

Horse Care and Grooming

ANS 4231

1 credit

Spring 2025

Section GRM

Lecture

**Designated Wednesdays
3:15-4:30 pm**

Field Work

**Flex schedule
2 days per week.**

Location

**Horse Teaching Unit
1934 SW 63rd Ave
Gainesville, FL 32611**



Course Description

Grooming and care of horses is a significant part of horse ownership and the least considered when most people purchase their first horse. This course emphasizes the time commitment and effort required to own and care for the normal horse. Course content will include safety around horses, understanding general psychology and horsemanship, horse identification, basic nutrition, stabling, and grooming.

Objectives

Practicum courses offer hands on approaches to skills development and improvement that is founded on the science of actual production models. During this course you will develop and adapt the following skills:

The general objectives of this course will provide a basic working foundation that:

- Build foundational basic-safe horse handling and horsemanship skills.
- Improves confidence in handling and basic care needs of horses such as catching, haltering, leading, bathing, and handling feet.
- Provides an introductory look at basics of owning a horse including feeding, grooming, and general foot care.

Your Professor's

Justin Callaham
459-210E ANS Building
352-294-6754
callaham@ufl.edu
Office Hours: Before or
after class at HTU or by
appointment.



Angela Chandler
Horse Teaching Unit
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angelachandler@ufl.edu
Office Hours: Before or
after class or by
appointment.



Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be expected to demonstrate the following outcomes,

- Identify the purpose and proper haltering techniques of nylon/leather and rope halters.
- Safely catch, halter, and lead/handle the horse.
- Safely turn a horse loose back into the pasture.
- Demonstrate effective grooming and foot care techniques.
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills when dealing with the troublesome horse.
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of horse colors and markings.
- Demonstrate proper stable care needs of horses in a barn.

Weekly Requirements

Students are expected to care for a horse 2X per week for the duration of the semester.

Routine Care Requirements:

- Curry, brush body, brush mane and tail each day.
- Inspect horses for wounds and illness.
- Pick out feet and apply foot treatments as needed.
- Apply topicals and fly spray as needed.
- Clean stalls.
- Feed, hay, and water horses.

Course Policies

- Practicums are work experience classes that **may require you to work independently or with limited supervision at times**. Students will meet bi-weekly to evaluate their skills development with instructors and discuss any individual concerns.
- Communication is very important. If you have any questions or problems, please reach out to your instructors as soon as possible.
- Due to **course scheduling constraints**, students are allowed **1 shift swap during the semester**. All other requests will need to be evaluated as a university absence.
- Class begins promptly at the designated start times. Students will be marked absent if more than 10 minutes late. Students with course conflicts should notify an instructor as soon as possible if you have an issue.
- **Appropriate attire** is required for the safe handling of young horses. This includes long denim pants that cover the ankles, short/long sleeve shirt, leather type work boot that covers the ankles.
- In the event of **inclement weather**, please check the “Announcements” section of Canvas to see if there has been any adjustment to the class meeting schedule. Weather conditions change rapidly, and last-minute class cancellations may occur based on rain and lightning events. Any cancellation will be sent with at least 30 minutes notice.

Working with Livestock

Working with livestock will require students to adhere to handling practices provided by the instructor either in written or verbal format. Animals are capable of injuring people, especially when they are in the flight or fight mode inspired by a stressful situation. The instructor will work to provide students with the ability to manage livestock with minimal stress, thus lowering the risk of injury to people and animals.

Course Schedule and Attendance

- Horse Care Days – Shift Requirements

Term	Credit	Weekly Attendance Requirement
Spring	1	• 2 SHIFTS PER WEEK

- This course utilizes a flex schedule for weekly horse care requirements of assigned horses. **Students are required to attend 2X per week to take care of an assigned horse(s).** Students may sign up for shifts in Canvas. Once students choose their individual schedule, this schedule will be observed for the remainder of the semester.
- First Orientation will be held on January 15th, 3:15-4:30 pm.
- All other orientation meetings will be held on designated Wednesdays (**to be announced**), 3:15-4:30 pm.
- Class grade will be **lowered one +/- letter grade with excessive unexcused absences (>2)**. Excused absences are consistent with university policy and require appropriate documentation. Confirmed illnesses, family emergencies, military/jury duty, religious observances, and university-sponsored events will be excused with proper documentation. For each of these instances, you must (1) provide written documentation from an authority (such as a doctor's note, commanding officer, published obituary, etc) and (2) complete the 'Absence Documentation Form' in Canvas.

UF Handbook Link: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Class Demeanor & Dress

Students are expected to arrive on time, wearing appropriate dress, and behave in manner that is respectful. Please avoid the use of cell phones. Appropriate attire is long pants, short/long sleeve shirt, closed toed shoes - preferably made of leather and no dangling jewelry. Students arriving in flip flops or other open toed shoes will be sent home.

Important Dates

January 13	Spring classes begin
January 15	First Class Day / First Orientation (3:15 PM @ HTU) – Horse and Farm Safety Orientation
January 20	MLK Holiday – No Class
January 21	Regular Horse Care Days Begin @ 7:30 AM Shifts
February 5	Farrier Skills Discussion
TBD	Third Orientation
TBD	Fourth Orientation
April 18	End regular horse care days.
April 21 - 25	No class this week.

Grading Scale	Letter	Percentage
	A	95 – 100
	A –	90 – 94.9
	B +	87 – 89.9
	B	83 – 86.9
	B –	80 – 82.9
	C +	77 – 79.9
	C	74 – 76.9
	C –	70 – 73.9
	D +	67 – 69.9
	D	64 – 65.9
	D –	60 – 63.9
	F	< 60

Grading

Evaluation	% of Grade
<p>Class participation is expected. Students must attend 2 horse care shifts per week. Attendance is worth 50 points per week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the event a student must miss class, notify Mr. Callaham or Ms. Chandler before the absence. Only 1 shift swap permitted for term. There will be no makeup days offered in this course. Class grade will be lowered one letter grade with excessive unexcused absences (>3) Excused absences are consistent with university policy. <p>Link to UF Catalog Attendance Policies https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/#religiousholidaystext</p>	60%
Assignments and Practical's	15%
<p>Class Orientation Meetings</p> <p>This course will meet on the following Thursdays for group orientations and discussions relevant to horse safety, farrier skills, tractor driving boot camp, etc.</p>	25%

Excused Absence Policy

Excused absences are consistent with university policy. Confirmed illnesses, family emergencies, military/jury duty, religious observances, and university-sponsored events will be excused with proper documentation. For each of these instances, you must provide written documentation from an authority (such as a doctor's note, commanding officer, published obituary, etc). Link to university policy

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/#religiousholidaystext>

In Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Campus Assistance Resources

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

Health and Wellness Resources

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

University Police Department: [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road,

Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.](#)

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.](#)

On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process.](#)

If you are having problems comprehending lecture and (or) lab material or have other academic, university, or personal issues that are affecting your academic performance, please feel free to visit with the instructors to address the problem(s). Please do not wait until the end of the semester to address any difficulties you may be having.