

INTRODUCTION TO EQUINE SCIENCE
EQSC 240
SPRING 2013

COURSE INFORMATION

- EQSC 240.01
- Spring 2013
- 3 Credit Hours: 2 Lecture/2 Lab
- Lecture is Web Based & Lab meets at Equine Center on HWY 50 from 3:00-4:50pm on Monday or Wednesday depending on chosen lab time.

Professor / Instructor Contact Information

- Lindsey Walton, Lecturer of Equine Sciences
- Office location: Equine Center
- Office phone: 903-886-5901
- Fax number: 903-886-5990
- Office hours (face to face): 2:00 – 3:00 M,T,W,R and 1:00 – 2:00 M at Equine Center
- Online hours: At least once daily Monday through Friday to answer student questions and comments. I also check email daily during the week.
- Email address: Lindsey.Walton@tamuc.edu

Materials – Text, Readings, Supplementary Readings

- There are no required textbooks for this course. I will be providing weekly lectures for you to read. The webliography on ecollege will have many helpful websites and videos for your viewing. These will be recommended, but not required unless stated in that week's tab.

Course Description

- An introduction to the selection, care, grooming, handling, and riding of horses
- There are no pre-requisites to this course as this is the base course for all other equine science courses
- Goals / Rationale of the course:

This course is designed to teach the student the basics of equine science. This will include breeds, color, background, handling, care, and riding of the horse. The lecture portion of this course will be online while the lab will take place on the farm in a hands-on format. This course should prepare the student for all of the other equine science classes. It should introduce the student to all of the basic concepts behind horse handling and riding as well as teach the basics about the equine species.

This information will benefit the student by teaching them the basics about the equine species and equine industry. It will also teach them how to safely handle and ride a horse while preparing them for further equine courses. It is also the base course for the equine minor. Some of the concepts covered in this course will be the background and history of the horse, equine language, breeds, colors, handling, tack and equipment, sickness and diseases, parts and anatomy, feeding, stabling and care, industry and horse uses, and more.

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~Winston Churchill

The lab portion of this course should help teach the student how to properly handle, tack, and ride a horse. By the end of the semester, the student shall know how to catch, groom, tie, tack up, and ride a horse at a walk, trot, and lope in a western saddle.

The weekly modules will be set up in an order that will best complement the lab portion of this course. The items covered in the weekly module will coincide with the lab portion in preparing the student for the lab.

Course Outcomes/Objectives

- This course shall teach the basics of equine science. The students shall be able to demonstrate learned knowledge of these skills through online discussions and quizzes as well as participation/attendance in labs and through lab testing.
- The student learning outcomes are for the student to learn basic handling, care, grooming, tacking, and riding skills in the lab portion of this course. The student learning outcomes for the class portion of this course are for the students to learn the basics of equine science which briefly touches on the subjects that can be learned deeper in later courses. There will be many areas covered that will provide a good foundation for the student to have enough knowledge for all further equine science courses. The areas that that will be covered in the lectures, discussions, and quizzes that have student learning outcomes are horse terminology, horse training and riding techniques, safety, grooming, horse handling, horse behavior, horse restraint techniques, saddle parts, bit information, horse evolution, horse history, reproductive physiology of mare and stallion, natural cover breeding, artificial insemination, horse gaits, horsemanship, feeding horses, feeding management programs, poisonous plants to horses, horse ownership, horse hoof parts and importance, body condition scoring system, appropriate horse buildings, equine industry importance, equine assisted therapy, hippotherapy, horse diseases, horse parasites, horse control programs, horse breeds, horse colors, horse markings, equine pregnancy, foaling, imprinting, horse parts, skeletal system, and muscular system.
- The student will demonstrate what they have learned by being assessed through taking quizzes and exams that will be given online and in lab which will test their knowledge on the above student learning outcomes.
- The student will also be an active and engaged participant in discussion forums within his/her learning community by analyzing, constructing/creating, and evaluating information presented within the lectures, webliography, and in lab.
- The student will demonstrate weekly progress in lab by slowly progressing from learning how to catch and handle a horse to riding a horse in three different gaits. The student will demonstrate on their class-assigned horse that they have learned how to ride at the walk, jog, and lope.
- The student will demonstrate weekly progress in lab through lab exams demonstrating that they have made progress and improve their overall body posture while riding, gait transitions, and basic turns and stops on the horse.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology in your online courses. The following technology is recommended to be successful in this online course. Internet connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)

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Word Processor

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege: Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the 'myCourses' tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Activities / Assessments

"This course is made up of a series of assignments and assessments to assist you in achieving the course and module learning objectives/outcomes. Each week you will work on various combinations of discussions, readings, quizzes, lab work, exams, etc. which will be made available to you by each Monday and close on the following Sunday."

Week 1: Jan 14-20

Week 2: Jan 21-27

Week 3: Jan 28-Feb 3

Week 4: Feb 4-10

Week 5: Feb 11-17

Week 6: Feb 18-24

Week 7: Feb 25-Mar 3

Week 8: March 4-10

Week 9: March 18-24

Week 10: March 25-31

Week 11: April 1-7

Week 12: April 8-14

Week 13: April 15-21

Week 14: April 22-28

Week 15: April 29-May 5

All work for each week will open on the first date stated above which is a Monday and will all be due by midnight of the end date stated above which is on a Sunday. Each week will contain a lecture, discussion, and quiz which should all be completed online by the end of the week. There will also be a lab participation/attendance grade given each week and 3 lab exams given throughout the semester. These will all be hands-on at the farm. Each student has signed up for a weekly lab time.

