

TECHNIQUES IN EQUINE SCIENCE

ANS 3239L FALL, 2020

INSTRUCTORS

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TEACHING ASSISTANTS

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course. In response to COVID-19, many policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our class time interactions. See the COVID-19 Safety Plan for those details.

ANS3239L is designed to teach the knowledge, horseback, and management skills required for proper daily horse care and conditioning. Designed for those seeking employment requiring basic horse care skills and for novice horse owners. Students will participate in a series of laboratory activities to increase their knowledge of equine behavior and horsemanship. A third of the semester will involve practical equitation.

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.
- This course will teach horse tack and equipment selection and care.
- Students will develop the base skills needed to tack, mount and ride a horse.

COURSE FORMAT

- All classes meet at the UF Horse Teaching Unit, 1934 SW 63rd Ave, (click for directions)
- 2 credits: two labs per week
- Tuesday and Thursday: 6th -7th period (12:50-2:45) –OR– 8th- 9th period (3:00-4:55)
- Students will receive credit for attendance and active participation in the class. There will be 3 quizzes and a practicum. The practicum will include only non-riding skills.

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%
- 24-28 hrs late -40%
- >48 hrs late will not be accepted

GRADING

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Attendance, participation and progress (progress & skills will be monitored daily). | 40 pts. |
| Practicum – handling horse and preparing to ride (not riding skills). | 10 pts. |
| Three 10-point quizzes. | 30 pts. |
| ▪ Each quiz will cover material presented in previous classes or from hand-outs. | |
| Two 10-point reports on articles or videos regarding some aspect of Horsemanship. | <u>20 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% | |

GRADES AND GRADE POINTS

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.

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 and listserv. There is no specific textbook for this class.

SCHEDULE*

| | | Topic | Instructor/Guest |
|----------|--------------|---|--|
| T | 9/1 | Basic behavior, catching, haltering, safety around the horse | <i>DeVito, McQuagge</i> |
| R | 9/3 | Leading, tying (learn knots), basic grooming | <i>DeVito, McQuagge</i> |
| T | 9/8 | Identification & parts of tack, Saddle fitting, cleaning, storage of tack | <i>DeVito, McQuagge</i> |
| R | 9/10 | Horse Health | <i>Dr. Natalie Lamneck</i> |
| T | 9/15 | Hoof trimming and evaluation of a proper shoeing job | <i>Mr. Bruce Martin</i> |
| R | 9/17 | Nutrition, Feeding, and Feedstuffs | <i>Bissinger, DeVito</i> |
| T | 9/22 | Aging by teeth Quiz | <i>Mr. Rodney Rowles</i> |
| R | 9/24 | Trailer safety, loading, driving | <i>McQuagge, DeVito</i> |
| T | 9/29 | Daily horse care management: weight, first aid, stall cleaning, etc. | <i>Team</i> |
| R | 10/1 | Gaits; Recognition/demonstration of various styles of riding: Hunter, Western, Dressage | <i>Katy Bissinger, Alyssa Ohmstede, Jill Bobel</i> |
| T | 10/6 | Proper tacking up procedure | <i>Team</i> |
| R | 10/8 | Lunging of the horse and the lunge ring | <i>Team</i> |
| T | 10/13 | Lunging of a horse, use of line and lunge whip Quiz | <i>Team</i> |
| R | 10/15 | Proper mounting and dismounting; Rider on the lunge | <i>Team</i> |
| T | 10/20 | Rider on the lunge | <i>Team</i> |
| R | 10/22 | Rider on the lunge. | <i>Team</i> |
| T | 10/27 | Rider in the lunge pens. | <i>Team</i> |
| R | 10/29 | Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides | <i>DeVito/McQuagge</i> |
| T | 11/3 | Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides | <i>DeVito/McQuagge</i> |
| R | 11/5 | Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides | <i>DeVito/McQuagge</i> |
| T | 11/10 | Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides Quiz | <i>DeVito/McQuagge</i> |
| R | 11/12 | Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides | <i>DeVito/McQuagge</i> |
| T | 11/17 | Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides | <i>DeVito/McQuagge</i> |
| R | 11/19 | Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides | <i>DeVito/McQuagge</i> |
| T | 11/24 | Practicum | <i>DeVito/McQuagge</i> |
| R | 11/26 | <i>Thanksgiving Break - No Class</i> | ---- |
| T | 12/1 | Horse judging and evaluation | <i>Ohmstede</i> |
| R | 12/3 | Restraint & handling techniques for vet, farrier visits, clipping etc. | <i>McQuagge</i> |
| T | 12/8 | Class wrap-up | <i>DeVito</i> |

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

CRITICAL DATES

Tests dates (quizzes and practicums) are bolded in the schedule above. Two reports will be assigned with their due dates announced at least a week ahead of time.

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, they will be asked to turn off their device.

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.bluera.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.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

U Matter, We Care

If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575, or visit <https://umatter.ufl.edu/> to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/>, 392-1575; for information on crisis and non-crisis services. Provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students

Student Health Care Center – Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>.

University Police Department

392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies)

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

E-learning technical support

352-392-4357 or e-mail to helpdesk@ufl.edu, <https://elearning.ufl.edu/keep-learning/quickstart-guide-for-students/> and <https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>

Career Connections Center

Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://career.ufl.edu/>

Library Support

<http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Student Complaints

On-Campus, <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-honor-code/>

Online class, <https://distance.ufl.edu/getting-help/student-complaint-process/>

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.

ANS3239L COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

FALL 2020

We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course. In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- ANS3239L will be taught in its entirety at the University of Florida Horse Teaching Unit.
- The class will meet at its designated times in the HTU classroom arena, bleachers, round-pens, or classroom.

