

AGSC 152- Horsemanship I- Spring 2009  
1:30- 3:20 Tuesdays

Instructor: Emily Costello

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Farm office X7477, MG 3073

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Office hours- by appointment mostly

In this course students will...

- learn to safely handle and work around horses
- gain respect for the horse and its athletic ability
- learn the basic riding position
- learn to control the horse at every gait

Points:

Attendance and Participation- 200 (about 15 per class)

Following safety instructions- 25

Written mid-term- 50

Written final- 50

Riding mid-term- 100

Riding final- 100

Tack cleaning- 25

Total- 550

\*this point distribution is subject to change

Grades will be awarded on based on the percentage of points a student receives out of the total points possible

Attendance and Participation- Students are expected to attend every class and must come to at least 13 class periods to receive full points. There will be at least one make up day throughout the semester that can be used in place of a missed class. Please e-mail if you know you will not be in class so we do not wait for you. Students are expected to participate fully in the scheduled activities each class. Learning to ride horses should be fun, but is not always easy. Also students should read all material before class as it will be useful for discussions during class and will probably show up on the mid-term or final.

Following safety instructions- Working around horses can be dangerous so students are expected to follow the safety procedures as explained by the instructor and document on the safety videos. If you are not sure how to handle a situation, please ASK. Also, report any injuries to rider or horse to instructor.

Written tests- These tests will be distributed one week before the due date (either the day of the mid-term or the last day of classes). Students may use readings given out in class or notes taken during class but are not to consult with other students or other resources for the answers.

Riding tests- The patterns for the test will be given out at least one week a head of time along with the number of points awarded for each part of the pattern and comments about what is expected to receive full points. Students are expected to memorize the patterns (if applies) before the tests.

Tack cleaning- The tack gets dirty when we use it so it needs to be cleaned in order for it to stay in good condition. Tack cleaning should be done during indoor classes when your partner is riding or at another arranged time. It can also be done during equestrian team tack cleaning parties. Each student needs to perform 25 points worth of tack cleaning.

Points are as follows

Western Saddle- 15

English Saddle- 10

Bridle (english or western)- 5

English girth- 2

Points will also be awarded for washing saddle pads, cleaning horse boots, and brushes.

Talk to me if you would like to use one of these options.

#### Rules

1. No alcoholic beverages- the farm is part of campus
2. Absolutely smoking or use of tobacco products in the barns- smoking is dangerous around flammable hay and straw
3. Clean up after yourself and your horse- put everything you use away and clean up any mess your horse may make in the arena or parking lot area
4. Close all gates- we don't want horses getting loose
5. Report any sick horses to the instructor or farm manager- record the illness on the sheet inside the folder in the tack room marked with the horse's name
6. Always cool your horse down thoroughly before putting them away- especially important when it is cold outside
7. Dress appropriately to work with horses – no sandals, skirts, tennis shoes, halter tops, or shorts. Boots with a heel are required.
8. Helmets are MANDATORY when riding- students can use their as long as it is ASTM/SEI certified (check the inside label). Otherwise, students will use helmets provided by the university
9. Be respectful to the instructor, fellow students, and the horses
10. Have fun and ask questions

## Horsemanship Student Questionnaire

Class and section: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Years of Riding Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

Disciplines Ridden: \_\_\_\_\_

Which do you prefer? (This will help me assign you a horse)

1. Stock(Western)      Hunt(English)      Either      Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. Mares                      Geldings                      Stallions(horse III only)

3. Quarter Horses      Thoroughbreds      Arabians      Other \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your experience with horses:

What would you like to learn from this class:

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Tuesday 1:30-3:20

<u>Date</u>	<u>Focus of Class</u>
1/13	-watch safety videos, sign waivers, fill out questionnaire, farm tour
1/20	-introduction to working with horses- how to catch, halter, lead, tie, groom, and tack up a horse safely
1/27	-review of tacking up and tying horses, mounting and dismounting and walking
2/3	-continue walking and work on steering the horse, introduction to the trot
2/10	-more on steering at the walk, start work on posting at the trot
2/17	-continue working on trotting and steering, introduction to two-point position hand out written mid-term and riding pattern for mid-term
2/24	-review of everything, work on schooling figures at the trot
3/3	- Mid-term (to cover mostly working safely around horses) and written mid-term due
3/10	-No classes, mid-term break
3/17	-introduction to the canter
3/24	-continue canter work and work on transition between gaits
3/31	-more canter work and riding without stirrups (not at a canter, relax)
4/7	-No classes, student research conference
4/14	-continue canter work, some work with poles on the ground
4/21	-hand out pattern for riding final and practice it, hand out written final
4/28	-riding final and written final due