ANS4079C is a lecture with laboratory course focusing on the anatomical and biological features that enable horses to be exceptional athletes.

This class will cover three areas: [1] conformation & selection of the equine athlete; [2] anatomy and physiology of key body systems and their response to training; and [3] conditioning programs to achieve fitness.

Course fee = $65.36.

**prerequisites**

Before taking this course, you must have:
- ✓ ANS 3043 Growth and Development
- ✓ Or, APK 2100C Human Anatomy

**learning objectives**

1) Appraise the horse’s conformation and predict how it will affect biomechanics of movement and the horse’s suitability for different sports.

2) Identify key anatomical structures and describe the relationship between structure and function.

3) Explain the integration of the equine musculo-skeletal, cardio-respiratory, and thermoregulatory systems during exercise and how these systems adapt to training.

4) Evaluate the horse’s physical fitness and design sport-specific conditioning programs to optimize performance.

5) Communicate with peers and industry professionals using correct anatomical, physiological, & veterinary terminology.

**course description**

ANS4079C is a lecture with laboratory course focusing on the anatomical and biological features that enable horses to be exceptional athletes.

This class will cover three areas: [1] conformation & selection of the equine athlete; [2] anatomy and physiology of key body systems and their response to training; and [3] conditioning programs to achieve fitness.

Course fee = $65.36.

**what’s in this syllabus?**

- class meeting time
- course description
- instructor & TA contacts
- course format
- course requirements
- course assessments
- course resources
- grading & other course policies
- UF policies & services
- topics & important dates

**instructor**

Dr. Lori K. Warren
office: ANS Suite 210, Office 210G
phone: (352) 392-1957
email: LKWarren@ufl.edu

**teaching assistants**

Lab ‘A’ – Dr. Jill Bobel Lance
email: jbrides2@ufl.edu

Lab ‘B’ – Micah Green
email: micahgreen@ufl.edu

**office hours**

- By appointment. Contact your lab TA or Dr. Warren using email or CANVAS messaging.
- Meetings may take place in-person or via Zoom conference.

**Bulldog Hanover** is the fastest Standardbred pacer of all time, breaking the world record with a time of 1:45.4 minutes in the one-mile William R. Haughton Memorial in 2022. He was recently retired to stud at age 4, with a career record of 28:4:1 out of 37 starts and earnings of nearly $2.8 million.
course structure & format

This course consists of both lecture and lab sessions, all of which require in-person attendance. When possible, alternate accommodations will be provided for students with a valid absence (see the Attendance, Makeup and Late Work policy on page 4 of this syllabus).

The schedule of lectures and lab sessions can be found in several locations:
1) Syllabus: Course Schedule (page 6)
2) CANVAS > Schedule 2023
3) CANVAS > Modules (organized by topic)
4) Weekly summary of activities on the CANVAS homepage (note this is not viewable on your mobile phone).

lectures

Lectures will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:45am – 12:35pm in Room 156 of Animal Sciences.

Lectures will consist of traditional content delivery along with some group discussions and activities. In some cases, you will be asked to watch videos or read an article BEFORE a class session.

A Zoom option for lectures will NOT be available, nor will lectures be recorded by the instructor for later viewing. So, it is very important to attend each class. If you are absent without a valid excuse, it is your responsibility to seek notes from a classmate.

course requirements

engage in learning – learning about the horse’s body (anatomy) and how it works (physiology) can be fascinating while also providing knowledge essential for most careers in the industry. This course will involve reading, writing, group work, creativity, and outside effort. The study of anatomy requires memorization; you will need to study lecture and supplemental materials outside of class and put in consistent effort throughout the semester.

To get the most out of this course, attend lectures & labs, engage in discussions with your peers, ask questions, explore materials provided on CANVAS, take advantage of opportunities offered, get dirty, and get help before getting too far behind!

labs

Labs will be held on Wednesday afternoons. There are 2 lab sections:
- **LAB A** (#10455) – Wed 1:55-3:50pm
  - Will start promptly at 2:00pm
- **LAB B** (#26681) – Wed 4:05-6:00pm
  - Will start promptly at 4:10pm

You must attend the lab section you are enrolled in, unless other arrangements have been made with Dr. Warren ahead of time. Plan on each lab lasting the entire 1-hr 50-min session scheduled.