Student and Instructor Requirements:

- **Face Coverings:** Students and Instructors will supply their own face coverings to be worn at all times while in enclosed spaces or the classroom. If the student forgets their face covering, then one may be provided by the instructors if available. If one is not available, then the student will be asked to leave. Keep in mind that spare facemasks may be difficult to obtain at the HTU.
- **Social Distancing:** Social distancing must be observed at all times – this is defined as maintaining a minimum physical distance of 6 feet between individuals (this includes students, their peers, teaching assistants, and instructors). Students may only sit in designated seating at any time in the classroom and must sit at least 6' apart while on the bleachers.
In instances where an instructor or teaching assistant must breach the social distancing barrier to assist with hands-on instruction, the student and instructor/TA should not pose a public health safety risk due to other public health requirements being employed (mandatory face coverings, hand washing/sanitizing, etc.). Breaching the social distance barrier will only be done when absolutely necessary and for the minimum period of time required to accomplish the learning objective and/or keep the student safe while handling horses or equipment.
- **Hand Washing/Sanitizing:** On arrival to the HTU, students should wash their hands for a minimum of 20 seconds. When handwashing stations are not available, hand sanitizer will be used instead. Additionally, hand washing or sanitizing will occur between uses of shared equipment during the lab. Hand sanitizer stations are located at key points at the HTU, but students are strongly encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer for personal use.
- **Entering/Exiting Teaching Area:** Students will enter via the pathway on the north side of the arena between the riding arena and the classroom, stopping at the restroom on that entrance to wash their hands. Class will meet in the bleachers facing the arena unless otherwise instructed. If the classroom is used, students will enter the north door and exit via the south (stall area) door.
- **Illness:** If a student, TA, or Instructor does not feel well and/or is running a fever or displaying any other symptoms of illness, they are NOT to attend class in person. Please see contingency plans for student or instructor illness for more information.

Cleaning Procedures:

- **Classroom:** Instructors and/or TAs will clean classroom surfaces and equipment as needed prior to students arriving for each class section. Sanitizing supplies will be available in the classroom if students wish to wipe down their area prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.

- **Equipment:** Shared equipment will be sanitized between student uses when possible. Some shared items (halters/leads, grooming supplies, tack, etc.) cannot be sanitized between student uses, so students should wash/sanitize their hands before and after use of such equipment.
- **Helmets:** During the riding portion, students will be assigned their own helmet to be stored in the HTU lockers. Students are responsible for cleaning their assigned helmet. UF helmets may not leave the HTU property and must be stored in a student's assigned locker.

Contingency Plans:

- **Student Illness:** If students are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([CDC: symptoms](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. Students experiencing symptoms are NOT to attend class in person. Instead, they will be provided with the information shared and given alternative assignments. ([UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms.](#))
- **Instructor Illness:** If an instructor or teaching assistant does not feel well and/or is running a fever or displaying other symptoms of illness, they will not attend class in person. In the event one instructor becomes sick, for any reason, and cannot attend the class session, the other instructor will teach with the help of the assigned teaching assistants. If the instructor needs additional assistance teaching the class, healthy faculty and graduate students with subject matter expertise for lab material will be used. Likewise, if both instructors are unable to teach for health reasons, faculty and graduate students will be asked to teach within their subject matter expertise. Alternatively, if none of these options are available, contingency material can be used to accomplish learning objectives.
- **Inclement Weather:** This class will meet at the HTU during all weather conditions, with the exception of the university closing for hurricane preparedness.
- **Cancellation of In-person Instruction:** In the event in-person instruction is cancelled by UF at any time during the semester, the use of contingency material via Canvas will be used to accomplish learning objectives.
- **Recorded video:** If contingency material includes use of videos sessions, those sessions may be audio/visually recorded for students in the class to refer back. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

Resource Links:

Student Behavior Expectations

<https://policy.ufl.edu/policy/student-behavioral-expectations-in-response-to-covid-19/>

Student Success Initiative – <https://studentsuccess.ufl.edu>

UF IT Self-help for getting connected – <https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/self-help>

New UF Apps – <https://news.it.ufl.edu/education/new-applications-available-in-ufapps>

TECHNIQUES IN EQUINE SCIENCE

CLASS GUIDELINES – FALL, 2020

- 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 laboratory sessions. Flip-flops, sandals, bare midriffs, spaghetti-strap tops, shorts, short skirts and clothing that insufficiently covers your undergarments are specifically prohibited. Hats must be removed in the classroom and during quizzes or exams.
- By October 6, students will need to have some sort of boots to work closely with the horses and ride. Example options will be shown in the first class.
- Cell phones must remain powered off and stored during class unless specifically permitted for an activity or assignment. Cell phones should not be used when in close proximity to horses – your attention needs to be on the horse and surroundings. When appropriate, phones may be used for photos as long as it does not interfere with or disrupt the class. However, class time should not be spent sharing those photos or interacting on social media.
- Students may bring a change of clothes and use the restrooms/locker rooms before class. Students may also bring a lock for a locker to keep a change of clothes/shoes at the HTU. Everyone will be assigned a helmet to use which should be stored in his/her locker.
- The riding portion of this course is physically demanding and requires that students be able to mount horses unaided and maintain balance while riding.
- 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.
- As much of the class period as possible will be spent under roof. However, be prepared for spending the period outside if necessary. The lunging and early riding classes will be outside in full sun in the round pens.

Some safety & behavior references:

- <https://horses.extension.org/ground-handling-horses-safely/> (series of videos)

Both of the documents below are on Canvas, but here is the direct online source:

- https://horses.extension.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Horseback_Riding_Safety_Brochure.pdf
- <https://4-h.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/UnderstandingHorseBehavior.pdf>

Dress code adopted from Equine Health Management Course, ANS 3217