

# ANSC 312 Equestrian Technology

Spring 2009 Syllabus

Lecture: Monday 10:20-11:10 Kleberg 113

Labs: **501** TR 8:00-9:20 **502** MW 8:00-9:20 **503** MW 3:00-4:20

## Instructor:

Martha M. Vogelsang      Office:      249D Kleberg  
Phone:      845-7731      Email:      m-vogelsang@tam.u.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesday 11:15-12:00, Thursday 10:00-12:00 or by appointment

## Teaching Assistants

501 & 502      Coral Bowman      Phone:      979-229-2836      Email:      coralsb123@tam.u.edu  
503      Jessica Lucia      Phone:      979-777-6417      Email:      jllucia@tam.u.edu

## Description of course:

This course is designed for intermediate to advanced riders who desire to improve their equitation skills, their schooling techniques and their ability to exhibit horses in either forward seat or stock seat style of riding. The student is provided with anatomical, physiological and psychological factors of horses and riders which affect their abilities to communicate with and understand each other. Laboratory sections are designed specifically for the more advanced hunter seat rider (including jumping), the more advanced stock seat rider (includes arena performance events) and the intermediate rider (either hunt seat or stock seat).

## General Objectives:

By the end of the semester, the rider should be able to:

1. Ride in the balanced seat necessary for proper communication with the horse.
2. Perform basic maneuvers on the horse (natural gaits, lateral maneuvers, etc).
3. Critically evaluate riding competency in themselves and others.
4. Understand the differences in and requirements for competition within the different styles of riding.

## Exams/Grading:

	<u>501/502</u>	<u>503</u>
Written Exams (mid-term and final)	200 points	200 points
Riding Evaluations	150 points (3 @ 50 pts)	150 points (3 @ 50 pts)
Lesson Plan	25 points	25 points
Written Self-Evaluation	50 points	25 points
Written Peer Critique & Lesson Plan	25 points	----
Book Review	50 points	----
Peer evaluations	----	50 points (2 @ 25 pts)
Journal	----	50 points (5 @ 10 pts)
Total points possible	500 points	500 points

## SEE LAB SYLLABUS FOR DUE DATES FOR ASSIGNMENTS

## Letter Grades

90-100	A	60-69	D
80-89	B	Below 60	F
70-79	C		

Grades will be calculated as a percentage of the 500 possible points. Two points will be taken from your final grade for each absence over your two “free” absences.

**Absence Policy:**

No unauthorized absences are granted.

Authorized absences do not excuse the student from any course work.

Permission to make up missed work will be granted only for authorized absences arranged in advance of the absence. In case of emergency, illness or death in the family, it is the student’s responsibility to notify the instructor as soon as possible. In case of absences due to illness, the student must present verification from the University Health Center or family doctor.

Work missed due to unauthorized absences will not be made up and a grade of zero will be recorded.

Work not made up will be given the same grade of zero.

For further clarification, see <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rules7.htm>

**Required Equipment: 501 & 502**

Saddle, pad and cinch / girth

Halter and lead rope

Grooming supplies (curry comb, hard and soft brush, hoof pick, mane/tail comb)

Three 3-inch mini-DVD-R discs

**Other Recommended Equipment:**

Safety helmet—can bring your own approved helmet if you choose not to use one of school’s helmets

Girth extensions for English saddles

Running martingale

Leather gloves

**Assignment Due Dates**

All written assignments are due on the date specified in the syllabus or by the lab or lecture instructor.

Five points will be taken off of assignment grade for each day it is late.

**ALL LAB SECTIONS: Written Exams-2 @ 100 points**

The 2 exams will be test over material presented in lecture and in lab. The format will be short answer, short discussion and possibly some True-False or Multiple Choice. There are very few lectures so all information presented will be considered important material for the exam. For each exam, approximately 15 points will be over material presented in the lab.

**ALL LAB SECTIONS: Riding Evaluations -3 @ 50 points**

At specified dates during the semester, the student will be evaluated on improvement and mastery of skills that have been practiced until that point in the semester. Students will ride individually, performing either a previously provided pattern or a set of called gaits and maneuvers. Students will be scored with scores and comments provided after grades are recorded. Students in sections 501 and 502 must provide a DVD-R for each of these evaluations. These will be used in grading and will be returned to students. It is imperative that students are present for these Riding Evaluations as they are impossible to make-up without wasting the rest of the classes time.

## **LAB SECTIONS 501 & 502**

### **Book Review-50 points**

The student is required to read and prepare a written evaluation of a book on a riding discipline related to this course (specific to his/her lab section). The book reviewed must be approved by the instructor. This review is due **March 2**. The book review should be discuss both strong and weak points of the book such as clarity of explanations, justification of techniques and procedures, value and quality of graphics, etc. If possible, relate the content of the book to some aspect of this course.

