



COLLEGE OF SCIENCES
Sam Houston State University
Course Syllabus: Spring 2018

DEPARTMENT:	Agricultural Sciences and Engineering Technology
COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:	EQSC 2396 Equine Safety and Handling
CLASS LOCATION:	Indoor Arena
CLASS MEETING TIME:	TR 3:00 pm – 4:20 pm
INSTRUCTOR:	Kalley Fikes, M.S.
OFFICE:	Pirkle 323
OFFICE HOURS:	By appointment only
TELEPHONE:	Phone: 979-820-2528 E-mail: kkf007@shsu.edu Ag Main Office: 936-294-1215

Course Objectives:

This introductory course is designed to provide students with the knowledge of how to work around horses safely and effectively. Topics for discussion will include equine behavior, proper handling techniques, controlling movement of horses, health assessment, and basic management. At the end of the course, students should be able to describe basic horse behavior and identify unsafe situations for handlers. Additionally, they should be able to implement basic handling techniques to control movement. Students should be able to evaluate health status of a horse and make decisions regarding emergency situations. Finally, students should be able to describe proper management conditions for horses.

Optional Textbook:

There is no required or recommended text for this course. Lecture notes will be provided in the form of Power Point notes. These notes are not to be the only source of information and cannot take the place of class attendance.

Grading:

Exams – 3 (100 points each)	300 points
Laboratory Practicals – 3 (100 points each)	300 points
Feeding Practical – 2 (50 points each)	100 points

Grading Scale:

A = 630-700

B = 560-629

C = 490-559

D = 420-489

F = 419 and lower

Exams (300) and Practicals (300):

The exams will cover material presented *in lecture and lab*. Exams will be given during regularly scheduled class times (**Feb 13/15, Mar 20/22, May 1/April 26**) and may be comprehensive. If you miss an exam due to an authorized absence, you will have **1 week** from the original date of the exam to make up the missed exam, otherwise a grade of zero will be recorded. If you miss an exam due to an unauthorized absence, then a grade of zero will be automatically recorded. **SEE COURSE ATTENDANCE BELOW.**

Lecture exams will be largely short answer and cover concepts from lectures and laboratories. Laboratory practical exams will concentrate on the hands-on application of concepts covered in lecture and lab. Students will be asked to demonstrate techniques, and explain their decisions/actions.

Feeding Practical (100)

Students will be required to feed a designated horse for two weeks of the semester. The weeks do not have to be consecutive. Weekly shifts will start on Tuesday evening and end on Tuesday morning. Students will be in groups of 3, with 2 students on the morning shift and 1 on the evening shift. These shifts will be supervised by the instructor and TAs. Each student must feed 7 shifts of the week, and can choose which shifts work appropriately with their schedule. Points will be deducted for noncompliance with tasks and tardiness to the shift. **Failure to participate in 1 shift deducts 50 points from the feeding grade, and for each subsequent shift missed, 50 points will be deducted from the overall grade.**

Attire:

Students must wear closed toe shoes and pants (NO SHORTS) to interact with horses in the lab section. Students wearing inappropriate clothing will only be allowed to observe lab and will have no access to horses for hands-on practice. Students will not be allowed to practice material missed due to inappropriate clothing in a later lab.

Email Etiquette and Professionalism:

As part of your collegial experience, it is important that faculty members promote professionalism as you transition into your career. Therefore, in order to receive a reply from the instructor, the email is required to be in the following format:

Salutation

Inquiry (Complete sentences; correct spelling)

Closing (Sincerely, Thank you, Regards, etc.)

Complete Name

****Expect the instructor to respond to emails between normal business hours (8-5 pm) only.**

Department of Agricultural Sciences Attendance Policy

Departmental attendance policy listed below will be strictly enforced.

1. Regular and punctual attendance is expected of each student in the Department of Agricultural Sciences at Sam Houston State University.
2. Each faculty member will keep a written record of student attendance.
3. Excused absences must be documented by the student with a letter of confirmation from the sponsoring student organization, professor or doctor. Exemptions will include participation in departmental activities when prior approval is attained from the Department Chair.
4. No exams or assignments will be given at alternative times unless arrangements are made with the professor/instructor before the scheduled activity occurs.

Absences and Missed Work for this Course:

1. **NO UNAUTHORIZED ABSENCES WILL BE GRANTED.** Attendance will be taken in lecture.
2. There will be no make-up work allowed without an authorized absence. Any missed work or assignments must be completed with the discretion of the instructor within **1 week of absence**.
 - a. If you miss class due to an authorized absence, you must notify the instructor within **24 hours** (preferably *before*) and make up work must be completed within **1 week**. Any assignments missed due to an unauthorized absence results in a grade of **zero**. If extenuating circumstances occur, consult the instructor **immediately**.
3. Lecture attendance is **MANDATORY** (excused or un-excused) and is necessary for success.
4. **DO NOT** wait until the end of the semester to ask questions regarding graded materials or absences. You have **1 week** to complete missed assignments (**FROM THE DATE THE ASSIGNMENT WAS DUE**) and **1 week** to consult the instructor concerning incorrect grading or mathematical errors in graded work. No corrections will be made to graded work after 1 week of the work being handed out.

Academic Dishonesty (SHSU Academic Policy Statement 810213):

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings

against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Classroom Rules of Conduct (According to Section 5 of the Student Handbook):

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. **Should a student get caught texting during lecture they will be asked to leave the classroom, if caught while taking a test, it will be considered cheating and the student will receive a zero (0) for that exam. A student must dismiss themselves from the classroom if they need to receive an incoming or make a call.**

Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with University policy.

Visitors in the Classroom (According to the Faculty Handbook):

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted in the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

Students with Disabilities:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request assistance with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities by contacting the Director of the Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Annex or by calling 936.294.1720.

Religious Holidays:

University policy states that a student who is absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day shall be permitted to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence. A student who wishes to be excused for a religious holy day must present the instructor with a written statement describing the holy day(s) and the travel involved. The instructor should provide the student with a written description of the deadline for the completion of missed exams and/or assignments.

Use of Tobacco and Tobacco Products:

Sam Houston State University is a tobacco free campus and all tobacco products are prohibited in all buildings and outdoor public areas on campus.