

Horse Grooming & Care
ANS 4231 Section 1G76
Location: Horse Teaching Unit
Summer A, B, & C

Instructor

Course Coordinator & Instructor:

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Instructor

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[Join My Digital Office on MS Teams](#)

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.

Considerations Prior to Enrolling

- Do I have apprehension about handling large animals? If so, schedule a time to meet with the instructor.
- Does my schedule permit me to commit to 2 periods Monday afternoon through Friday morning during the timeframes of 7:30 – 8:30 AM OR 3:30-430 PM?
- Do I have regular transportation to the **Horse Teaching Unit, 1934 SW 63rd Ave, Gainesville, FL 32608?**

Course Schedule and Attendance

- Course Credit Semester Requirements

Term	Credit	Weekly Attendance Requirement
Summer A	1	4 shifts per week
Summer B	1	4 shifts per week
Summer C	1	2 shifts per week

*Students who complete Summer A & Summer B will earn 2 credits for the summer.

- This course utilizes a flex schedule for weekly grooming and care requirements of assigned horses. *Students are required to attend 2-4 times per week to take care of an assigned horse(s).* The scheduling survey can be found at:

[Scheduling Survey Link – Click Here](#)

- Class attendance is expected. Attendance grade is based on simple calculation of points earned divided by total available points. Excused absences are consistent with university policies and require appropriate documentation submitted to the attendance date in Canvas Assignments (i.e. doctor's note, judging team travel, etc.).

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

- To receive full credit for the day, students must be at the Horse Teaching Unit for a minimum of 1 hour. Once your horse care is complete, students are free to leave.
- **Tardiness policy** – students that arrive more than 10 minutes late will receive half points for the days attendance grade. **Students arriving more than 30 minutes late** will be considered absent and given a 0 for the day's attendance grade.
- There are **4 group orientation sessions** during the semester. Students enrolled across summer semesters (i.e. Summer A&B or Summer C) only need to attend the Summer A sessions.
- This course utilizes **Microsoft Teams Shifts app to track attendance**. Students will need to download the MS Teams app to a mobile device to log attendance in the course.



Join the Team = 3wwf1ld

- **Assignments and grades will be provided through CANVAS.**
- Forgotten check-ins – if a student forgets to check-in, it is the student's sole responsibility to notify a TA or staff member to update the attendance record accordingly. Once a student leaves, no credit will be given for the day's activity.
- Students should expect 2 – 3 short projects or practical's during the semester.
- 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.

Objectives and Learning Outcomes

Practicum courses offer a hands-on approach to skills improvement that is founded on the science of horse production. These courses provide the opportunity to bridge the classroom with practical expectations when applied to living anatomy, physiology, psychology, genetics, and the limitations that are present in actual production models.

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

- Instills basic-safe horse handling skills and horsemanship.
- Improves confidence in handling and basic care needs of horses such as catching, haltering, leading, bathing, handling feet, and loading horses onto a trailer.
- Provides an introductory look at basic feeding management, foot care, and general horse care.

At the end of this course, students will be expected to demonstrate the following learning 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.
- Read a feed bag and demonstrate basic rules of thumb for feeding the adult horse.
- Demonstrate proper stable care needs of horses in a barn.

Semester Horse Care Requirements

- Attend twice per week to take care of 2 horses.
- Curry and brush body, brush mane and tail, rinse with light soap and fresh water.
- Inspect horses for wounds and skin problems.
- Pick out feet and apply hoof treatments.
- Apply topicals' and fly spray.
- Record Body Temperature and Pulse.
- Clean your horses' stalls.
- Feed, hay, and water your horses.

Weekly Orientation Sessions

To be determined based on survey results.

Professional Development

Practicum courses are meant to help students professionally by reinforcing academic knowledge. This class is primarily a hands-on course, but students will need to learn, progress, and perform in a manner consistent with the standards of the equine industries. When handling animals and interacting with the public, everyone needs to know how to speak and write correctly, intelligently, and confidently. Regular evaluations will be performed weekly or biweekly assessing your participation in the horse care process and handling progression.

Grading

Category	Total Points
Weekly Attendance	1,200 points (24 shifts)
Weekly Orientation Sessions	400 points (100pts/ea)
Professional Development and Assignments	200 points
Final Exam	200 points
TOTAL POINTS	2,000 POINTS

***Missing exams is very serious as there are NO MAKE-UP EXAMS. If you know in advance that you must be absent from an exam, please see me first. All cases do not lend themselves to prior notification, but in all cases, the absence must be acceptable. If the absence is approved, the percentage score of the final exam will be substituted for the score on the missed exam.

Grading Scale

Percent	Grade
95-100	A
90-94.9	A-
87-89.9	B+
83-86.9	B
80-82.9	B-
77-79.9	C+
74-76.9	C
70-73.9	C-
67-69.9	D+
64-68.9	D
61-63.9	D-
0-60.9	F

***Final Grades will not be curved. It is the student's responsibility to sign in each day and complete all work by the final exam week.

Inclement Weather and Modified Schedules/Cancellations

Students enrolled in this course should be aware that we will operate the course as long as weather conditions warrant safe outdoor and horse handling activities. These conditions will include heat and rain. Lightning and torrential rain are indicators that may warrant cancellations or a modified schedule. Important course information will be distributed to students using [Canvas Notifications](#) and [Email](#).

Injury and Emergency Contact

Students enrolled in this course must provide an emergency contact in the event of serious injury. Students must submit an emergency contact form prior to handling horses and attend a safety orientation meeting.

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.

Campus 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.