

Sul Ross State University  
ANSC 4311: Equine Conditioning & Physical Rehabilitation  
Independent Study Course

Instructor:

Dr. Perse McCrae

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Office hours: Monday & Wednesday 9:30-11:00 am or by appointment

Course description:

This independent study course is designed to allow students to develop their equine sports medicine skills through the participation in an external internship. Students will gain skills in the practical applications of conditioning methods, horsemanship and the use of technologies in physical rehabilitation.

Course objectives:

1. Students will demonstrate basic knowledge of the aspects of conditioning sport horses.
2. Students will understand the integration of conditioning, injury prevention and physical rehabilitation in the development and maintenance of sport horses.
3. Students will understand how to assess and apply rehabilitative methods.

Marketable Skills for Department of Animal Science:

1. Knowledge of techniques and equipment for planting, growing, and harvesting food products (both plant and animal) for consumption, including storage/handling techniques.
2. Knowledge of plant and animal organisms, their tissues, cells, functions, interdependencies, and interactions with each other and the environment.
3. Understanding the implications of new information for both current and future problem solving and decision-making.
4. Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
5. Identifying complex problems and reviewing related information to develop and evaluate options and implement solutions. Communicating finding in both oral and written form at a level appropriate for the needs of the audience.

Departmental projected learning outcomes:

1. Demonstrate the basic skills of interpreting research data gathered in an agricultural context.
2. Apply critical thinking skills to mitigate potential challenges in diverse animal sciences and related agricultural industries.
3. Demonstrate the ability to communicate through written, spoken, and graphical methods.

Required text:

None.

### Academic honesty:

The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of their classroom. The University 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, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. For more information visit:

[https://www.sulross.edu/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/users/docs/stulife/student\\_conduct\\_discipline.pdf](https://www.sulross.edu/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/users/docs/stulife/student_conduct_discipline.pdf)

### SRSU Library Services

The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, [library.sulross.edu](http://library.sulross.edu). Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or phone (432-837-8123).

### SRSU Disability Services:

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Rebecca Greathouse Wren, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email [rebecca.wren@sulross.edu](mailto:rebecca.wren@sulross.edu). Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

### Absence & late assignment policy:

It is expected that ALL assignments will be submitted on time. Valid absences include 1) medical emergencies with signed note from a doctor, 2) participation in a SRSU-sanctioned activity with a letter from faculty advisor, or 3) other emergencies or conflicts that are allowed at the professor's discretion. Students are expected to make up missed work within a week of original due date. **Late assignments will be accepted for 4 days following the initial due date and time with a 20% penalty per day late.**

### Assignments:

#### ***Internship experience reflection (500 pts)***

Write a summary of the tasks you performed, what you learned, what skills or knowledge you still need to develop, and any questions that you have. Submission should be 6 pages double spaced (12 pt. Times New Roman font). Due: September 15<sup>th</sup> by midnight.

#### ***Paper #1: Conditioning and injury prevention of Western performance horses (500 pts)***

Describe a variety of conditioning methods that are used to improve the fitness and performance of Western sport horses (you can choose to focus on a specific discipline). Explain what they are, how they are carried out, what equipment is required, and the pros and cons of each. Explain

how each method may be used to reduce the risk of future injury. Please use scholarly sources and cite them throughout your paper. Submission should be 6 pages double spaced (12 pt. Times New Roman font) with a list of citations. Due: October 30<sup>th</sup> by midnight.

***Paper #2: Rehabilitation of Western performance horses (500 pts)***

Describe the injuries most commonly observed in Western sport horses. Explain how these injuries affect performance (i.e. do they prevent the horse from competing only? Do they result in the horse being on stall rest for 6-12 months? Etc.) Explain what rehabilitation modalities (e.g. massage, acupuncture, Theraplate, hydrotherapy, drug intervention, etc.) can be used AND how they are used to treat these conditions. Please use scholarly sources and cite them throughout your paper. Submission should be 6 pages double spaced (12 pt. Times New Roman font) with a list of citations. Due: December 11<sup>th</sup> by midnight.

Points available:

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Points</b>
Weekly journal synopsis	500 pts
Paper #1: Conditioning and injury prevention of Western performance horses	500 pts
Paper #2: Rehabilitation of Western performance horses	500 pts
Total	1500 pts

Grading scale:

- A = 90-100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = below 60%