ABAS 3430
HORSE PRODUCTION
Tu/Th, 8:00–9:25 am at the Horse Science Center
COURSE SYLLABUS – SPRING 2011

Description: This course will cover scientific principles relevant to production of horses, including nutrition, exercise physiology and performance, growth, reproductive physiology, health, behavior and clinical support. Management aspects of horse ownership and career opportunities will also be covered in effort to link scientific aspects of horse production with practical applications in equine enterprises.

Course objectives:
- Understand the science of anatomy, physiology and metabolic processes related to successful horse production and management.
- Experience hands-on aspects of horse production, including foaling of the broodmare.
- Develop the skills necessary to enhance the care, performance and profitability of horses through scientific understanding and improvement of management practices.
- Prepare for a career in the horse industry, or prepare for graduate or veterinary studies in horse science.

Instructor:
Dr. Rhonda M. Hoffman
Associate Professor, School of Agribusiness and Agriscience
E-mail: rhoffman@mtsu.edu URL: http://www.mtsu.edu/~rhoffman
I will be dividing my time between my offices at the Horse Science Center and the Stark Agribusiness and Agriscience building. Office hours will be posted on each door. I have an open door policy, so if I am in and the door is open, please feel free to speak with me. If you need a guaranteed meeting time, please make an appointment.

Text:
ABAS 3430 Course Handout Pack. Available at Phillips Bookstore. Required.
The course pack will be supplemented with handouts provided by the instructor in class and on D2L, references to internet sites of interest, and literature from horse industry and scientific publications. It is recommended that you purchase a 3-ring binder (1” to 1½”) or other folder to keep your notes organized.

No textbook is required, but if you wish to purchase a text for reference, the following is useful for both horse production and stable management:
Evaluation procedures:

- Three in-class Exams, including written as well as visual components, such as identification of slides or live animals. 600 pts
- Ten Quizzes (eight for credit). The scores from the lowest two quizzes will be dropped from the average. 200 pts
- Homework / Laboratory Exercises. 50 pts
- Mare Foaling Project (optional, extra credit) (50 pts)
- Final Exam (cumulative). 200 pts

TOTAL 1050 pts

Grading scale:

≥ 90% = A  
86–89% = B+  :  80–85% = B  
76–79% = C+  :  70–75% = C  
66–69% = D+  :  60–65% = D  
< 60% = F

Attendance policy:

Attendance for lecture will not be maintained; however, all exam information will be taken directly from lecture materials. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to obtain missed lecture notes and supplemental handouts. While there is a lot of information included in the course handouts, there is also a lot of information missing that you can only get by attending class. I do not give my personal lecture notes to anyone. Any additional notes taken during missed class(es) must be acquired from your peers.

Make-up Exams and Quizzes will not be allowed unless an absence is excused, such as in the case of family emergency, illness (with doctor’s note), university extracurricular activities, or other extenuating circumstances approved by the instructor on a case-by-case basis. If you know that you will miss an exam/quiz, you must let me know prior to and no later than the day of the exam/quiz. If you are sick with a fever, please take care of yourself and see your doctor or go to student health services. Make-up exams and quizzes must be completed in a timely manner. It is strongly suggested that you do everything you can to complete what you missed before I return the graded exam/quiz to the rest of the class if at all possible. I do my best to return graded material to the class in a timely manner, usually by the next class period. It is not fair to the rest of your class to make them wait to receive their exam/quiz grade so that you can complete your missed work. If you do not complete the make-up in a timely manner, you may end up forfeiting the points or be required to take penalty points off of the total possible.

Having worked my own way through college, I am well aware that you may have work commitments; however, your work schedule is not an excuse for missed classes, incomplete or poor quality work. Two lowest quiz scores dropped from the average allow some latitude for unexcused absences.
**Classroom policies:**
Assignments are due on time, during the class period in which they are due. Assignments turned in late will be accepted; however, a penalty of one letter grade will be added for each class day past the due date, with the first penalty beginning at the end of the class period in which the assignment is due.

During laboratory periods (announced in class), you are expected to wear appropriate clothing to ensure your comfort and safety when working around horses. Shoes should cover your feet completely and have a hard or sturdy covering over the toe (i.e. no open-toed or open-backed shoes, no light canvas or cloth shoes). The barn and arena may be quite cold during the winter season, so dress accordingly. Please note that the soil in the arena contains red clay that may stain white or light-colored shoes and clothing.

*Cell phones should be turned off prior to entering the classroom.* Individual conversations and text messaging during lecture periods are disrespectful and disruptive to the rest of the class. Those who are persistently text messaging or disruptive during lecture may be asked to turn in their phone or leave the classroom.

