

# TECHNIQUES IN EQUINE SCIENCE

## ANS 3239L FALL, 2021

### INSTRUCTORS

Ms. Wendy DeVito  
231 Animal Science Bldg.  
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Office Hours: M,W 3-5 PM

Other Emergency contacts: HTU Main: 376-0562, Arena: 294-RIDE, Arena Office: 294-2276

Mr. Joel McQuagge  
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### TEACHING ASSISTANTS

6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> period: Gracie Wagner  
[gwagner1@ufl.edu](mailto:gwagner1@ufl.edu)

8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> period: TBD

### 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, care, and use.
- 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%
- 24-48 hrs late         -40%
- >48 hrs late            will not be accepted

## GRADING

Attendance, participation, and progress (progress & skills will be monitored daily).	40 pts.
▪ <i>There are 29 class meetings to convert to 40 points. Therefore, each class is worth ~1 1/3 points of the final grade.</i>	
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.

# CLASS GUIDELINES

## PHYSICAL AND TIME COMMITMENTS

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. Some lunging and early riding classes may be outside in full sun in the round pens.

## ATTIRE

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. Flip-flops, sandals, bare midriffs, spaghetti-strap tops, shorts, and short skirts are specifically prohibited. Furthermore, as representatives of this class, our department, and our university you are expected to always dress and act in a professional manner.

**By September 23, 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.

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.

**Helmets:** During the riding portion, students will wear protective helmets. A variety of sizes of helmets are available at the HTU for student use, and students will be shown how to select the appropriate size. You are welcome to bring your own certified equestrian helmet if you have one.

## MORE ON CELL PHONES

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 nor interacting on social media. When only portions of the class are working, the remainder are expected to watch and remain engaged, not retreat to their cell phones.

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# COVID POLICIES

## OVERVIEW

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.

We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the hands-on learning objectives of this course. If you cannot attend this class face-to-face due to geographic and/or health limitations, you should unenroll from this class until you are in the Gainesville area and comfortable taking face-to-face courses. 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.

## FACE COVERINGS AND PHYSICAL DISTANCING

**Students and Instructors should follow the most current university policies on face coverings** which are based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. We expect these policies to shift as the semester progresses, and our class policies/expectations will shift with them. At the beginning of the semester, that policy is that **we expect everyone to wear a mask at all times when inside any UF facility**, even if you are vaccinated. This includes our students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Students are expected to provide their own face coverings.

**Physical distancing during class is encouraged when possible.** Physical distancing is appropriate when meeting outdoors where masks may be removed.

## 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. Instead, students will need to notify the instructors as soon as possible for alternative instructional options.

If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. [Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms.](#)

Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. [Find more information in the university attendance policies.](#)

## CLEANING PROCEDURES

**Hand Washing/Sanitizing:** You will have the option to wash your hands or use hand sanitizer at the start of each lab and between uses of shared equipment. 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.

**Classroom:** Sanitizing supplies will be available in the classroom (or teaching area) 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. Many 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.

## 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.

## 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](mailto: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 at no cost for currently enrolled students.

#### \*GatorWell Health Promotion Services

<https://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu/>, 352-273-4450; Prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success.

#### \*Student Health Care Center

<https://shcc.ufl.edu/>, 352-392-1161; for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need.

\***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](mailto: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/>

#### \*Student Complaints

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

#### \*Teaching Center: Broward Hall

<https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

#### \*Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall

<https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>, 352-846-1138  
Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

## 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
T	8/24	Basic behavior, catching, haltering, safety around the horse.	DeVito, McQuagge
R	8/26	Leading, tying (learn knots), basic grooming.	DeVito, McQuagge
T	8/31	Equine Identification & Gaits	DeVito, McQuagge
R	9/2	Identification & parts of tack, Saddle fitting, cleaning, storage of tack.	DeVito, McQuagge
T	9/7	Horse judging and evaluation	Alyssa Ohmstede
R	9/9	Aging by teeth	Mr. Rodney Rowles
<b>T</b>	<b>9/14</b>	Trailer safety, loading, driving <b>Quiz</b>	McQuagge/ Chandler
R	9/16	Hoof trimming and evaluation of a proper shoeing job.	Mr. Bruce Martin
T	9/21	Nutrition, Feeding, and Feedstuffs	Bissinger, DeVito
R	9/23	Horse health	Dr. Natalie Lamneck
T	9/28	Daily horse care and management: weight, first aid, stall cleaning, etc.	Team
R	9/30	Restraint & handling techniques for vet, farrier visits, clipping etc.	McQuagge
<b>T</b>	<b>10/5</b>	Recognition/demonstration of various styles of riding: Hunter, Dressage, Western. <b>Quiz</b>	Katy Bissinger, Alyssa Ohmstede, Jill Bobel
R	10/7	Proper tacking up procedure.	Team
T	10/12	Lunging of a horse, use of line and lunge whip.	Team
R	10/14	Lunging of the horse and the lunge ring.	Team
T	10/19	Proper mounting and dismounting; Rider on the lunge.	Team
R	10/21	Rider on the lunge.	Team
T	10/26	Rider on the lunge.	Team
R	10/28	Rider in the lunge pen.	Team
<b>T</b>	<b>11/2</b>	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides <b>(Article assignment #1 due)</b>	DeVito/McQuagge
<b>R</b>	<b>11/4</b>	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides <b>Quiz</b>	DeVito/McQuagge
T	11/9	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides	DeVito/McQuagge
R	11/11	<i>Veterans Day – No class</i>	
<b>T</b>	<b>11/16</b>	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides	DeVito/McQuagge
<b>R</b>	<b>11/18</b>	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides <b>(Article assignment #2 due)</b>	DeVito/McQuagge
T	11/23	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides	DeVito/McQuagge
R	11/25	<i>Thanksgiving Break – No Class</i>	
T	11/30	Arena – Improving seat, hands, use of aides	DeVito/McQuagge
<b>R</b>	<b>12/2</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	DeVito/McQuagge
T	12/7	Horseback games or Farm/trail ride; Pictures	DeVito/McQuagge

\*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

Test dates (quizzes and practicums) and assignment due dates are bolded in the schedule above. Even if topics have to be rearranged, these critical dates should remain the same (unless UF-wide schedule changes).