Most labs will be held at the Horse Teaching Unit (Google Maps link). Lab start time will be delayed by 5 minutes to allow additional time to get to the HTU.

Many labs involve work with horses, which can exhibit unpredictable behavior that can cause serious bodily harm. Pay attention. Seek guidance if you are uncomfortable or unsure when working with horses.

Dress appropriately. Open-toe shoes are NOT allowed. Boots are preferred, but athletic shoes can suffice. Labs may be messy (eg, tissue fluids, blood, paint, horse slobber): avoid wearing clothes or exposing a lot of flesh that you don’t want damaged.

Topics explored in lab will parallel those covered in lecture. Each lab will have a graded worksheet and some will require you to complete an activity BEFORE to coming to lab (see page 3 for more detail).

class etiquette …and safety

- Avoid electronic distractions. Silence your phone during class. Use your laptop or tablet to take notes or complete lab worksheets, not to check social media or surf the ‘Net.
- Be respectful of other students’ background, knowledge, and opinions. If you have more horse experience than your fellow students, be a helper not a hater.
- Please arrive to class on time as a courtesy to me and others.
- Dress appropriately for all labs
- Horses can exhibit unpredictable behavior that can cause serious bodily harm. Pay attention when working with horses and seek guidance if you are unsure.
- Unauthorized recording and sharing of recorded materials used in this class is prohibited. Refer to the University’s policy on recording on page 5 of this syllabus.
Secretariat is regarded as one of the greatest Thoroughbred racehorses of all time. 2023 marks the 50-year anniversary of his Triple Crown win, including the only less-than-two-minute Kentucky Derby victory and a 31-length Belmont Stakes triumph. His success on the track is attributed to his near-perfect conformation, stride biomechanics, and a heart twice the normal size.

Course assessments
Your grade for this course will be based on points earned on exams, homework projects, lab activities and weekly quizzes.

3 exams — 100 pts each. Each exam will cover one-third of the total course material. Format will consist of true/false, multiple choice, matching, short answer and essay questions. Exams will be closed book and will take place in-person during lecture meeting times and during finals week.

2 projects — 50 pts each. A summary is provided here; see CANVAS for details

Relating Form to Function [DUE Feb 13]
To reinforce the concept “form follows function,” you will develop a digital media piece (eg. video, podcast, infographic…) showcasing your favorite equine athlete and what made them excel at their sport (breed, conformation, attitude, athleticism).

Training Equine Athletes [DUE Apr 17]
Select and attend two different equine competitive events. Prepare a written report evaluating the athletic demands and how the horse should be prepared for each type of competition. A calendar of potential events will be listed on CANVAS.

Lab activities — 10 pts each. Labs will consist of live animal evaluation, dissection and study of harvested tissues, experiments, and other activities. Each lab is designed to supplement and enhance your understanding of lecture material. All labs will have graded worksheets. A paper copy of each lab worksheet will be provided to you; alternatively you can bring your tablet to work on the worksheet electronically. Keep in mind, some labs are wet/messy and it is not always easy to work with electronics around horses! Worksheets can be found on CANVAS within the specific topic module or under the Assignments link. All worksheets must be submitted through CANVAS for grading. You must scan your paper version and upload as a PDF file (eg, using a document scanning app like CamScanner). Most lab worksheets will be completed by the end of each lab session. See page 2 of this syllabus for additional information on lab structure and requirements.

Weekly quizzes — 5 pts each. Each week you will complete a 5-min, open-note quiz online in CANVAS. Quizzes will be available Mon at 1:00pm and will be due Wed at 1:00pm the same week. Once started, you have 5 min to complete the quiz

Course resources
This course has no required textbook. Instead, I have gathered some articles (both research and trade journals), videos and web links to expand on the topics covered in class. In some cases, I will ask you to review these materials prior to lecture or lab; in other cases they will serve as supplementary material. I have also listed some suggested textbooks here, which you may find useful for assignments, or if you need additional background information, or simply want to learn more about any of the topics covered during the semester. I will also post lecture notes, anatomical diagrams, and study guides that can be handy study aids

References
Below are some books that are suggested as reference material for this course:
- The Horse (magazine) www.thehorse.com A good source of health information. You can access articles for free after creating an account.

