

ADULT HORSEMANSHIP COURSE

SPRING 2012

SYLLABUS

CLASS CALENDAR AND OUTLINE

OFFERED BY
PINEBROOK FARMS RIDING SCHOOL

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PLEASE READ *ALL*
ENCLOSED INFORMATION

BAD WEATHER

Even with a covered arena, it is likely that at one time or another poor weather conditions will make it impossible for the class to ride. When this occurs, the class will meet in the class room at the farm.

TACK

All grooming equipment, saddles, bridles, pads, etc. will be furnished by Pinebrook Farms, and will be assigned according to size of rider and horse being used. Any student wishing to use their own tack may do so at their own risk, providing it fits the assigned horse. Student owned tack must be brought to each class. Student's tack may not be stored at the farm.

RIDING APPAREL

All riders will be required to wear a helmet. Riders owning their own helmets, may bring them, and helmets will be provided by Pinebrook Farms to those not owning their own.

Students must wear jean type pants or riding breeches, (which do not come below students navel,) boots or riding shoes which come up over the ankle, with a smooth sole and a distinct heel, and a comfortable and appropriate shirt. (No spaghetti strap shirts, halter tops, midriff shirts, nor shirts with obscene wording or graphics.) Inappropriate apparel can be uncomfortable and even dangerous while riding. Clothing too large or too small can cause chafing, become tangled in tack, and at the least, be distracting. Students showing up in inappropriate apparel will not be allowed to ride. Long hair must be pulled back and secured. Large or dangling jewelry should not be worn as it may be caught up in tack and present a safety concern. On cooler nights, students may wish to wear gloves.

HORSES

All horses used for class are gentle, well trained, responsive and well mannered. Every effort is made to match rider up with suitable horse. Students may not necessarily ride the same horse the entire course. Students are welcome to bring their own horses, and will be asked to sign a horse owners release form. There is no reduction in fee since students will receive individual training techniques on their own horses, as well as lessons. Students horses must have a negative current Coggins Test and Health Certificate, and be manageable in a group situation. Unruly horses will be excused. No stallions will be allowed.

ORGANIZATION OF CLASSES

This class will meet on Tuesday evenings, from 7:00 - 9:45 PM. Occasionally it will meet concurrently with the Advanced Horsemanship Class, at the same time. All students introductory, and advanced, will be taught skills and techniques, in small groups, based on ability and experience. Generally, each three hour class time will be made up of 90 minutes of riding lessons, (which will include grooming, tack up, cool out, unsaddle, and put away time) and 90 minutes of horsemanship instruction, (including a 15 minute break,) which may be taught in our class room, or in the barn, at the farm, or on the farms grounds. Weather may cause changes in class organization, but **class will be held rain or shine, unless otherwise instructed.**

MORE INFORMATION CONCERNING COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to provide students with basic knowledge which will allow them to safely handle horses, both on the ground and while riding, to communicate with their horses, and better understand why horses behave the way they do. They will learn the skills needed to care for, ride and enjoy horses. Upon completion of this course, students should have fundamental knowledge and skills concerning:

1. Safety in handling & riding horses
2. Psychology and Behavior
3. Terminology
4. Differences in Breeds of Horses
5. Good Grooming techniques
6. Tack Care and Selection
7. Basic Riding Techniques, English and Western
8. Basic Training Techniques
9. Conformation
10. Nutrition and Correct Feeding Practices
11. General Health Care
12. Basic Equine Dentistry

In terms of riding, students will have the opportunity to learn, (depending on ability):

1. Correct mounting/dismounting
2. Good balanced riding position
3. Correct use of natural aids
4. Understanding gaits
5. Asking for and getting correct:
walk, trot and canter/lope
6. Backing horse correctly
7. Differences and similarities in English
& Western riding
8. Exercises to enhance ability of rider & horse
9. Problem solving (rider's and horse's)
10. Basic training on the ground

Other information covered as a part of the objectives of this course:

1. Trailer safety
2. Judging & selecting the right horse
3. Careers with horses
4. Liabilities in horse ownership
5. Precautions needed when buying a horse
6. Impact of horse industry on economy

Horsemanship Riding Skills Test - Western or English Examples of possible requirements: (Course material may vary according to class participants, and may not necessarily be covered in this order)

