

Yearling Handling

ADSC Fall 2009

Instructor:

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Course Objectives:

The objective of this course is to familiarize students with basic handling and training of young horses. Students will learn the principles of horse behavior and communication and how these relate to training. We will emphasize common training practices used to develop horses and prepare them for under saddle training. This is a hands-on laboratory class designed to give students maximum opportunity to participate in and shape the training process.

Schedule:

This class will meet on Monday and Wednesday from 8:00 to 9:55 AM. We will be meeting at the Animal Science Instructional Arena at 2600 South Milledge Avenue. Appropriate attire is required! Please dress in closed toe shoes at all times. Jeans or long pants are preferred.

Listed below is a general outline of what we will be doing each week. Please be advised that horse training is a continuous process so there will be overlap from day to day.

Aug 17 Introduction, questionnaires
19 Horse assignments, catching, haltering, approach/retreat, arena

Handouts for week 1:

Clinton Anderson—“Understanding Horse Psychology”, “The Value of Respect”, “An Introduction to Groundwork”
Horse Industry Handbook—“Horse Behavior & Senses: Vision, Touch, Hearing & Social Behavior”

Weeks 2-4 (Aug 24-Sept. 9-----Holiday-Sept. 7)

Leading, sensitizing (e.g. lead rope) and desensitizing (spray bottles, wash rack, etc.), tying, hoof handling

Handouts for Weeks 2-4:

“Catching a Hard to Catch Horse”
“Teach Safe Tying”
“Training Notebook”
“Cut Your Horse Some Slack”
“Lead by Example”

“Teaching the Horse to Adjust his Head Position”
“Teaching Your Horse to Lead Up Real Free”
“Backing and Leading One Step at a Time”

Weeks 5 (Sept. 14, 16)

Learning to move parts independently—preparation for lunging

Week 6 (Sept 21-23)

Learning to lunge on a lunge line

Week 7 (Sept 28-30)

Learning to lunge in a roundpen

Handouts for Week 5-7

Richard Shrake, Chapter 4: “Phase One: Resistance Free Training Exercises”

Richard Shrake, Chapter 5: “Phase Two: Groundwork to Prepare the Horse for a Rider”

“Lunging Difficulties”

Week 8 (Oct. 5, 7)

Introduction of circingles

Week 9 (Oct. 12-14)—Midterm; Journals due

Oct. 12—Midterm Practicum

Oct. 14—Written Practicum

Week 10 (Oct. 19, 21)

Familiarize with saddle, first saddling

Week 11 (Oct. 26, 28)

Saddling and bridling

Handouts for weeks 10-11:

Richard Shrake: “A bit about bits”, “Bits 101 Bulletin”

Weeks 12-14 (Nov. 2-18)

Ground driving, clipping, trailering

Handouts for Weeks 12-14:

Richard Shrake: “Phase Three: Mount Up!”

Horse Industry Handbook: “Teaching a Horse to Trailer”

Week 15 (Nov. 23-27)

Thanksgiving Holidays!

Week 16 (Nov. 30, Dec. 2)

Final Week—practice for final exam

Dec. 7: Final Practicum, last day of class; Journals due

Final Exam: Thurs., Dec. 10 8:00 - 11:00 am

Grading:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Participation and progress | 20% |
| Midterm exam | 30% |
| Final Exam | 30% |
| Journal | 10% |
| Final Training Project | 10% |

Grading Scale:

| | |
|----|-------------|
| A | ≥93 |
| A- | 90.00-92.99 |
| B+ | 87.00-89.99 |
| B | 83.00-86.99 |
| B- | 80.00-82.99 |
| C+ | 77.00-79.99 |
| C | 73.00-76.99 |
| C- | 70.00-72.99 |
| D+ | 67.00-69.99 |
| D | 63.00-66.99 |
| D- | 60.00-62.99 |
| F | ≤60 |

The midterm and final exam will be 50% written and 50% practicum. The written portion will be questions based on class handouts and lectures. The practicum will cover goals set for each week during class.

The final training project will be a writing assignment where you are to research a problem you encountered with your horse. You will turn in a written report to me describing the biggest challenge you faced with your horse during the semester and the steps you took to overcome this. You will also need to find a publication of some type that discusses this problem and a potential solution. Discuss the validity of what the publication proposes, how you potentially could have or did incorporate this into your training, and what other ways you think you might/did use to overcome your issue.

Journals must be updated daily. Each entry needs to include the following: goals for the day, actions you took to achieve these goals, whether these actions worked or didn't work, plans for the next training session. They will be collected at specified dates during the semester. These entries do not need to be excessively long but they **MUST** include the above information. The purpose of the journal is *not* to be a recitation of your day to

me but instead to get you to set very specific goals for your training program and evaluate what steps are effective to reaching these goals.

Academic Honesty: All students are expected to maintain the highest standard of integrity. The University of Georgia does not tolerate any form of academic dishonesty. To review the University policy regarding academic dishonesty, please visit www.uga.edu/ovpi.

WARNING: Under Georgia Law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities, pursuant to Chapter 12 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.