EQSC 241
ADVANCED HORSEMANSHIP
FALL 2012

INSTRUCTOR: Lindsey Walton
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EMAIL: Lindsey.Walton@tamuc.edu
OFFICE HOURS: 2:00 – 3:00 M,T,W,R and 1:00 – 2:00 M at Equine Center
CLASS TIME: Monday & Wednesday, 3:00 – 4:50 pm
GRADUATE ASSISTANT: Hannah Graham, 903-227-0427, Hgraham1259@yahoo.com

TEXTS: There are no required textbooks for this class, but some helpful texts would be:
Natural Horse-Man-Ship: Six Keys to a Natural Horse-Human Relationship by Pat Parelli
True Horsemanship Through Feel by Bill Dorrance and Leslie Desmond
101 Horsemanship & Equitation Patterns: A Western & English Ringside Guide for Practice & Show by Cherry Hill and Richard Klimesh

DESCRIPTION: Course Description as in Catalog: Three Lecture Lab/ Clock Hours (2 lecture, 2 lab), Refinement of equitation skills. Students will enroll in sections based on equitation skills as determined by a riding test.

GOALS: This class is designed to help students improve their skills in the area of equine horsemanship. Horsemanship is usually defined as a skill in handling and riding horses. This class will focus on and have the following student learning outcomes: improving the student’s ability of handling a horse while on the ground, the class will then further improve the students’ abilities to handle and ride horses while performing patterns and doing other activities while on the horse, and work on many western horsemanship patterns. These patterns will include simple lead changes, flying lead changes, 90-360 degree turns on the haunches, backing straight or around objects, and etc. all while keeping the rider’s body in a proper riding position that will look better from a spectator’s view and make a better connection between the horse and rider. This class will focus on developing a more formal style of riding where hands and feet should be kept in proper position while riding. Horsemanship focuses on developing a riding style that connects the horse and rider in a way that looks flawless when the two are together. The students will learn to give the horses cues that look effortless, and should learn how to use their legs while riding instead of the reins. Further, the student will learn how to perform the above items on different horses. Part of becoming a better rider and improving horsemanship skills is being able to ride and
perform on different horses. Every horse is slightly different, has a different temperament, and they have different levels of sensitivity to cues. The students will learn how to adjust their own signals and cues to perform and ride different horses. All of these student learning outcomes will be assessed by student demonstration daily during class on different horses, on exams, and through the assignments.

ATTENDANCE:
Absences are not accepted in this class. This class is a horsemanship class so you are not learning from a book, you are learning from experience. Therefore, this is not something that can just be read back over later. Absences also count against your grade because a large portion of your grade is based on attendance and participation. If it is absolutely necessary that you miss a class, please call or email me to let me know ahead of time. Students missing class more than 6 times will be dropped by the instructor. An email will be sent to the student’s my leo account when they are nearing this mark.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED:
The university furnishes the saddles, bridles, and other riding equipment that you will need for the horse. The university also furnishes riding helmets. The only equipment you will need if you do not already have is closed-toed shoes and pants.

ASSIGNMENTS:
There will be several assignments given throughout the semester that will need to be done outside of class and not on your horses. Assignments should be turned in on time. For every class day that your assignment is late, 5 points will be deducted. The first assignment will be a research paper about horsemanship. It should be 4-5 typed pages, double spaced, times new roman font, with one inch margins all around. The student shall pick at least one method of horsemanship to write the paper about. There are many articles, books, online sites, videos, etc. that cover different horsemanship training methods that people have come up with. The student needs to write about the one or more methods they chose to research. A works cited page should be included. The paper will be graded on being grammatically correct, providing a clear summary of the one or more horsemanship methods being covered, and by demonstrating that the student has learned about and understands the horsemanship methods being written about. The second assignment will be for the student to design their own western horsemanship pattern. This pattern shall include all three gaits which are walking, jogging, and loping as well as a turn and backing. The pattern may be hand drawn if done neatly or designed on a computer program such as paint or power point. The pattern will be graded on communicating through design that the student understands horsemanship patterns, demonstrating that the student understands how these patterns performed live on their horses transfer over to a design on paper, and including all of the elements asked for in the pattern. The third assignment will be to find an article dealing with horsemanship. It can be from a magazine, newsletter, etc. Bring the article to read to the class and have a copy to turn in to the instructor. This assignment will be assessed by the student bringing an article relevant to the class and reading it in front of the group.

EXAMS:
There will be two regular exams and a final exam. The first exam will evaluate the student’s progress thus far in the class on demonstrating the learning outcomes covered by that point. The 2nd exam will be a little different. A person that possesses good horsemanship skills can ride many different horses and do well. This class should not focus so much on one horse that the student can only perform well on one horse. Therefore, for exam 2 the rider will get on someone else’s class-assigned horse and demonstrate skills that have been learned. This will show that the student has met the learning outcome of learning how to adjust their own signals and cues to different horses. There will be plenty of opportunities to ride/practice/learn on the different horses in the class before this exam. The final exam will give the students a chance to show everything they learned during the semester. The student should be able to describe and demonstrate all skills learned while having a more professional and effortless look of riding and handling than they possessed at the beginning of the semester. Each exam will be a riding exam performed on the assigned horse for that exam. Students will be assessed by demonstrating that they have learned the skills covered in each class period prior to the exam. The student should also be able to verbally explain the skills they are performing on the horse while riding.

GRADING:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/Class Participation &amp; Progress</td>
<td>500 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pattern</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Article</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>75 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>75 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1000 points</td>
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To receive the following grades, you will need the following amount of points:

- A = 900 – 1000 points
- B = 800-899 points
- C = 700-799 points
- D = 600-699 points
- F = 0-599 points

PLAGIARISM:
Plagiarism is not tolerated. If it is found that you have committed plagiarism, you will be dropped from the class. The WPA defines plagiarism as ‘occur[ing] in an instructional setting when a writer deliberately uses someone else’s language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source.’

DISABILITIES:

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
STUDENT BEHAVIOR:
“All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct)

“Whenever you are asked if you can do a job, tell ‘em, ‘Certainly I can!’ Then get busy and find out how to do it.” ~ Theodore Roosevelt