%

C + = 75-79.9%

C = 70-74.9%

D + = 65-69.9%

D = 60-64.9%

E = <60%

Class Attendance

This course requires a large time commitment to achieve proficiency with tools and the horse's hoof. If you are unable to make this commitment, do not take this course. If you must miss a scheduled class, permission must be received in advance. Absence due to illness will require written verification from the University Health Center or your doctor. No make-up times are provided for course time missed.

Risk Associated with the Use of Livestock

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

GRADES AND GRADE POINTS

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Attendance and Make-Up Work

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/>.

Online Course Evaluation Process

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. 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.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

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 (e.g. 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>.

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.

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

0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/>

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*
 Counseling Services
 Groups and Workshops
 Outreach and
 Consultation Self-Help
 Library Wellness
 Coaching
- U Matter We Care, www.umatter.ufl.edu/
- *Career Connections Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, <https://career.ufl.edu/>.*
- Student Success Initiative, <http://studentsuccess.ufl.edu>.

Student Complaints:

- Residential Course: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>.
- Online Course: <https://pfs.tnt.aa.ufl.edu/state-authorization-status/#student-complaint>

Course Fee- This course carries a course fee of \$344.96 in addition to tuition.



DATE	Topic
Tu 1/14	Syllabus review, Getting to know your tools, trimming vs shoeing & why
Th 1/16	Evaluating two-year-old horses with Bruce Martin
Tu 1/21	Safety around the horse, Getting under a horse comfortably
Th 1/23	Developing skill with a hoof knife – making shavings in the classroom
Tu 1/28	Getting under a horse, using a rasp
Th 1/30	Getting under a horse, using a rasp – what about a hoof stand?
Tu 2/4	Familiarity with Hoof Nippers
Th 2/6	<i>No Class NCBA Convention</i>
Tu 2/11	Dead legs and trimming
Th 2/13	Balance for the broodmare, athlete, pasture ornament
Tu 2/18	Trimming live horses
Th 2/20	Trimming live horses
Tu 2/25	Horse Shoes, types and application, nails
Th 2/27	Shaping cold shoes
Tu 3/4	Fire up the forges
Th 3/6	Fire up the forges
Tu 3/11	Fire up the forges
Th 3/13	Lameness evaluation via video
Tu 3/18	<i>No Class – Spring Break</i>
Th 3/20	<i>No Class – Spring Break</i>
Tu 3/25	ESC trip to look at foals
Th 3/27	Evaluating hoof growth in yearlings
Tu 4/1	Laminitis, White Line
Th 4/3	Defects and injuries or Forge work
Tu 4/8	Lameness diagnosis and evaluation with Michael Porter DVM at PhD Veterinary Services Clinic Newberry, FL https://www.phdveterinaryservices.com/
Th 4/10	Trim live horses
Tu 4/15	Trim a dead leg, shape a shoe to it
Th 4/17	Nail a shoe on a dead leg
Tu 4/22	<i>Last Day of Class – Farrier Breakfast</i>