Horse Psychology and Training
ANS4218L

COURSE SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR
Mr. Joel McQuagge
210B Bldg 459
Telephone: 392-6363
mcquagge@animal.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. Charlie Staples
100 Animal Sciences Building
392-1911

TEACHING ASSISTANTS
Ms. Sam Sullo
Mr. Matt Winter
Ms. Alysa Ohmstede
Ms. Tara Astoske

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 have an understanding of logical progression in a training program.
- Students should have a stronger ability to understand a horse’s personality and develop a training program to fit that personality.
- This course should help students learn to adjust an individual 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.

GRADING SYSTEM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation &amp; Progress</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four 10 Pt. Quizzes</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Report on article or video</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercise Journals</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stalls</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>140</td>
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Final grade averages will be computed as follows:

- A = 90% and above
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- E = below 60%

+’s will be assigned to the letter grades (B, C, D) at the discretion of the instructors.

Academic Honesty
As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.” You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and 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."

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates 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. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/scrr/process/student-conduct-honor-code](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/scrr/process/student-conduct-honor-code).

**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.

**Services for Students with Disabilities**
The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

**Campus Helping Resources**
Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

*University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, [www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/)*

Counseling Services
Groups and Workshops
Outreach and Consultation
Self-Help Library
Wellness Coaching

- **U Matter We Care**, [www.umatter.ufl.edu/](http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/)
- **Career Resource Center**, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, [www.crc.ufl.edu/](http://www.crc.ufl.edu/)
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 24</td>
<td>Facility Tour, course overview, pictures, Safely handling horses in training Equine Communication and presentation of cues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 27</td>
<td>Haltering &amp; Tying, Training to the Walker Sensitizing, Desensitizing and Sacking Out</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 3</td>
<td>No Class – Labor Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>Quiz Wash Rack, Handling Feet, Handling Ears, More Sensitization &amp; Desensitization</td>
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<td>Sept. 17</td>
<td>The Longe Line and Lateral Longeing – yielding the head, hips &amp; shoulders; sidepass</td>
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<td>Sept. 24</td>
<td>Trailer Loading Sidepass to the fence to accept rider</td>
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<td>Oct. 1</td>
<td>Clippers Developing a Positive Learning Attitude Behavior Modification and Methods of Reinforcement</td>
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<td>Oct. 8</td>
<td>Quiz Round Pen Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
<td>Saddle Fit and Saddling the Green Horse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 22</td>
<td>Saddling green horses, Bridling a young horse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
<td>Biting and Driving</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>Quiz Biting and driving or mounting and first rides</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>No Class – Veterans Day</td>
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<td>Nov. 19</td>
<td>Mounting and First Rides</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 26</td>
<td>Building Confidence in the Spooky Horse and the Spooky Rider</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 3</td>
<td>Quiz Rein Aids, Yielding the face under saddle, Online Course Evaluation</td>
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