



# ANSC 2303

## Horsemanship I

### Fall 2025

Department: Agriculture & Industry

Length: 16 Weeks

Instructor: Felipe Padilha, DVM, PhD

Email: felipe.gomesferreirapadilha@sulross.edu

Lecture: Section 001 Tue 09:30-10:45am RAS 135

Lab:	Section L1	Tue/Thu 11:00am-12:45pm	Horse Barn
	Section L2	Tue/Thu 01:00pm-02:45pm	Horse Barn

## Course Description

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This course introduces the basics of horsemanship and equine daily care. Learning will emphasize understanding the horse and diverse riding disciplines, safety around horses, groundwork, and basic riding skills. This course is ideal for students with limited experience with horses, those who need an equine riding refresher, students who are looking to build confidence around horses and on horseback, and students who are looking to develop basic equestrian skills. During this course, students will receive instruction on grooming, basic health care and maintenance, tack selection and usage, and basic to average riding skills. Equine horseback riding and training skills encompass basic groundwork, walk, trot, and canter, depending on student personal limitations. Goals for the end of the semester is to acquire skills to be comfortable around horses, have at least a basic riding level and understanding of equine riding. The course also encompasses a brief overview of the basic principles and practices of the equine role in animal agriculture as well as discussion of current topics and future trends.

## Student Learning Objectives (SLO)

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Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Understand basic equine suitability, behavior, and work safely around horses
2. Demonstrate knowledge of equine management and basic horse care
3. Demonstrate knowledge of tack and equipment used for riding
4. Assess equine health for riding purposes
5. Prepare a horse for riding
6. Perform specific tasks on the ground or while mounted

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## Animal Science Marketable Skills

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- Knowledge of animal organisms, their tissues, cells, functions, interdependencies, and interactions with each other and the environment.
- Understanding the implications of new information for both current and future problem solving and decision- making.
- Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
- Identifying complex problems and reviewing related information to develop and evaluate options and implement solutions. Communicating in both oral and written form at a level appropriate for the needs of the audience.

## General Student Learning Objectives:

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Students will demonstrate that he/she is able to:

- Apply livestock management techniques to the care and sustainable management of domestic and captive animals
- Demonstrate the basic skills of interpreting information gathered in a research setting
- Apply critical thinking skills to deal with potential challenges in diverse animal sciences and related industries
- Develop problem solving skills
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate through written, spoken, and graphical methods.

## (ANSC) Student Learning Outcomes:

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Student will be able to:

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

## Physical Requirements:

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There is no minimum skill required for this class. However, the student must be able to mount and dismount a horse on their own. The student must be able to tolerate two hours in an outdoor classroom setting, while working with horses.

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## Requirements for Riding:

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All students must have the following items before they may participate in the handling or riding portions of this class:

- Signed liability waiver form
- Proof of insurance
- 100% achievement on safety test

## Attire:

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These items are required to participate in the handling or riding portions of this class:

- Jeans, riding breeches or similar type pants, covering the ankles (no capri or leggings)
- Shirt (no muscle shirts or shirts that expose shoulders)
- Closed toe boots (slick souled cowboy boots, or paddock riding boots)
- Helmets are highly encouraged (not required)
- Hats for sun protection are highly encouraged

## Attendance and promptness:

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Students **MUST** arrive promptly to class. Five points will be deducted for every 5 minutes you are late to class until you reach 20 points or 20 minutes late to class then you will be considered absent for that day. Additionally, 20 points will be deducted from your running point total for each day marked absent. If you have reached a total of 9 hours absent from this class, it is an automatic fail. Documentation of approved absences (personal illness, family emergency etc.) must be presented within 5 days for arrangements to be made to make-up quizzes and assignments. University approved absences for sports and student organizations must be disclosed at least two weeks in advance. Unexcused late assignments will be penalized 25% for the first 24 hours beyond the due date, 50% for 24-48hrs late and will not be accepted thereafter.

## Instructor Expectations from Students:

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- The instructor will provide weekly opportunities for communication with the class through announcements and reminders as well as office hours (by appointment).
- Class correspondence will be in person during class hours, through Blackboard or student's SRSU email account.
- Instructor will provide email responses within 48-hours of receipt during the hours of 9:00AM-4:00PM, Monday- Friday. Emails sent after hours and during the weekend will be replied to within this timeframe.
- Instructor will provide grades to assignments and projects within 72h after the respective due date.
- The instructor will provide clear and concise instructions on how to complete the course requirements.

