

**ANS 4605 Horse Judging
University of Florida
Spring 2021**

Instructor/Coach

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Textbook

UF Judging Manual.
2023 AQHA Rulebook.
Additional materials will be provided on Canvas.

Course Website on Canvas

Canvas will contain *notes, assignments, your grades, articles and useful links, and announcements.*

Time & Location

Class will meet every **Tuesday and Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** at the Horse Teaching Unit.
(Class time is subject to change based on student schedules.)

Course Description

This course offers training in detailed evaluation of conformation and athletic performance of horses culminating with participation in national intercollegiate horse judging competitions.

Course Objectives

This course will focus on preparing students to correctly evaluate a horse in several disciplines. By the end of the semester, the student should be able to effectively evaluate and truthfully defend their opinion of a horse in each discipline. Successful completion of this course implies the student will be able to:

- 1) Write and deliver oral sets of reasons.
- 2) Score in the 90th percentile in placing classes.
- 3) Make decisions quickly and confidently
- 4) Comfortably speak in front of a group
- 5) Compete successfully at the intercollegiate level.

Attendance

Absence from mandatory class meetings or workouts without instructor approval will result in not being able to travel to competitions. Two unexcused/non-justified absences will result in one letter grade drop. Additional absences will be considered for an additional drop in a letter grade. Special circumstances need to be addressed with the instructor and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. University attendance policy can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Class Policies

Being a member of a judging team can be one of the most valuable experiences of your college career. Instructors at this university and many others consider students who compete on judging teams to be the “elite” of their programs. Professional behavior, language and appropriate attire is expected at all times.

To be successful at competitions you will need to practice OUTSIDE of scheduled class time. We will attempt to schedule some weekend workouts as opportunities arise. The instructor and/or the teaching assistants are available to facilitate watching extra videos and/or giving extra sets of reasons.

Travel

A team consists of 5 members. Most contests allow two teams per school. The top five ranked class members will compete on the first team, followed by the next top five for the second team. Other students may compete as individuals. Each student's opportunity to compete on a traveling team will be based on the following criteria, all to be weighted evenly:

★ Effort ★ Attendance ★ Timeliness ★ Attitude ★ Placing scores ★ Reasons scores ★ Teamwork

Entry fees and travel expenses (minus meals) are paid for by the University, **as budget permits**. Team members are expected to assist with fundraising and outside judging events throughout the year.

Grading

The primary parameter utilized to assess grades is attendance. All placing and reasons scores will be recorded throughout the semester, but we mainly grade on completion and overall improvement throughout the course. During a fourteen-week semester, students will meet approximately 45 times. Students will lose 8 points from their final grade for each unexcused absence (in accordance with UF policy regarding COVID-19 absences). Therefore, students with one unexcused absence may still earn an A, whereas students with five unexcused absences will likely receive an E. For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Grading Scale:

A	= 92 – 100 %
A-	= 89 – 91.9%
B+	= 86 – 88.9 %
B	= 82% - 85.9%
B-	= 79% - 81.9%
C+	= 76 – 78.9 %
C	= 72% - 75.9%
C-	= 69% - 71.9%
D	= 60 – 68.9 %
E	= less than 60%

Some lectures will be uploaded on Canvas along with classes to judge. Students are expected to watch the lectures/classes and submit placings via Canvas before we meet in-person to be more efficient with our time. In addition, you will be asked to submit written reasons on Canvas which will be given orally during practice. **Points will be taken off for late submissions.**

Grading Rubric:

Class placing submissions (10pts each)	20%
Written reasons submissions (10pts each)	20%
Live class placing scores	10%
Oral reasons scores	10%
Participation	40%

For each unexcused absence, 8 points will be deducted from the final grade.

Online Course Evaluation Process

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open for students to complete during the last two or three weeks of the semester; students will be notified of the specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

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/sccr/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.

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

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/*
- *U Matter We Care, www.umatter.ufl.edu/*
- *Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu/*

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. 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

Spring 2023 Weekly Schedule

1/10	Welcome, review of syllabus, discussion
1/12	Conformation lecture; judge halter class, write reasons as a group
1/17	Give oral reasons; Judge halter class, write reasons
1/19	Give oral reasons; Judge halter class, write reasons
1/24	**Watch Western Pleasure Lecture Before Class** judge WP, give reasons
1/26	Judge western pleasure, give reasons
1/31	**Watch Hunter Under Saddle Lecture Before Class** judge HUS, gives reasons
2/2	Judge hunter under saddle, give reasons
2/7	Judge halter, western pleasure, and hunter under saddle; give at least one set
2/9	Give reasons; judge a class of live horses
2/11	State Fair Youth Judging Contest in Tampa, FL
2/14	Give two sets of reasons
2/16	Trail Lecture, practice judging/scoring
2/21	Judge trail, write/give reasons
2/23	Give reasons (class on Canvas); Reining lecture and discussion
2/28	Judge reining, write/give reasons
3/2	Horsemanship and Hunt Seat Equitation Lecture, judge classes
3/4	Reasons Workshop - Mandatory
3/7	Give reasons, judge horsemanship and equitation
3/9	**Watch Ranch Riding Lecture ** Judge and write reasons
3/3-17	Spring Break
3/21	Judge ranch riding, write/give reasons
3/23	Give reasons (from previous week and/or online classes); Western Riding Lecture
3/28	Judge western riding, write/give reasons
3/30	Judge classes that seem to be weaknesses
4/1	4-H/FFA State Horse Judging Contest – Mandatory
4/4	<i>Give reasons from contest</i>
4/6	<i>Review scored classes and judge, give reasons</i>
4/11	<i>Review halter classes and judge, give reasons</i>
4/18	<i>Practice for contest</i>
4/20	<i>Practice for contest</i>
4/25	<i>OBS Sale</i>
4/15	Spring Intercollegiate Contest