**Academic misconduct:**
It is expected that all work you complete for this course is your own. The University policy for academic misconduct will be followed. Academic misconduct includes the following behaviors: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, or facilitating any such act. For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

1) **Plagiarism.** The adoption or reproduction of ideas, words, statements, images, or works of another person as one’s own without proper acknowledgment.
2) **Cheating.** Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. The term academic exercise includes all forms of work submitted for credit or hours.
3) **Fabrication.** Unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
4) **Facilitation.** Helping or attempting to help another to violate a provision of the institutional code of academic misconduct.

Any student suspected of academic misconduct may be asked to meet with me to discuss the situation. If you are found responsible for committing an act of academic misconduct, you will be given a failing grade for the semester and reported to the Director of ABAS and the Assistant Dean for Judicial Affairs and Mediation Services for disciplinary action.
Do you have a lottery scholarship?
To retain Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship eligibility, you must earn a cumulative TELS GPA of 2.75 after 24 and 48 attempted hours and a cumulative TELS GPA of 3.0 thereafter. You may qualify with a 2.75 cumulative GPA after 72 attempted hours (and subsequent semesters), if you are enrolled full-time and maintain a semester GPA of at least 3.0. A grade of C, D, F, or I in this class may negatively impact TELS eligibility. Dropping a class after 14 days may also impact eligibility; if you withdraw from this class and it results in an enrollment status of less than full time, you may lose eligibility for your lottery scholarship. Lottery recipients are eligible to receive the scholarship for a maximum of five years from the date of initial enrollment, or until a bachelor degree is earned. For additional Lottery rules, please refer to your Lottery Statement of Understanding form, review lottery requirements on the web at http://scholarships.web.mtsu.edu/telsconteligibility.htm, or contact the Financial Aid Office at 898-2830.

Reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities:
If you have a disability that may require assistance or accommodation, or if you have questions related to any accommodations for testing, note takers, readers, etc, please speak with me as soon as possible. Students may also contact the Office of Disabled Students' Services (898-2783) with questions about such services.

Important dates for Spring 2011:

- January 13: Classes begin.
- January 17: Martin Luther King Jr. holiday – no classes.
- January 19: Deadline for students to add a class.
- January 26: Deadline for students to drop a course without a grade.
- March 25: Last day for students to drop a course with a grade of "W".
- April 20: Deadline for students to withdraw from the University.
- April 27: Last day of classes.
- April 28: Study Day.
- April 29-May 5: Final exams.
- May 7: Commencement.
- May 9: Deadline for faculty to submit final grades.

The Fine Print:
The instructor reserves the right to modify the information in this syllabus if deemed appropriate during the course of this class. Any modifications will be announced in class with a reasonable time frame considered for planning purposes.
# Tentative Course Outline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 13</td>
<td>Course introduction.</td>
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<td>Overview of Reproduction in horses.</td>
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<td>Fescue toxicity and broodmares.</td>
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<td>Selection of mares and stallions — Breeding “the ONE”</td>
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<td>Pregnancy and foaling management, care of the neonatal foal.</td>
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<td>Weaning management, Developmental orthopedic disease.</td>
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<td>Feb 17</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 1</strong></td>
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<td>Digestive anatomy and physiology, nutrition and feeding.</td>
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<td>Nutritionally related diseases. Colic, laminitis, founder and EMS.</td>
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<td>Mar 9-14</td>
<td>Spring Break — No class.</td>
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<td>Exercise physiology, performance, conditioning and overtraining.</td>
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<td>Metabolic conditions associated with exercise.</td>
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<td>March 24</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 2</strong></td>
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<td>Aged and debilitated horses.</td>
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<td>Emerging diseases. EPM. MRLS.</td>
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<td>Principles of behavior, perception and operant conditioning.</td>
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<td>Horses as a business: management decisions.</td>
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<td>Nutrient management, water quality and the scoop on poop.</td>
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<td>April 21</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 3</strong></td>
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<td>Current issues in the horse industry.</td>
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<td>April 26</td>
<td>Last day. Wrap up, Mare Foaling Reports due (optional).</td>
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<td>May 3</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, May 3, FINAL EXAM. 8:00–10:00 a.m.</strong></td>
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**Quiz Dates:**

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<tr>
<th>Jan 20</th>
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<th>Feb 24</th>
<th>Mar 17</th>
<th>Apr 7</th>
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<td>Jan 27</td>
<td>Feb 10</td>
<td>Mar 3</td>
<td>Mar 31</td>
<td>Apr 14</td>
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