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- Instructor will provide a range of opportunities to engage in the course content in a meaningful way utilizing diverse multimedia resources to enrich the student's experience and foster curiosity. Students are not mandated but encouraged to ask questions on course content.

## Professor Expectations of Students:

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- Successful students will familiarize themselves with the course syllabus, policies, assessments, evaluation, grading criteria, and course schedule.
- Successful students will complete all coursework on the assigned due date. The student is responsible for arranging the allowed make-up of any missed work, given a University-approved excuse such as (but not limited to) serious illness, accident, or death in the immediate family or participation in a University-sponsored activity provided that, prior to the absence, the student makes arrangement to complete all missed work.
- Successful students will engage in the course, with their peers, and the instructor and with open communication and active participation and should be diligent to use both oral and written communication that respects peers and instructor.
- Students should respond to instructor communication requests regarding course progress and for general inquiries in a timely manner. The deadline for responding to communication requests will be 72 hours after the communication was sent by the instructor.
- Successful students will not plagiarize the work of other, or use the work of their peers and claim it as their own. Students 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 may undergo academic disciplinary procedures.
- Successful students will pre-plan for testing situations and ensure they are able to access the internet to complete the exam during its assigned date and time, and prior to the due date.
- Students will be proactive and resourceful to problem solve in case of internet or technical issues. Further resources for technical support are available through Lobo IT or Blackboard.

## Animal Science Learning Outcomes (ASLO)

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- - Demonstrate the ability to interpret and apply scientific research.
- - Apply critical thinking and ethical reasoning in problem-solving.
- - Communicate effectively using discipline-appropriate formats.
- - Demonstrate the basic skills of interpreting research data gathered in an agricultural context.
- - Apply critical thinking skills to mitigate potential challenges in diverse animal sciences and related agricultural industries.
- - Demonstrate the ability to communicate through written, spoken, and graphical methods.

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## Course Schedule (16 Weeks)

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Lecture</i>	<i>Laboratory</i>
Week 1	8/26-8/28	Introduction	Tue: The Normal Horse Thu: Knowing your horse
Week 2	9/2-9/4	Safety Around Horses Horse Welfare	Tue: Equine Grooming and Restraint Thu: English Tacking
Week 3	9/9-9/11	Horse History and Breeds	Tue: Western Tacking Thu: Basic English Riding
Week 4	9/16-9/18	Horse Handling	Tue: Basic English Riding Riding Thu: NO CLASS
Week 5	9/23-9/25	English Disciplines	Tue: NO CLASS – RODEO WEEK Thu: NO CLASS – RODEO WEEK
Week 6	9/30-10/2	Western Disciplines	Tue: Basic English Riding Thu: Basic Western Riding
Week 7	10/7-10/9	Other Disciplines	Tue: Basic Western Riding Thu: Flat Work Techniques
Week 8	10/14-10/16	Riding Theory	Tue: Flat Work Techniques Thu: Flat Work Techniques
Week 9	10/21-10/23	MIDTERM EXAM	Tue: MIDTERM RIDING EXAM Thu: Video reviews (in classroom)
Week 10	10/28-10/30	Riding Theory	Tue: Flat Work Techniques Thu: Flat Work Techniques
Week 11	11/4-11/6	Riding Theory	Tue: Flat Work Techniques Thu: Flat Work Techniques
Week 12	11/11-11/13	Conditioning	Tue: Flat Work Techniques Thu: Basic Western Riding
Week 13	11/18-11/20	Stable Management	Tue: FINAL RIDING EXAM Thu: DUE DATE FOR Written Wiki Project
Week 14	11/25-11/27	“Wiki” Presentation	Tue: FINAL RIDING EXAM Thu: NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Holiday)
Week 15	12/2	“Wiki” Presentation	Tue: Video reviews (in classroom)

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<b>Week 16</b>	<b>12/4</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
<b>Week 17</b>	<b>12/9</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>

