

Horse Psychology and Training

ANS4218L

COURSE SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR

Mr. Joel McQuagge

210B Bldg 459

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mcquagge@ufl.edu

OFFICE HOURS

My schedule varies week to week, but I am typically in the office Mon. and Wed. from 8:00 – 11:00. You may also call for an appointment or see me before class at the HTU.

Department Chair

Dr. John Arthington

100 Animal Sciences Building
392-1911

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Ms. Kacie Geelhoed

Ms. Tara Townsend

COURSE DESCRIPTION

ANS4218L allows students an in-depth examination into the methods by which horses communicate, learn and are trained.

Students will be assigned a yearling or two-year-old. Horses will be trained to lead, tie, longe, drive, trailer load and accept handling for routine management practices. These horses will also be started under saddle and bridle, receive first rides and be carried as far as time and expertise will allow.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Upon completion of this course students will be able to formulate a system of logical progression in a training program.
- Students will have a stronger ability to evaluate a horse's personality and develop a training program to fit that personality for positive equine learning outcomes.
- This course will help students learn to adjust an individual training session, when necessary, as it progresses.
- Students will learn visual communication and the importance of body language when dealing with horses.
- Students will learn techniques to develop mutual respect with a horse.
- Students will develop the basic skills necessary for starting a horse under saddle in a safe and positive manner.

COURSE FORMAT

Support materials will be presented by instructors and discussed with students during Monday lecture/demonstrations. M, W, F, students will work hands-on with their horse. The class will gather as needed to problem solve with individual horse and riders. All types/styles of training are open for discussion.

This course is 3 credits.

SCHEDULE

Lecture- Monday 8th per. 3:00-3:50

Labs- Monday 9th per. 4:05-4:55

W, F, 8th & 9th per 3:00-4:55 Horse Teaching Unit

CLASS ATTENDANCE & EXPECTATIONS

This course requires a large time commitment in order to achieve goals with your horse. 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.

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. 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.

PREREQUISITES

Students must be able to demonstrate substantial previous riding experience.

TEXT

Principles and Techniques of Horse Training and Management (S.P. Webb, C.A.)

Evidence-Based Horsemanship

(S. Peters & M. Black)

Hand-outs will also be utilized

EQUIPMENT

All horses will be started in a Western saddle & bridle provided by the University. Once well started, your horse may be ridden with an English saddle. ***The University will provide riding helmets or students may provide their personal helmets.***

2021 Important Dates

No Class

Labor Day 9/6

Veteran's day 11/11

Thanksgiving 11/24-27

Last day of class

12/8

GRADING

Participation and Progress

40% 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; 215 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 instances	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 285 total points may be used to calculate a student's lab grade for attendance and participation throughout the semester. With approximately 57 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.

Stall maintenance	5% Total grade	A=90-100%	C=70-74.9%
Four 20-point quizzes	40% Total grade	B+=85-89.9%	D+=65-69.9%
Training Journals	15% Total Grade	B=80-84.9%	D=60-64.9%
		C+=75-79.9%	E=<60%
Total	100%		

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades>

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

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 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 ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

University Honesty Policy

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://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-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.

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. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html>

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), [or http://www.police.ufl.edu/](http://www.police.ufl.edu/).

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.
<https://www.crc.ufl.edu/>.

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

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
<https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

Student Complaints Campus:
https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf.

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>

DATE	Lecture / Demo Topics
Aug. 23 & 30	Facility Tour, Course overview, Pictures, Safely handling horses in training Equine Communication and presentation of cues
Sept. 6	No Class– Labor Day
Sept. 13	Haltering & Tying, Training to the Walker Sensitizing, Desensitizing and Sacking Out
Sept. 20	Quiz Wash Rack, Handling Feet, Handling Ears, More Sensitization & Desensitization
Sept. 27	The Longe Line and Lateral Longeing – yielding the head, hips & shoulders; sidepass
Oct. 4	Trailer Loading Sidepass to the fence to accept rider
Oct. 11	Clippers Developing a Positive Learning Attitude Behavior Modification and Methods of Reinforcement
Oct. 18	Quiz Round Pen Training
Oct. 25	Saddle Fit and Saddling the Green Horse
Nov. 1	Saddling green horses, Bridling a young horse
Nov. 8	Bitting and Driving
Nov. 15	Quiz Bitting and driving or mounting and first rides
Nov. 22	No Class – Veterans Day
Nov. 29	Mounting and First Rides
Dec. 6	Quiz Rein Aids, Yielding the face under saddle Online Course Evaluation

- 4218L will be taught in its entirety at the University of Florida Horse Teaching Unit.
- The class will meet for Lecture/demonstration on Mondays from 3:00 to 4:00 in the HTU classroom, arena, bleacher seating, round-pens or Farrier Teaching area.
- Students will work with their horses on Mondays from 4:00 to 4:55 and Wednesday, Fridays from 3:00 to 4:55.
- If the instructor is absent due to illness, the teaching assistants and Farm manager will direct the class.
- Students missing class for health-related reasons will receive an excused absence in accordance with UF guidelines.
- This class will meet at the HTU during all-weather excepting the closure of the university for hurricane preparedness.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class.
- 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.
- This course involves time some spent independently with your horse. Success is achieved through focusing on your horse's needs at that moment in their life. Please train yourself to leave distractions in the parking-lot and you will find immense satisfaction in your horse's progress.

