

# **Syllabus and Course Description**

## **Course Information**

### **AVS 196 Introduction to Equine Cooperative**

Introductory field experience in the handling and care of the University of Maine equine herd.

Credits: 1

## **Faculty Information**

Instructor: Robert Causey

Office: Witter Center

Email: [rcausey@maine.edu](mailto:rcausey@maine.edu)

Cell phone: 207-922-7475

Office hours: By appointment

## **Instructional Materials and Methods**

Course notes provided by instructor. Barn manual located on Google Drive

(Shared with Everyone in Barn > Barn Manual)

or under Barn Manual at [robertcausey.github.io](https://robertcausey.github.io)

Student will require clothes suitable for working outdoors, including foot wear with some degree of toe protection, such as leather shoes or boots. Sandals, sneakers or open toed shoes are not appropriate. Students are encouraged, but not required, to purchase a riding helmet.

## **Learning Outcomes**

*Learning outcome # 1:* The student will improve skills applicable to any work place, including increased responsibility, timeliness, professionalism, concern for animal welfare, interpersonal skills, and attention to detail.

*Learning outcome #2:* The student will be able to satisfactorily complete routine horse care duties.

*Learning outcome #3:* The student will be able to demonstrate competence in safe horse handling, knowledge of feeds, knowledge of tack, physical examination of the horse, and basic horse terminology.

## **Grading and Course Expectations**

Students will be graded as follows:

Completion of assigned tasks: 80 % (See rubric below)

Quizzes: 20 %

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

## **Class Policies**

Students will be required to attend weekly equine barn meetings, to participate in weekly chore rotations, and to attend a weekly lecture. Class attendance is required. Failure to attend a scheduled meeting or perform assigned duty, without prior approval of the instructor, will be penalized according to a three strikes policy, resulting in failing the class upon the third strike.

### ***Academic honesty***

Academic dishonesty includes cheating, plagiarism and all forms of misrepresentation in academic work, and is unacceptable at The University of Maine. As stated in the University of Maine's online undergraduate "Student Handbook," plagiarism (the submission of another's work without appropriate attribution) and cheating are violations of The University of Maine Student Conduct Code. An instructor who has probable cause or reason to believe a student has cheated may act upon such evidence, and should report the case to the supervising faculty member or the Department Chair for appropriate action.

### ***Students with disabilities statement***

If you have a disability for which you may be requesting an accommodation, please contact Ann Smith, Director of Disabilities Services, 121 East Annex, 581-2319, as early as possible in the term.

### ***Sexual Discrimination Reporting***

The University of Maine is committed to making campus a safe place for students. Because of this commitment, if you tell a teacher about an

experience of sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, relationship abuse (dating violence and domestic violence), sexual misconduct or any form of gender discrimination involving members of the campus, your teacher is required to report this information to the campus Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention or the Office of Equal Opportunity.

If you want to talk in confidence to someone about an experience of sexual discrimination, please contact these resources:

For confidential resources on campus: Counseling Center: 207-581-1392 or Cutler Health Center: at 207-581-4000.<sup>[1]</sup><sub>SEP</sub>

For confidential resources off campus: Rape Response Services: 1-800-310-0000 or Spruce Run: 1-800-863-9909.

Other resources: The resources listed below can offer support but may have to report the incident to others who can help:

For support services on campus: Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention: 207-581-1406, Office of Community Standards: 207-581-1409, University of Maine Police: 207-581-4040 or 911. Or see the OSAVP website for a complete list of services at <http://www.umaine.edu/osavp/>

## **Course Schedule**

Lecture Mondays 6.00 PM – 8.00 PM

Barn duties: 4 hours per week

### **Lecture topics:**

**Safety Training; stall cleaning and barn organization**

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**Haltering, leading, restraint in stall and paddock**

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**Feeding and watering in stall and paddock**

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**Simple ground training during catching horses and turn-out  
Horse color and horse identification**

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**Grooming and hoof care**

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**Parts of a horse**

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**Tack**

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**Physical examination**

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**Horse emergencies**

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**Rubric for grading completion of assigned tasks:**

	-----Score-----				
Task	1	2	3	4	5
Stall cleaning					
Horse Handling					
Feeding					
Grooming					
Physical examination					
Horse terminology					
Knowledge of Tack					
Attendance*					

**1 = Unacceptable - Unable to complete task supervised**

**2 = Needs improvement - Unable to complete task unsupervised**

**3 = Acceptable - Can complete task unsupervised**

**4 = Good - More than acceptable, but not qualified to instruct**

**5 = Excellent - Qualified to instruct**

**\*Student score reduced by 1 for each unscheduled absence.**

**The total score from the rubric will be multiplied by 2, for a maximum possible of score of 40 X 2 = 80 % of class grade.**