Level I

1. Halter, Tie, Groom, Saddle, Bridle, Lead horse properly
2. Mount and dismount properly
3. Demonstrate good riding position, explain and/or demonstrate proper use of natural aids.
4. Walk, trot, (post if riding English) stop, circle both directions, stop and back correctly.
5. Ride horse over obstacles

Level II (As ability allows, having completed Level I)

1. Pass grooming and clean saddle inspection
2. Demonstrate horsemanship pattern, including loping on correct lead, both directions
3. Demonstrate ability to flex horse both directions, and to ask for yielding to legs,
both directions. (shoulders in, shoulders out)
4. Be able to ride horse over intermediate obstacle course, including trotting over cavalletti,
opening gate from horseback, backing through L, etc.
5. Demonstrate lunging a young horse and using round pen for training new skills

Level III (As ability allows, having completed Levels I & II)

1. Demonstrate ability to "show groom," including use of clippers and pulling mane
2. Demonstrate horsemanship pattern including flying lead changes, smooth transitions, etc.
3. Demonstrate advanced obstacle course including putting raincoat on while on horseback,
turns on haunches, side pass over logs, small jump (18")
4. Demonstrate showmanship at halter
5. Demonstrate one show event not already covered in the above requirements

Examples of Horsemanship knowledge covered on exams: (May include but not be limited to:)

1. Basic Knowledge of good safety procedures used in working with horses, on the ground and while riding.
2. Good health care practices, understanding internal and external parasites, deworming, inoculations, EIA testing, symptoms and cures of common diseases, etc
3. Basic knowledge of good Horse management, watering, feeding and care, exercise, shelter
4. Parts of horse, how conformation effects disposition, movement and performance
5. How and what the horse sees, where his blind spots are
6. Basic instincts, understanding the horse's language
7. How the digestive system works, why it gives horses problems
9. Skeletal and muscular system of horse, how this knowledge helps us as riders
10. Parts of hoof, problems of hoof, symptoms and treatments, good hoof care
11. Different breeds and their characteristics



**ADULT HORSEMANSHIP COURSE
CALENDAR AND OUTLINE OF COURSE FOR SPRING 2012**

(order of classes and content covered in class may be changed, without prior notice, according to weather, special opportunities, condition of horses, availability of staff, etc.)

I. January 17th - 1st class:

7:00 Class meets at PINEBROOK FARMS, in class room, for orientation, unless otherwise announced:

- A. 7:00 - Introductions, goals, maps, hand out releases, info sheet, health forms, syllabus, outline
 - 1. Discussion of attire - helmets, who has their own?
 - 2. Preference - English - Western (How many of each ?)
 - 3. Have students sign release forms before leaving to going to barn
 - 4. Go over Health forms, Use information sheets to gather info needed to assign horses, tack, etc.
- B. 8:00 - 9:00 Refer syllabus and to Class material, introduce CHA, Centered Riding
 - 1. Understanding horses vision
 - 2. Reading body language
 - 3. Confident handling
 - 4. Other safety concerns; hand feeding, horsemanship knot
 - 5. Introduce Text Book - allow students to purchase. Assign reading for next class.
 - 6. Students must call 2 hours prior to class, if not coming, so horse won't be caught up when not needed
- C. 9:00 - 10:00 If time allows: Go to barn, assign & list helmet numbers, Barn orientation - rules - dismiss class

II. January 24th - 2nd. class:

- A. 7:00 - 8:30 Class meets in barn, horses tied to arena, saddles on fence. Assign horses and saddles to students basic safety lesson, Grooming & tacking up Demo - English and/or Western, all watch.
 - 1. Safety concerns
 - 2. Why do we groom? (at least 5 reasons)
 - 3. Grooming tools, order they are used, purposes
 - 4. Demonstrate grooming, saddling & bridling, allow students to watch
- B.
 - 1. All students groom, saddle and bridle (with help)
 - 2. Watch demonstration on correct mounting and dismounting, good riding position, good hand and rein position, both English and Western, Allow students to practice mounting, dismounting on "Dummy"
 - 3. Demo Safety Checks, allow students to do their own, followed by check by instructors.
 - 4. Check girths, mount, adjust stirrups, get in balanced position, review use of aids
 - 5. Stop, start & steer lesson, discuss gaits, horses movement, rhythm, do exercises, reverse, leg yielding, & back up
 - 6. Dismount, untack, groom, put horses and tack away.
- C. Evaluate riders ability, start assigning groups. 8:30 - 8:45 Break
(Depending on riding time, BREAK TIME may be a part of the time spent untacking and putting horses away.)
- D. 8:45 - 9:45 Classroom participation: Textbooks available for purchase, need to purchase by 4th class
 - 1. Handouts for those without books on Parts of horse, Parts of hoof
 - 2. Parts of saddle, bridle, tack fit, tack terminology
 - 3. Responsibilities of horse ownership
 - 4. Impact of horse industry on economy
- E. Assign/explain Mid Term Project, assign reading from class material handouts for next class (See class material)