Canvas
- All course materials and communications will be hosted on CANVAS.
- https://elearning.ufl.edu/
- Check the Notifications settings for your account. Set Announcements to ‘notify me right away’ to receive timely announcements about the course.

Canvas will contain:
- Announcements
- Class Schedule
- Lecture Notes
- Articles, videos & Links
- Project Assignments
- Lab Worksheets
- Quizzes
- Your Grades
- Messaging (to contact Dr. Warren & TA)

Lecture notes
- Lecture Notes will be available for each topic in CANVAS > Modules.
- Notes are formatted as fill-in-the-blank style PDF files. They are designed to assist you with note-taking during lectures & contain many useful diagrams.
- Anything said in lecture or lab is fair game for quizzes & exams!
- Printing out notes is recommended, as it may be easier to keep pace during lectures. Alternatively, you can use your tablet or laptop to fill out notes electronically (eg, using your stylus or the ‘Comments’ function in Adobe Reader).
If you are feeling ill, limit your contact with others and contact your primary care physician, or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161.

COVID-19 testing is available through the UF Student Health Care Center.

Notify Dr. Warren of your absence as soon as you can. In most cases, a make-up assignment or exam can be scheduled. Refer to the Attendance and Makeup Work policies on this page.

What does the horse go through when training for competition? Experience it yourself!

Train to run 25 furlongs (5K or 3.1 miles) this semester and training programs such as Couch-to-5K® can prep you for a 5K race in 9 weeks!

Train to compete in the 25-furlong Derby!!

Extra Credit

What does the horse go through when training for competition? Experience it yourself!

Train to run 25 furlongs (5K or 3.1 miles) this semester and earn 20 points extra credit applied to your course grade!

Training programs such as Couch-to-5K® can prep you for a 5K race in 9 weeks!

To earn the extra credit, you must:

1) sign a commitment & release form by February 22

2) keep a training journal that documents starting & ending fitness assessments and your daily training routine (you will turn this in)

3) complete the 25-Furlong Derby on April 15 in 34 minutes or less or provide proof of completion of another sanctioned race approved by Dr. Warren in the same time limit.

For additional information and resources, go to CANVAS > Assignments.

Does a health issue prevent you from running? Discuss swimming and biking alternatives with Dr. Warren.
Heart B Dyna was the first mule to be invited to compete in the U.S. Dressage Finals. USEF has allowed mules to compete in dressage since 2004 and recently approved mules for show jumping, but not eventing.

UF 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 honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.” 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.” The Honor Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/).

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course assignments, quizzes, or exams. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any 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.

services for students with disabilities – Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers & would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. 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.

Disability Resource Center ■ 352-392-8565 ■ https://disability.ufl.edu/

online course evaluation – Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, you are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university & college criteria. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional & respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/.

You will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete your evaluations using the link in emails you receive from GatorEvals, or in CANVAS (click on GatorEvals in the course menu), or at https://ufl.bluerca.com/ufl/. Summary results of evaluations are available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results.

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. 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 UF, 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.

UF resources

health and wellness

- U Matter, We Care ■ if you or a friend is in distress, call (352) 392-1575 or email umatter@ufl.edu ■ http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/
- counselling & wellness center ■ crisis and non-crisis counseling services ■ https://counseling.ufl.edu/ ■ (352) 392-1575
- student health care center ■ (352) 392-1161 ■ https://shcc.ufl.edu/
- GatorWell health promotion ■ optimal well-being, academic coaching ■ (352) 273-4450 ■ gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu
- campus police department ■ 392-1111 ■ dial 9-1-1 for emergencies

