

AN341
Commercial Horse Production
3 Credits

Instructor: Matt Rustemeier Ron Hoffman
780 853 8616 780 744 2291

Original Developer: Ron Hoffman

Current Developer: Matt Rustemeier

Reviewer: Ron Hoffman

Created: 13/03/2019

Revised: 30/10/2020

Approval: 10/12/2020

Alternate Delivery: No

The Implementation Date for this Outline is 05/01/2021

Copyright©LAKELAND COLLEGE. Email: admissions@lakelandcollege.ca
2602 - 59 Avenue, Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada T9V 3N7. Ph: 780 871 5700
5707 College Drive, Vermilion, Alberta, Canada T9X 1K5. Ph: 780 853 8400
Toll-free in Canada: 1 800 661 6490



AN341 Version: 2



Commercial Horse Production

Calendar Description

The lecture portion of this course develops the skills to select and train a horse for the purpose of ranch work. Developing and utilizing an analytical method for selecting prospects for an equine business venture are discussed. Students gain an understanding of breed associations and develop an understanding of the commercial western horse industry. Gaining a deeper understanding of basic training equipment and tack is learned. Students utilize knowledge pertaining to nutrition in order to make informed decisions and minimize costs when able.

Rationale

This is a required course for the Equine major of the Animal Science Technology program first year students. The objectives outlined in this course supply students with the skillsets required to select animals for conformation, cost effectively meeting the nutritional requirements for horses in various stages of performance and production, adhering to a budget and creating an index to measure performance within a program. It is at the conclusion of AN 341 that students select animals for their next year's Student-Managed Farm unit. In labs, students learn comprehension of correct cattle handling techniques and technical horsemanship to enable handlers to work animals more efficiently and effectively while also producing a quiet and versatile horse.

Prerequisites

AN132

Co-Requisites

None

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

Lecture

1. become familiar with Equicity Stable Management Software.

2. demonstrate responsibility and interpersonal skills in order to effectively care for animals in the stable management environment.
3. classify the functions and appropriate use for different bits and training equipment purpose.
4. recognize common dental issues and their symptoms.
5. conduct conformation evaluation of prospective horses for use in the commercial horse business.
6. recognize the function of breed associations in the horse industry.
7. complete a partial budget analysis of an equine enterprise.
8. identify key performance indicators for a commercial western horse business.
9. select horses for sale prospects, breeding or replacement within a broodmare band.

Lab

1. efficiently work and sort cattle with their project horse.
2. employ low stress techniques to rope and restrain cattle for the purpose of treatment and ranch work.
3. exercise body control with your horse to negotiate trail obstacles such as gates, tarps and logs which are pertinent to both ranch work and developing a versatile finished horse.
4. apply all the technical skills developed in this course to perform reining patterns, as well as compete in ranch roping and ranch horse events.

Resource Materials

Required Textbook(s):

TBA

Reference Textbook(s):

Novak, S, & Shoveller, A. K. (2008). *Nutrition and feeding management for horse owners*.

Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development.

Kainer, R. A., & McCracken, T. O. (1998). *Horse anatomy a coloring atlas* (2nd ed.).

Dogwise Publishing.

Mike, K. (2004). *Colt Starting*. Western Horseman magazine.

Pate, C. (2004). *Ranch horsemanship*. Western Horseman magazine.

www.nrcha.com

www.aqha.com

Conduct of Course

This course consists of 42 hours of lecture and 56 hours lab. Lecture is delivered in the classroom with the use of PowerPoints, videos and assignments. The lab component is conducted in the Equine Centre and used to further develop practical riding competencies which coincide with the skills required to handle cattle, competently fit, show or sell horses. Planned seminars, field trips or other activities may occur outside of scheduled class times.

The lecture time involves note taking, videos, guest lectures and discussions. The lab portion involves individual or group work with assigned livestock to complete required tasks. Basic training of a green horse has a large time component to it. Labs are 4 hours per week with lecture as needed. Students are required to keep a notebook and pen in their locker at the arena for note taking. All working of project horses outside of class time must be done with a buddy system for safety reasons, never advancing past what the instructor has directed. The Stable Management portion consists of a regular Monday organizational meeting and daily chore times as directed in the handout, "Horse Unit Policies". Any deviation from the chore schedule needs to be approved by the instructor. Alteration of the chore schedule for the group should be done as a group at the Monday meetings.

Lab Requirements:

I) Clothing: Students must wear coveralls in the cattle handling labs. Coveralls are not to be worn in the classrooms. Jeans or riding pants are required in the arena. No sweatpants for riding. Students are required to wear helmets while starting colts and they may only be removed once permission is received from the instructor. Should a student wish to continue wearing a helmet for the remainder of the course they are encouraged to do so.

II) Footwear: Students must wear washable, steel toe, non-slip footwear in the cattle facility labs. Students not wearing proper footwear are not allowed in labs. Dirty footwear must be cleaned and disinfected when leaving farm facilities and when entering livestock barns. Boot washes are available for this and must be utilized. Students not adhering to basic hygiene regulations may be excused from lab participation. Students must wear appropriate riding boots during riding labs. Instructors reserve the right to approve or reject footwear, stirrups, or the combination of both in order to ensure rider safety.