### **Peer Evaluation & Lesson Plan-25 points**

Students will evaluate the live performance of another rider with respect to their horsemanship skills. Students should be critical of all parts of basic position and rider's control of the horse. The critique should be detailed, descriptive and should include both positive and negative aspects of the ride being evaluated. This assignment will be **due two weeks after the Second Riding Evaluation (April 8 or 9)**. The critique should follow the outline below and should include a paragraph for 3,4 and 5a-f..

1. Your name
2. Date
3. Student being evaluated and horse
4. Description of pattern or performance maneuvers
5. Evaluation positive and negative – along with constructive criticism of :
  - a. Upper body
  - b. Base of support
  - c. Legs
  - d. Balance
  - e. Hands
  - f. Management and control of the horse

Using information from the peer evaluation, the student will prepare a 1-page lesson (outline format) to focus on improvement and organize exercises that will benefit his/her "student's" inadequacies. The lesson plan should be in the format below.

1. Teacher
2. Brief evaluation of student's weak areas
3. Objective of this lesson
4. Description of exercises (amount of time devoted to each part, number of repetitions of exercises, etc) and lesson format
5. Evaluation of lesson (**to be done after the lesson is given**)

### **Written Self Evaluation: 50 points**

Each student will evaluate their own riding performances after the first graded riding evaluation by reviewing the videos (provided by you) made during lab. Along with the video record of your riding, it is recommended that you keep a journal to document accomplishments and downfalls, or areas that need improvement. This assignment will be due **March 30 at the time of lecture**. This paper should be typed and should be in the range of 1000-1500 words.

### **Lesson Plan: 25 points**

Students will prepare a riding lesson to teach a specific person in class how to properly ride a circle. Instructions should include position of rider, aids used in riding a circle, and correction of pitfalls

made by rider and horse. These will vary to some extent based on the person and horse for which you will prepare the lesson. All lessons will be given in lab on either 3/11 or 3/12 depending on your lab section. Assignments will be made in the first couple weeks so you will have the opportunity to watch your “student” and plan the lesson for their specific needs. The lesson plan you turn in should be in outline format and not over a page long.

### **LABS SECTION 503**

#### **Written Self Evaluation: 20 points**

Using the journal and instructor’s comments from RE1 and RE2, the student will prepare a self-evaluation in a discussion format that covers the rider’s skill level at the beginning of the course, the improvements in different skills (position, use of aids, maneuvers) and the student’s mastery of skills. This document should be prepared on a word processor, should be 1000-1500 words, and should be free from punctuation and grammatical errors (>5 will result in a 5-pt deduction of the grade for this assignment). This assignment is due **April 22**. Assignments that appear similar will result in a 50% reduction of the final grade for this assignment (e.g., if you receive 40 of the possible 50 points, it will be reduced to 20 of 50= failing grade).

#### **Peer Evaluations: 2 @ 25 points**

At the first and second riding evaluations, each student will complete a peer evaluation on a classmate that consists of a series of questions related to the rider’s position, use of aids and control of horse. These will be turned in at the end of the class period.

#### **Journal: 50 points**

For each lab session beginning with January 26, the student will prepare a written entry including the following information:

1. Horse ridden
2. Skills demonstrated by instructor
3. Skills practiced by student
4. Student’s perception of improvement at or mastery of skill
5. Student’s suggestion for continued improvement in this skill

Each entry should be 100-200 words in length. Journal will be collected at 5 random, unannounced times during the semester for evaluation. No journals should be identical. If journal is not up-to-date or available when requested, 5 points will be deducted from journal grade.

#### **Lesson Plan: 25 points**

Students will prepare a riding lesson to teach a specific person in class how to properly ride a circle. Instructions should include position of rider and the aids used in riding a circle. These will vary to some extent based on the person and horse for which you will prepare the lesson. All lessons will be given in lab on 3/11. Assignments will be made in the first couple weeks so you will have the opportunity to watch your “student” and plan the lesson for their specific needs. The lesson plan you turn in should be in outline format and not over a page long.

## **ANSC 312 Lecture and Exam Schedule**

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	No lecture
2	Class overview and expectations, Equine behavior & safety
3	Equine behavior and safety (cont)
4	Rider position / different disciplines
5	Natural Aids for Communicating with Horses
6	Natural Aids (cont)
7	Bridles, Bits and Bitting
8	<b>MID-TERM EXAM</b>
9	<b>Spring Break</b>
10	Teaching Riding
11	Locomotion Patterns, Gait Defects
12	Patterns
13	Suppleness, Flexion
14	Collection & Impulsion
15	Patterns-reining, horsemanship
16	Courses for hunters, jumpers , equitation
17	<b>FINAL EXAM—May 12, 8-10 am</b>

\*\*Schedule is tentative and subject to change