## Assessment & Grading

- Riding Exams: 2 - 100 points each = 200 points
- Wiki Written Assignment: 100 points
- Wiki Presentation: 100 points
- Written Midterm: 100 points
- Written Final: 100 points
- Attendance: Minus 5 points for every absence

For additional information on current Sul Ross State

Percentage	Letter Grade	Meaning	Points
90% -100%	A	Excellent	4
80% -89%	B	Good	3
70% -79%	C	Average	2
60% -69%	D	Poor	1
Below 60%	F	Failure	0

University policies for assigning grade points, please refer to <https://www.sulross.edu/registrar/catalog-and-policies/>

Total: 700 points

## Horse Breed and Function “Wiki” Paper and Presentation:

Write a “Wikipedia” style paper on a chosen horse breed, its “form and function” and how it applies to preferred disciplines. Guidelines and specific topics that must be included will be provided through an example on Blackboard. DUE Nov 20, 2025. Students are also required to do a presentation at the end of the semester during class covering the topics discussed in each Wiki paper. Presentations must be done on Powerpoint or similar software, and have a minimum of 10min, maximum of 15min per Wiki project. Students will be evaluated on knowledge of the breed, form and function, preferred disciplines, and expanded knowledge based on learning outcomes for this course. PRESENTATION Nov 25<sup>th</sup> and Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

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## Accommodations

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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. Alpine students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartz Grisham, M.Ed., LPC, 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 [mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@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.

## ADA Statement

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## Student Responsibilities

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All full-time and part-time students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Student Handbook and the Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog and for abiding by the University rules and regulations. Additionally, students are responsible for checking their Sul Ross email as an official form of communication from the university. Every student is expected to obey all federal, state and local laws and is expected to familiarize him/herself with the requirements of such laws.

## SRSU Distance Education Statement

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Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.

Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires a secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

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## Counseling

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Sul Ross has partnered with TimelyCare where all SR students will have access to nine free counseling sessions. You can learn more about this 24/7/365 support by visiting [Timelycare/SRSU](https://www.timelycare.com/SRSU). The SR Counseling and Accessibility Services office will continue to offer in-person counseling in Ferguson Hall room 112 (Alpine campus), and telehealth Zoom sessions for remote students and RGC students.

## Libraries

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The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library and Archives of the Big Bend in Alpine offer 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/](https://library.sulross.edu/). Off-campus access requires logging in with your LoboID and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or by phone (432-837-8123).

No matter where you are based, public libraries and many academic and special libraries welcome the general public into their spaces for study. SRSU TexShare Cardholders can access additional services and resources at various libraries across Texas. Learn more about the TexShare program by visiting [library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/](https://library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/) or ask a librarian by emailing [srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu).

## Academic Integrity

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Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. Students should submit work that is their own and avoid the temptation to engage in behaviors that violate academic integrity, such as turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden. Students should also avoid using open AI sources unless permission is expressly given for an assignment or course. Violations of academic integrity can result in failing assignments, failing a class, and/or more serious university consequences. These behaviors also erode the value of college degrees and higher education overall.

## Classroom Climate of Respect

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Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still, we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

## Supportive Statement

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I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports various perspectives and experiences. I understand that the recent pandemic, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events may

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impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create a supportive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you.

## Tutoring Center

The Lobo Den Tutoring Center offers FREE tutoring support to help you excel in your courses. Whether you need assistance in Writing, Math, Science, or other subjects, we're here to help!

### Important Information:

- Drop-in and Scheduled Appointments: Flexible options to fit your needs.
- Hours of Operation: Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.
- Workshops: Attend our regularly hosted academic workshops on STEM topics and professional development, often in collaboration with specialized faculty.
- Location: BWML Room 128.
- Contact Us: For more information or to book an appointment, email [tutoring@sulross.edu](mailto:tutoring@sulross.edu) or call (432) 837-8726.

### Looking for additional support?

- Tutor.com offers FREE 24/7 online tutoring in over 200 subjects, including specialized support for ESL and ELL learners with native Spanish-speaking tutors.
- Access Tutor.com via Blackboard: Log in to your Blackboard account to get started anytime, anywhere.

Take advantage of these valuable resources to boost your confidence and performance in your classes. We look forward to helping you succeed

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