III) Extras: Decorative jewelry and related items must not be worn during labs or at any time while working with livestock. Cell phones are not to be used for personal use during labs.

IV) Improper conduct in lab is not tolerated. Students may be asked to leave at the instructor's discretion.

Lecture:

- conformation evaluation
- prospect selection
- KPI
- partial budget analysis
- western equipment
- equine nutrition
- low stress livestock handling

Lab:

- trail obstacles
- rope work and logging
- body control
- roping
- sorting
- advancement to leverage bits
- reining patterns/mental imagery

Evaluation Procedures

Quizzes and assignments	15%
Equity Software	15%
Lab	20%
Midterm	20%
Final Exam	30%

Grade Equivalents and Course Pass Requirements

A minimum grade of D (50%) (1.00) is required to pass this course.

Letter	F	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Percent Range	0-49	50-52	53-56	57-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95-100
Points	0.00	1.00	1.30	1.70	2.00	2.30	2.70	3.00	3.30	3.70	4.00	4.00

Students must maintain a cumulative grade of C (GPA - Grade Point Average of 2.00) in order to qualify to graduate.

Attendance

Classroom and laboratory attendance is considered vital to the learning process and as significant to the students' evaluation as examinations and reports, therefore absenteeism is recorded.

- a. Students having a combination of excused and/or unexcused absence of 20 percent or higher for the scheduled course hours can be required to withdraw and would then automatically receive a "RW" (required withdrawal) for the course, regardless of any other evaluation results. (RW is a failing grade).
- b. An excused absence is one that is verified with your instructor. Verification should be prior to the absence or the next class day following the absence. Verification of the absence may take the form of a note from your doctor/College nurse regarding illness, or a note from another instructor regarding a field trip or other activity, or authorization by your instructor following an in-person meeting. Be sure to contact your instructor and ask what they will require from you as verification for each absence. An unexcused absence is anything NOT verified by the instructor prior to the absence or the next class day following the absence.

NOTE: Any exceptions to the above attendance policy (e.g. timetable conflicts, work-related issues) must be approved in writing by the Department Chair prior to the beginning of the course.

It is the students' responsibility to know their own absentee record.

Normal hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., with potential for evening courses, exams or extended field trips. Students are expected to be available for classes during these times.

Course Units/Topics

Unit Outcome:

Upon successful completion of this unit the student will be able to:

- understand the expectations for level of animal care within a commercial equine facility.
- have been introduced to Equicity Stable Management Software.
- have practiced interpersonal skills and communication which will be essential to success in Student-Managed Farm and the equine industry.

Unit 1: Stable Management through Equicity Software

Unit Objectives:

1. Students will learn how to navigate Equicity software and downloadable the app in order to manage college-owned horses and the stable environment.
2. First-year students will collaborate with second-year SMF Equine students who will be responsible for coordinating chore schedules and duties regarding the daily management of the stable environment, through the use of stable management meetings and Equicity Stable Management software.

3. Performance of stable management duties will normally take place before or after regularly scheduled class time. Failure to perform outlined stable management duties will result in a disciplinary letter from the instructor.
4. Duties include stalling and turnout, bedding and feeding SMF horses, conducting thorough sweeps of the barn, as well as ensuring garbages are taken out and the wash bay is cleaned.
5. Duties are to be performed prior to deadlines which shall be outlined through stable management meetings and communication through Equicity Stable Management software.

Rationale:

- Stable management through Equicity Software enables students to interact with classmates and second-year Animal Science Technology students in an environment representative of a training stable or boarding facility.
- The level of care for animals and expectations of conduct within this unit is in correlation with industry expectations of both stable managers, trainers and customers within the equine industry.
- Communication is an essential component for success in any stable management environment with numerous stakeholders. The use of accessible technology to increase communication with staff, as well as update and bill customers is quickly becoming the rule rather than the exception within the equine industry.

Unit 2: Bit functions and Common Equine Dental Problems

Unit Outcome:

Upon successful completion of this unit the student will be able to:

- describe the form and function of all NRCHA and AQHA legal bits and hackamores, as well as a variety of bits, bitless bridles and hackamores found commonly within the western horse industry.
- identify behavioral and health issues attributed to dental problems, as well as identify common dental problems and age horses by examining their teeth.

Unit Objectives:

1. recognize the form and function of a snaffle bit
2. identify which snaffle bits found in industry are legal at NRCHA or AQHA events and which are not
3. recognize the form and function of leverage bits
4. examine which leverage bits are legal at NRCHA or AQHA events and which are not
5. recognize the form and function of hackamores
6. examine which hackamores are legal at NRCHA or AQHA events and which are not
7. recognize common equine health or behavioral issues associated with dental problems
8. identify common dental problems for horses

9. demonstrate how to age a horse by examining their teeth

Unit 3: Western Tack and Training Equipment

Unit Outcome:

Upon successful completion of this unit students will be able to:

- select appropriate tack and equipment for the specific event and training requirement.
- explain equipment functions and demonstrate how to employ them.