Discussions: 60 points (6% of total course grade)

Course Objective/Learning Outcome #1: The student will be an active and engaged participant in the discussion topic for the week using critical thinking and knowledge that has been gained through the assigned lectures and readings. The discussions should demonstrate the ability to use critical

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thinking and seek out an answer that may not be concrete. Your contributions to the discussion forums will be graded for quality not quantity, timeliness of your contributions, and a detailed analysis of linking together theory (readings) to application (activities).

Assessment Method: The discussions will be graded by the instructor and should answer the question and show effort, deep thought, and opinion depending on the discussion topic. They will be graded using the discussion forum rubric.

Quizzes: 290 points (29% of total course grade)

Course Objective/Learning Outcome #2: Weekly quizzes will be given online relating to the material in the lectures. Complete the quizzes online by accessing the eCollege quiz tool. The quizzes will be timed and grades made available to students following submission of the quiz. If you lose Internet connectivity during the quiz, log back in immediately and continue on with the quiz. Save your answers often (every 5-10 minutes). If you experience any issues while taking the quiz, you must contact the eCollege Helpdesk immediately so that your issue is documented with a helpdesk ticket number. Considerations regarding quiz issues will be made by the instructor on an individual basis based on the documentation.

Assessment Method: Multiple Choice, True/False, Fill in the Blank, and Essay Quiz

Lab Exams: 150 points (15% of total course grade)

Course Objective/Learning Outcome #3: The student will take three exams throughout the semester during lab time with their assigned horse. These exams will demonstrate the knowledge learned to that point in the semester during lab. Each exam will have certain skills that will need to be demonstrated

Assessment Method: Demonstrate, Hands-on Skills Exam given during lab

Lab Attendance/Participation: 500 points (50% of total course grade)

Course Objective/Learning Outcome #4: This is the largest portion of the grade in this course. It is imperative that the student be present each week for lab and actively engage in the task of the day. This will help the entire learning process from the class come together. The material learned in each lab will relate to the online lectures and will be what is demonstrated on the lab skills tests. Students should email the instructor if they are not going to be able to make it to lab.

Assessment Method: Each lab session is worth approximately 33 points. Each student will receive credit for showing up for lab, and they will receive full credit for actively participating in the daily activities and demonstrating that they are learning the skills being taught.

Grading

Every item is worth a particular amount of points. Check the online grade book to see how many points each individual discussion, quiz, lab exam, and participation grade is worth. You can not pass this class without showing up and participating in lab because it does carry the greatest point value. This is a point grading system, and the table below shows the points needed to receive the different letter grades.

Each individual discussion is worth 4 points. Each quiz is worth 19-20 points. Each lab attendance/participation grade is worth 33.3-33.4 points, and lab exams are worth 50 points each.

Letter grades by points:

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Total Points Possible for Semester = 1000
900-1000 = A
800-899 = B
700-799 = C
600-699 = D
0-599 = F

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Access and Log in Information

This course was developed and will be facilitated utilizing eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/myLEO.aspx>

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

How is the Course Organized?

The course is organized by weeks which directly coincide with the weeks in the semester. The dates each module will open and close were stated above

What Should Students Do First?

Students should browse through the home page, syllabus, webliography, student lounge, and virtual office to get an idea of each of these. Then, the students should begin on week 1. Any questions should be emailed to the instructor or posted in the virtual office.

How Should Students Proceed Each Week for Class Activities?

1. The student will access and follow all course instructions found in the weekly/unit content area of the eCollege course. The weekly/unit content area of our course is found on the left navigation bar.
2. Each week will contain a lecture for the students to read.
3. After the student is familiar with the lecture, they should click on the quiz tab to take the online quiz.
4. The student should also participate in the discussion forum for the week by clicking on the discussion tab.
5. Lab attendance/participation and exam grades will be done during lab time.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

The following are the tools the instructor will be using for communication throughout the semester:

- Email will be checked daily during the week and will be sent out as reminders
- Virtual Office will be checked daily during the week
- Announcements will be made when necessary and students should view
- Lab time will also be a great time for communication between instructor and student

Interaction with Instructor Statement

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The primary tool used for communication will be email and announcements. Students should send personal concerns or questions to email or ask before lab time. Students should expect a response to emails within 48 hours during the week. Questions sent over the weekend should not expect a response until Monday. The instructor will email students at their myLeo email address. Proper netiquette should be used for this course. This means that comments put in discussion forums, office, and lounge should all be of a nature that will not be offensive to others.

Student Support

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Chat Support: Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.

Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Email: helpdesk@tamuc.edu to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Help: Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc...)

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Course Policies

Academic Honesty Policy

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *current 'Code of Student Conduct' from online Student Guide Handbook*)

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

<http://www.plagiarism.org/>

Examination & Quiz Policy

Quizzes are open book. This means that you may print out the lectures to use during the quizzes. Although, the student should be familiar with the information because there will not be enough time allotted to look up every answer. The student shall also be familiar with the information because not all questions will have a direct answer. They will require critical thinking and understanding of the material in the lecture. Lab exams will demonstrate skills, and notes will not be allowed. If a student loses internet connection during a quiz, the instructor will look at the technical report and decide whether the quiz may be retaken.

Late Work

Late work will not be accepted.

Drop a Course

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“A student may drop a course by logging into their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled 'Drop a class' from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the Web page.”

Instructor Policies

The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus, points allotted, or other information as needed throughout the semester.

University Policies

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Student Disability Resources & Services

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Look online under webliography for helpful sites.

COURSE OUTLINE

The calendar above shows all the weekly dates for the course. All assignments should be submitted by the last date of the week for that particular module. Each module will have a discussion and quiz. There will also be a weekly lab grade. There are 3 exams given throughout the semester which are scheduled for weeks 5, 10, and 15 during the semester. These are subject to change due to the weather.

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