

EQSC 497
EQUINE PROBLEM SOLVING
WINTER MINI 2015

INSTRUCTOR: Lindsey Walton
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OFFICE HOURS: Online or by appointment only
CLASS TIME: Dec. 18, Dec. 19, Jan. 5, Jan. 6, Jan.7, & Jan. 8 from 8 AM – 12 PM
Web Enhanced

TEXTS:

There are no required textbooks for this class, but for helpful information students can read online or read suggested texts from instructor.

DESCRIPTION:

Course Description: Special Topics, Equine Problem Solving, 3 Semester Hours. Solving equine problems through training or re-training.

GOALS:

This class is designed to help students learn how to identify horse problems, come up with a training plan to try and fix the problem, and follow through on that plan while addressing further obstacles as they arise. This class will focus on critical thinking as each problem will be different and multiple solutions can be offered. Some of the behavior problems that will be evaluated are rearing, bucking, herd sourness, gate sourness, hard mouth, kicking out, barn sourness, spooking, mounting trouble, neck reining, and so on. The student learning outcomes include the following: students will identify the behavior problem in a horse by observation, students will be able to come up with a training plan for addressing various problems in different horses that account for the individuality of the horse and particular problem, students will understand how to implement the plan they have developed, students will recognize further obstacles in the training as they are encountered, and students will learn what causes these problems in the first place. Students will have these student learning outcomes assessed by showing that they have learned all of the above through demonstrating these skills with their class participation, assignments, and online work.

ATTENDANCE:

Absences are not accepted in this class. This class is taught in a short time period so a lot of material is covered in each class. Each absence will also count against you because participation is part of your grade. The attendance/participation part of your grade gives a certain number of points per class day. If it is absolutely necessary that you miss a class, please email the instructor

ahead of time. You will be given a required special project to complete on your own time if you do miss a day of class.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED:

The university will provide all equipment. Students may buy their own supplies if desired.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Students will have to research and find five pieces of equipment used in training horses. A picture and brief description of each piece of equipment should be included when this assignment is submitted. This assignment will be assessed by clearly communicating to the instructor what each piece of equipment is used for, including the picture of the equipment, and being free of grammatical errors. Another assignment in this course will be to develop a horse evaluation worksheet for training purposes. This worksheet will be assessed by showing it would be functional for use by a horse trainer or barn manager, provide ease of use, being practical and easy to understand while still having proper formatting and being appealing to the eye. A third assignment in this course will be to evaluate a horse using the created worksheet and develop a 30-60 day training plan based on the results of the worksheet. This assignment will be assessed by showing that the horse was evaluated correctly and that the training plan developed made sense compared to the problem. Assessment will also include making sure detailed plans are described in this assignment as well as being grammatical free. A fourth assignment in this course will be to pick a particular horse behavior problem and make a presentation about this. The presentation should be a minimum of 10 slides and cover the behavior problem, what causes the problem, description of the problem, ideas to solve the problem, and videos and pictures of the problem. The presentation will be uploaded online for all classmates to view. This will be assessed by the student having relevant information on the topic, having a nice balance of text and graphics on the slides, having relevant pictures and videos, and by being a stand-alone presentation that someone understands from viewing without having a person to present. A fifth assignment in this course will be a group project. Groups of 3-4 students will work together. The group will be assigned a particular horse in class, and they will have to write a blog about how to fix the horse after going home and doing their own research about this particular problem. They will also try their method on the horse. This will be assessed by being free of grammatical errors, clearly communicated, relevant to the horse and particular problem, and easy to understand for an average reader. Another class assignment will include discussions of the reading and viewing material in the class. The discussions should be clearly communicated, show an understanding of the material, be free of grammatical errors, and show critical thinking. Late assignments will have 10 points deducted for each class day late.

GRADING:

Attendance/Class Participation & Progress	450 points
Equipment Identification Assignment	50 points
Evaluation Worksheet	100 points
Detailed Horse Training Plan	100 points
Presentation	100 points
Group Project	100 points
Discussions	100 points
Total	1000 points

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

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library

Room 132

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

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)

A&M-Commerce 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.

“It is the difficult horses that have the most to give you.”

– Lendon Gray