



**Intro to Equine Science and Lab
EQSC 240 and EQSC 240L
Fall 2026
MW 11:00-11:50 am
Location: ETAMU Equine Lab 001
Lab: M 1:00-2:50 pm
Lab Location: ETAMU Equine Lab 001**

Instructor: Nathan Wells

Office Location: AGIT 233F

Office Hours: TR 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm and by appointment

Office Phone: 903-886-5355

University Email Address: Nathan.wells@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: email

Communication Response Time: 1-2 days or within 48 hours M-F – I WILL NOT REPLY TO YOUR EMAIL ON THE WEEKEND.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials- Comfortable pair of boots or shoes that completely protect your foot. This is NOT a riding class.

Textbook(s) Required: None are required, however, I recommend the following:

Horseman's Handbook: Horse Ownership, Care and Enjoyment by Joe B. Armstrong (Author)

Software Required: Access to D2L

Optional Texts and/or Materials: Various video resources that will be provided throughout the semester

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Course Description

Introduction to structure and function of the horse, equine management, nutrition, conformation, biomechanics, reproduction and health. Overview of the equine industry and career choices.

Co-requisite: EQSC 240 Lab

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course students should have an understanding of these concepts;

1. Develop a basic understanding of the horse industry.
2. Identify different colors, markings and breeds and understand their history.
3. Describe basic management and production techniques.
4. Describe the basic systems and physiology of the horse, nutrition, reproduction, and more.
5. Students will be able to analyze and evaluate equine topics or issues when particular sets of circumstances are offered.
6. Students will exhibit professionalism and be able to effectively communicate various standard practices and facts within the equine industry.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods

This course will consist of lecture and experiential learning activities through the labs. There will be power points and documents as additional reading material and notes. This class will be **majority face-to-face**.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

The student should understand that attendance is mandatory for a passing grade. The student will be expected to attend and participate in all lecture and labs. The student will be expected to read/watch videos in lecture and as homework and ask questions in discussion. Above all other requirements the student is expected to come to class with an open mind and willingness to learn. Safety is of the utmost importance and a disregard for the safety of themselves and other students will not be tolerated.

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The first few days in lab will be spent discussing safety when working around horses. The lab class will use horses owned by ETAMU. The lab class will meet at the ETAMU Equine Center. The instructor will take roll each and every class period at the beginning of class. Students who show up after roll has been taken will receive an unexcused absence for that class period. It is the **student's responsibility** to contact the instructor **prior to** an absence if at all possible. In the case of a medical emergency or illness you should provide a doctor's note to receive an excused absence.

GRADING

Grading Policy

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100% **1200 – 1080 pts.**

B = 80%-89% **1,079 – 960 pts.**

C = 70%-79% **959 – 840 pts.**

D = 60%-69% **839 – 720 pts.**

F = 59% or Below **719 pts. and below**

Points Breakdown

Lecture Discussion/Participation = **150 pts.**

Quizzes = **300 pts.**

Exams = **400 pts.** Three regular exams and a final exam.

Assignments = **200 pts.** Two assignments throughout the semester.

Lab Attendance & Participation in Activities = **150 pts.**

Total = 1200 pts.

Assessments

Each week there will be a two lectures worth 10 points each.

Each week there will be a quiz over the lecture material worth 20 points.

Three exams will be scheduled during week 5, 10, and 15 along with a final exam scheduled during Finals Week.

There will be two assignments scheduled during week 6 and 12 worth 100 points each.

Each week there will be a lab exercise worth 10 points.

SAFETY is the #1 priority for labs!

Some sort of boot or close-toed shoe with a heel that offers protection of the feet, and jeans should be worn on lab days. You may also want a binder or folder to keep notes in.

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TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Students will receive points each day for attendance and participation. Students will receive a 0 for absences. For an absence to be considered for being excused, student must contact the instructor before class. Permission to make-up work, exams, etc. for excused absences will only be granted in advance. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor of absences and arrange to make-up work. Three unexcused absences will result in a letter grade drop and five unexcused absences will result in an F in the class. It is the student's responsibility to drop the class. There will be no make-up work offered for unexcused absences. Mondays are lab days, so lab and lecture will count as two separate class periods with two separate set of attendance points to be earned.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

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Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

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

East Texas A&M University

Waters Library- Room 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Students at East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

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Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and East Texas A&M University Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE TOPICS

Introduction to course, instructor, and students.
History and Development of the Equine Industry
Selection and Identification Colors and markings, structure, ID practices.
Breeds and History of Different Breeds
Anatomy and Physiology Body systems, anatomy, how they work and importance
Health and Vitals Normal TPR, changes in vitals, how to check vitals.
Digestion and Nutrition
Digestive physiology, Nutritional Problems
Disease and Parasites Treatment, vaccines, parasite control, and common issues.
Basic Reproductive Systems
Mare and Stallion
Management and Facilities
Facilities and Records
Disciplines - common disciplines and tack/equipment
Careers - direct and indirect involvement with horses.
Basic Horse Evaluation

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Basic Movement
Basics of Equine Behavior and Training
Progression of Training

Lab Topics

Catching and Handling Horses
Learning the parts of the horse and grooming
Halter Breaking and Gentling
Selecting Hay and Reading a Feed Tag
Body Condition Scoring
Teaching Showmanship\Freeze Branding
Taking Vital Signs and Emergency Procedures
Tack and Equipment
Trailer Loading
Selecting and Evaluation of Horses for Specific Purposes
Equine Behavior and Training
Guest Speaker

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