academic resources

- e-learning technical support ■ (352) 392-4357 ■ helpdesk@ufl.edu ■ https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/
- career connections center Reitz Union ■ https://career.ufl.edu/ ■ (352) 392-1601 ■ career guidance
- library support ■ receive assistance with using libraries or finding resources ■ https://uflib.ufl.edu/find/ask/
- teaching center ■ help with general study skills and tutoring services ■ https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/
- writing studio ■ help brainstorming, formatting, & writing papers ■ (352) 846-1138 ■ writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio
- student complaints ■ to file a complaint, click here to visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code website for more information.
## course schedule*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>date</th>
<th>lecture</th>
<th>lab [+location]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – jan 9</td>
<td>course intro / amazing athletes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – jan 11</td>
<td>bone – skeletal anatomy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – jan 16</td>
<td>MLK HOLIDAY – NO CLASS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – jan 18</td>
<td>conformation – balance &amp; symmetry</td>
<td>bone anatomy [CVM]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – jan 23</td>
<td>conformation – proportions &amp; angles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – jan 25</td>
<td>conformation – limb alignment</td>
<td>balance &amp; angles [HTU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – jan 30</td>
<td>gaits / quality of movement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – feb 1</td>
<td>conformation – functional type</td>
<td>gaits / limb tracking [HTU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – feb 6</td>
<td>bone – develop. orthopedic disease</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – feb 8</td>
<td>bone – training adaptations</td>
<td>conformation [HTU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – feb 13</td>
<td>tendons and ligaments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – feb 15</td>
<td>tendons and ligaments</td>
<td>breed standards [HTU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – feb 20</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – feb 22</td>
<td>joints and osteoarthritis</td>
<td>limb dissections [HTU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – feb 27</td>
<td>the hoof</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – mar 1</td>
<td>muscle – gross anatomy</td>
<td>limb dissections [HTU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – mar 6</td>
<td>energetics of exercise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – mar 8</td>
<td>muscle – physiology</td>
<td>muscle anatomy [HTU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – mar 13</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – mar 15</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – mar 20</td>
<td>muscle – physiology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – mar 22</td>
<td>muscle – training adaptations</td>
<td>muscle biology [HTU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – mar 27</td>
<td>muscle – disorders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – mar 29</td>
<td>cardiovascular system</td>
<td>exercise testing [CVM]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – apr 3</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – apr 5</td>
<td>cardiovascular / respiratory system</td>
<td>cardio-respiratory [HTU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – apr 10</td>
<td>respiratory system</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – apr 12</td>
<td>Thermoregulation</td>
<td>thermoregulation [HTU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – apr 17</td>
<td>evaluating fitness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – apr 19</td>
<td>principles of conditioning</td>
<td>fitness evaluation [HTU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> – apr 24</td>
<td>conditioning programs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – apr 26</td>
<td>conditioning programs</td>
<td>eXtreme obstacle challenge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W</strong> – may 3</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 3 (7:30–9:30am)</strong></td>
<td><strong>ANS Rm 156</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Lecture/Lab topics and Exam/Assignment due dates are subject to change. If any changes are made, you will receive at least one week notice.

---

**Winston** is a therapy horse providing emotional, social, cognitive, and physical benefits to military veterans. Winston was recognized as the PATH International 2022 Horse of the Year.

---

**Location of labs**

- **HTU** – Horse Teaching Unit
  1934 SW 63rd Ave, Gainesville

- **ANS 151** – one lab may be held in this Animal Sciences classroom

- **CVM** – one or two labs will be at the UF vet school; however we will meet at the Animal Sciences building (outside ANS 151) and walk over to the vet school together.

The location of each lab will be announced in class and on CANVAS at the beginning of each week.

---

**Quizzes due**

- each Wed 1:00pm

**Projects due**

- **February 13**
- **April 17**

**Exams**

- **February 20**
- **April 3**
- **May 3**

**25-furlong derby**

- **February 22**
- **April 15**

---

**Important dates**

* Lecture/Lab topics and Exam/Assignment due dates are subject to change. If any changes are made, you will receive at least one week notice.