

**ANEQ 115 Equine Behavior  
Syllabus – Spring 2018 (2 cr.)**

**Instructor:** Sarah Matlock  
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ETRC: Room 141, 970-491-8463 (Monday, Wednesday, Friday)  
Animal Science: Student Success Wing 970-491-5177 (Tues. & Thurs.)

**Office Hours:** By appointment.

**Teaching Assistants:** Lecture - Maile Gibbons – [mgibbons@rams.colostate.edu](mailto:mgibbons@rams.colostate.edu)  
Lab - Annie Beckham – [abeckham@rams.colostate.edu](mailto:abeckham@rams.colostate.edu)

**Course Time & Location:** Lecture – Mondays, 10:00 – 10:50, Shepardson 102  
Lab – Monday or Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:50, ETRC

**Optional Text:** McGreevy, P. (2012). *Equine behavior: A guide for veterinarians and equine scientists*. (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York, NY: Saunders Ltd.

**Course Goals:** Understanding ethology, the science of animal behavior, should be at the foundation of all equine professionals. The goal of this course is to enable you to understand important concepts of equine behavior and how they relate to the care and welfare of horses, as well as the safety of handlers. Course topics focus heavily on equine psychology, including instinctive, learned, social and reproductive behaviors. Additionally, we will study sensory perception and behavioral neuroanatomy in order to understand the chemical reactions that instigate a specific response. The lab component of this course will focus on best practices for safety and handling by reinforcing concepts discussed in lecture.

**Upon completion of this course students will be able to:**

1. Provide an in-depth analysis of ethology and describe its influence on equine health, welfare, and training.
2. Identify biological and physiological components that affect behavior and develop training and management practices that enhance the well being of the horse.
3. Explain environmental factors that influence behavior by distinguishing the differences between “learned behaviors” and “instinctive behaviors”, and be able to develop strategies that will modify these behaviors through training/interactions.
4. Develop a new expertise in careful observation and analysis of stereotypic behaviors and how to modify these behaviors for the health and wellness of the horse.

**Class Policies:**

- Regular attendance is expected of all students. There will be **2 excused absences** allowed. After that, each absence will result in a letter grade reduction. Please email me if you are going to miss class and provide appropriate documentation for your absence.
- **Dress** – Students are required to wear long pants, closed toed shoes and shirts that cover their shoulders when participating in labs. Please be aware that we will be working with industry professionals in many of the labs. Your appearance will make an impression.
- **Students have one week following the return of exams and other graded items to resolve grading issues.** Please come see me if you are struggling.
- Cheating will not be tolerated and will result in removal from the course and an assignment of F for the final course grade.
- Make-up assignments or exams will only be given for extenuating circumstances and approved by the instructor. All make-up assignments or exams may be short answer, essay or oral in nature. Students must notify the professor before the scheduled exam time or assignment deadline. No make-ups will be granted after an exam date or assignment deadline.
- Late assignments will not be accepted unless previously arranged with instructor.

Students should realize they will be working with and around horses in this class, and that there are inherent dangers associated with handling horses and working in an equine environment. Students are required to follow safety procedures and are strongly encouraged to have accident insurance, which is available through the university.

Students with disabilities or special needs are responsible for informing the instructor at the beginning of the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

<b>Grading Criteria:</b>	Lab Participation/Attendance	10%
	Assignments	40%
	Exams	40%
	Final Project	10%

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale.

89.5 – 100%	= A
79.5 – 89.4%	= B
69.5 – 79.4%	= C
< 69.4	= Not Passing

\*Lecture/lab schedule is subject to change