

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
College of Education and Human Development

RECR 125 001 Intermediate Horsemanship
1 Credit Fall 2020
W 11:30-1:30, 1925 Hunter Mill Rd, Vienna, VA
10/11-11/27

Faculty

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Prerequisites/Corequisites Completion of RECR 124 or permission of instructor

University Catalog Course Description

Introduces intermediate skills of horseback riding and horsemanship. Emphasizes technical riding and advancing basic horseback riding skills (e.g. figure 8's, serpentines, and change of direction). Focuses on how equitation affects the horse and horse behavior affects riding and safety.

Course Overview

1. Students with injuries or pre-existing conditions that may affect performance must inform the instructor.
2. All communication will be through GMU e-mail.
3. Students **MUST** wear appropriate attire as follows in order to participate:
 - a. Helmets should be purchased for health considerations.
 - b. Long pants must be worn (jeans, chaps, britches are all optional).
 - c. ½" minimum heel must be worn. (Please no "high" heel boots or UGG)
 - d. No tank tops or short shirts may be worn
 - e. Shirts **MUST** be neatly tucked in and hair pulled back for riding.
4. Liability release forms must be signed before riding.
5. Practical riding exercises will be graded on completion, attention to detail and consideration of animal care and general safety. Specific athletic or technical horsemanship skills are not a prerequisite

Course Delivery Method

This is an activity-based course

Learner Outcomes or Objectives

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

1. Demonstrate proper equitation.
2. Demonstrate and discuss the elements involved in proper tack cleaning and conditioning.
3. Identify parts of the horse as it relates to the movement of the horse.
4. Cite five reasons how equitation and balance of the ride affects the movement of the horse
5. State the mentality of a horse's thinking and actions.
6. Complete figures including figure 8s and serpentines.
7. Trot or canter a full course of 4-6 fences with 1 change of directions.

8. Define turns, pace, balance and rider interference.

Professional Standards: N/A

Required Texts: None

Optional: Morris, G.H. (1990). *Hunter Seat Equitation* (3 ed.). Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group, Inc.

Course Performance Evaluation

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, hard copy).

- **Assignments and/or Examinations**

Participation (20%) – attendance and positive daily interaction with instructor, class members, and horses.

Students will receive 10 points for each class session. Points will also be deducted for lack of cooperation or negative interaction with the horses. Students will be prepared for each class.

Homework (5%)-Reading, assignments related horse mentality and equitation.

Ring Exercises (40%) – listening, attempting, asking questions

Exercises and drills for basic dressage, turns, pacing, balance, change of direction.

Practicing jump course

1 Mid-Term Test (15%) –Written (5%) and Practical (10%)

Practical-Basic dressage, rider position,

Written-Proper Equitation, “hip, heal, and shoulder”,

Final Exam (20%) – Written (5%) and Practical (20%)

Practical-Successful completion of a jumping course and forward riding

Written-Rules of Competition and understanding a jumping course.

- **Other Requirements**

Student must attend class in order to participate in class discussion. Contribution will be evaluated based on involvement of the lectures and riding. Students must be on time to class. Two late arrivals or one unexcused absence will result in 5 point deduction of total points. Absences are excused with a note from a health care provider presented immediately upon return to class or scanned and emailed to the instructor.

Grading

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| A = 94 – 100 | B+ = 88 – 89 | C = 78 – 79 + | D = 60 – 69 |
| A = 90 – 93 | B = 84 – 87 | C = 74 – 77 | F = 0 – 59 |

B- = 80 – 83

C- = 70 – 73

Professional Dispositions

See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/>

Class Schedule

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

| WEEK | TOPICS | READINGS |
|----------------|---|---|
| 10/20/20 21 | Review of the basic of horses, tacking up, mounting and basic riding skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>History of forward riding</i> ○ <i>Position of the rider and the effects on riding</i> ○ <i>Mechanics of the horse</i> ○ <i>Homework-Read up on Figures and Sheet 1 (Due 10/23)</i> |
| 10/27/20 21 | Riding a pattern | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Patterns (circle, figure 8, Serpentine, half turns and half turns in reverse)</i> ○ <i>Homework-Read up on Jumping positions. Find 3 pictures of riders jumping and be prepare to discuss.</i> |
| 11/03/20 21 | Quick Review of aids. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Midterm riding pattern test-basic dressage test. ○ <i>Jumping position</i> ○ <i>Homework-Read up on calculating a line and counting.</i> |
| 11/10/20 21 | Mid-Term Exam Riding Instruction- Putting together a course and understanding the terms of jumps | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Understanding distance to jumps and rhythm</i> ○ <i>Homework-None</i> |
| 11/17/20 21 | Review and Course work No class next week due to holiday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No lecture ○ <i>Continue to work on lines and turns</i> ○ <i>Homework-Practice Exam</i> |
| 12/01/20 21 | Review and polishing a jumping course Final exam due on or before 12/11/2019 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Courses</i> ○ <i>Evolution of the “Equine”</i> ○ <i>Final Exam</i> |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ |

Riding Instruction to include; Review grooming, tacking, basic positions. Proper use of basic aids, including proper equitation. Basic figures: circles, half circles, lines, figures 8's and serpentine. Learn to canter and jump a full course.

Lectures to Include the following topics; Equitation as it pertains to both horse and rider. How the horse correctly moves both under saddle and with the affects of the rider's position. How a rider's position attributes to the horse's conformation, including muscle and lameness. Proper tack cleaning and conditioning.

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary.

Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>.

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <https://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students **solely** through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <https://ds.gmu.edu/>).
- **Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.**

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to tk20help@gmu.edu or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>

Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/> .