

Horse Grooming & Care
ANS 4231 Section 1G76
Location: Horse Teaching Unit
Fall 2021

Instructor

Course Coordinator/Instructor:

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Instructor

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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 8:00 – 9:00 AM OR 4:00 – 5:00 PM?
- Do I have regular transportation to the **Horse Teaching Unit, 1934 SW 63rd Ave, Gainesville, FL 32608?**

Course Schedule and Attendance

- This course utilizes a flex schedule for weekly grooming and care requirements of assigned horses. *Students are required to attend twice per week to take care of an assigned horse(s).* A Doodle poll will be emailed out prior to the start of the fall semester so students can indicate available times. We ask that you provide us with as much availability as possible so that all students can be accommodated.
- 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.
- There are 4 Saturday classes (Handling Safety & Stabling, Farrier Safety, Nutrition, & Final Exam)
- 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>

- This course utilizes an automated attendance tracking system. Each student will be issued a FOB at the beginning of the semester. It is the student's responsibility to check-in at the designated attendance reader each day to receive credit for the day's participation.

- Forgotten check-ins – if a student forgets to check-in at the reader, 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.
- At the end of the semester, students will receive a letter verifying participation in the course. The letter will consist of a brief explanation of the course’s goals and requirements, number of days in attendance, the correlating animal contact hours received, and an instructor signature.
- 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.

Saturday Meetings

August 28, 2021 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (Orientation & Safety)

September 18, 2021 – 9:00 – 12:00 PM (Farrier)

October 2, 2021 9:30 – 12:00 PM (First Aid)

November 13, 2021 9:30 – 12:00 PM (Majestic Oaks)

December 4, 2021 9:30 – 12:00 PM (FINAL EXAM)

Class Attendance & Attendance Tracking

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.

UF Handbook Link: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx> (Links to an external site.)

There will be no make-up days offered in this course. Students should monitor their attendance grade closely. The final grade will be adjusted accordingly at the end of the semester.

This practicum will use [Microsoft Teams Shifts App](#) to log student attendance. Students will need to download Microsoft Teams to a mobile device that they will bring with them to each class (i.e. cell phone). It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that they know how to use the app and make sure that they clock in and clock out to receive credit for daily attendance.

Daily attendance grade will be calculated based on timely arrival and amount of time spent with the hands skills portion of this course. Students that arrive late to their scheduled shifts should expect a 10% grade reduction for every 5 minutes past the class start time.

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 general 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	50%
Saturday Discussion & Quiz	30%
Final Exam	20%

***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.

University of Florida Counseling Services

Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:

1. University Counseling Center, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575, personal and career counseling.
2. Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center, 392-1171, personal counseling.
3. Sexual Assault Recovery Services, Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual counseling.
4. Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance and counseling.