Unit Objectives:

1. classify western saddles by their intended use and identify what differentiates them from one another
2. name training aids and their functions
3. identify the correct setting and use for different martingales
4. select the correct length of spur in correlation with height and activity of rider
5. infer which bits are appropriate at each level of training
6. assess correct saddle fit

Unit 4: Conformation Evaluation

Unit Outcome:

Upon successful completion of this unit, students will be able to:

- recognize conformation strengths and weaknesses vital in the assessment of horses for selection as a sale or brood mare prospect.

Unit Objectives:

1. locate all anatomic parts of the horse
2. explain balance
3. identify structural correctness
4. identify conformation faults
5. indicate which if any conformation faults are acceptable for prospect or brood mare selection
6. evaluate an individual horses' conformation as compared to breed conformation standard
7. identify ideal conformation characteristics for specific events jobs within the western horse industry
8. evaluate Athletic movement: length of stride, lightness, impulsion and rhythm

Unit 5: Breed Associations and Pedigree Analysis

Unit Outcome:

Upon successful completion of this unit, students will be able to:

- recognize the function and benefit of membership in breed associations, as well as evaluate how breed associations impact the equine industry.

Unit Objectives:

1. discuss what promotional opportunities are offered through a breed association
2. analyze production and performance records and pedigrees
3. understand breed association rules pertaining to membership and ownership (registration and transfer of ownership)
4. recognize how breed association rules pertaining to sanctioned competitions and events may affect your training regime
5. examine a breed associations available records to research a horse's pedigree, and identify metrics which may imply future performance

Unit 6: Overview of the Commercial Western Horse Industry

Unit Outcome:

Upon successful completion of this unit, students will be able to:

- have an introductory comprehension of the varied markets within the western horse industry and begin developing criteria for selecting, caring and marketing animals for end use in their target market.

Unit Objectives:

1. compare markets for western horses in today's commercial western horse industry (meat industry section)
2. recognize which attributes make a horse most suited to each market
3. students will identify which markets they have an interest in and objectively compare their current skill level, horse and facilities to identify where they currently fit in that market and examine what changes they may need to make to attain market share(assignment)
4. identify trends or shifts in the industry
5. select a marketable horse based on the criteria the student has outlined for their market

Unit 7: Key Performance Indicators for a Commercial Western Horse Business

Unit Outcome:

Upon completion of this unit students will be able to:

- identify key performance indicators for various markets within the Western horse Industry.
- at the end of this unit students will be able to conduct a partial budget and breakeven analysis.
- prepare a profit and loss statement.

Unit Objectives:

1. choose a market within the western horse industry and identify relevant KPI's within that market which increase the likelihood of success for that business
2. differentiate between expenditures within a horse business which are essential and non-essential
3. identify areas within a western horse business where there may be room to increase profitability
4. perform a partial budget analysis on a component of a horse business to determine what if any changes could increase profitability
5. conduct a break-even analysis on a proposed business venture using current market values
6. prepare a profit and loss statement

Unit 8: SWOT Analysis

Unit Outcome:

Upon successful completion of this unit, students will be able to:

- use a SWOT analysis to make informed decisions which may influence the success of their selected SMF Units in year 2.

Unit Objectives:

1. recognize the function of a SWOT analysis
2. name some of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats within the horse industry and your AST Equine class which may affect the future success of future for Equine SMF projects (group assignment)

Unit 9: Prospect Selection

Unit Outcome:

Upon successful completion of this unit, students will be able to:

- apply the knowledge they have developed in units 4 through 8 to best select animals for their second-year SMF units.

Unit Objectives

1. identify the market for which their proposed prospects will be intended for
2. select a prospect utilizing the 5 P's of livestock selection
 - a. Physique
 - b. Performance records
 - c. Production records
 - d. Pedigree
 - e. Price

AN-341 Lab Competencies:

1. body control for cattle work and roping
2. preparation of horse to work safely- pre roping checklist
3. maneuvering obstacles for ranch work
4. comprehension of cattle behavior and flight zones
5. positioning for roping (both tracking and low stress ranch roping)
6. low stress restraint and handling of cattle for doctoring
7. training a horse to turn and track correctly on cattle
8. sorting cattle efficiently and developing flow
9. teamwork while cattle handling
10. trailer loading cattle without the use of a chute
11. preparation for ranch horse competitions/reining patterns
12. advancing to neck reining and leverage bits



Copyright©LAKELAND COLLEGE.
2602 - 59 Avenue, Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada T9V 3N7. Ph: 780 871 5700
5707 College Drive, Vermilion, Alberta, Canada T9X 1K5. Ph: 780 853 8400
Toll-free in Canada: 1 800 661 6490 E-mail: admissions@lakelandcollege.ca