III. January 31st - 3rd class:

- A. 7:00 - 8:30 Class meets in barn, gets out own horses and tack
 - 1. Groom and saddle and Bridle
 - 2. Basic riding lesson, divide class into small groups
 - 3. Evaluate skills, allow those who are ready to trot
 - 4. Demonstrate opposite legs moving at trot with leg wraps, talk about diagonals
 - 5. Work on balance, ride without stirrups and hands, use centered riding exercises
 - 6. Allow more experienced riders to start completing Level I requirements
 - 7. Work over obstacles 8:30 - 8:45 break
- B. 8:45 - 9:45 Classroom participation: Textbooks available - need to purchase by next week.
 - 1. Talk about trailer safety, loading techniques, watch video
 - 2. Talk about trail riding safety, weather, lightning, aware of roads, laws, etc
 - 3. Discuss danger of Stable Fire, fire prevention
 - 4. Stall Bedding

Course outline cont:

IV. February 7th - 4th class:

- A. 7:00 - 8:00 Groom horses, but do not saddle up yet
 - 1. Watch demonstration of leg wraps, let students practice, leave leg wraps on
 - 2. Watch demonstration of trailer loading, perhaps allow students to load horses.
 - 3. Go back to arena, saddle up
- 8:30 - 8:45 break
- B. 8:45 - 9:45? (length of riding time depends on amount of riding time missed due to bad weather, etc.) Warm up exercises, basic riding lesson - divided into groups, allow advanced riders to lope if ready
 - 1. Demonstrate loping in correct lead with colored leg wraps
 - 2. Discuss use of aids to ask for correct lead, why correct lead is important
- C. Other riders work on trot, transitions, use of aids for stops, backing, leg yielding, etc
- D. Cool out, untack, groom and put horses away. Talk about use of blankets and sheets, demonstrate putting on sheet, allow students to put sheets on horses if needed
- G. Last night to purchase Text books - Assign reading for next class. (May not have class room participation tonight)

V. February 14th - 5th class:

- A. 7:00 - 8:30 NO RIDING TONIGHT - GUEST LECTUERS WILL DO DEMONSTRATIONS ON
HOOF CARE AND EQUINE DENTAL CARE
- B. 8:30 - 8:45 BREAK
- C. 8:45 - 9:00 Class room: Handout and continued discussion of Hoof care and Equine Dental Care
- D. 9:00 - 9:45 Video by ohn Lyons on Round pen reasoning - discussion
- E. In the next few weeks, as time allows, we will be discussing and demonstrating some or all of the following:
 - 1. Dismantling and putting back together saddles, bridles, both English and Western
 - 2. Proper use of leg wraps
 - 3. Working with young horses in hand & under saddle
 - 4. Demonstration of how bit works and why, different uses for different bits
 - 5. Ability to check horses vital signs, (pulse, respiration, temperature, gut sounds, etc.)
 - 6. Catching a horse in the pasture, turning it loose, etc.
 - 7. Determining horses age by teeth, care of teeth
 - 8. Tying horsemanship knot, or manger knot
- F. Assign reading for next class from class material handouts and CHA Manual (See class material)

VI. February 21nd - 6th class:

- A. 7:00 - 8:30 Groom, Saddle, Bridle, Pass grooming and tack up inspection for grade, Demonstrate horsemanship knot, next week will check off evaluation sheet
- B. Riding lesson, review riding skills, practice for mid-term skills evaluations, next week.
- C. Untack, put horses away 8:30 - 8:45 Break
- D. 8:45 - 9:45 Classroom participation: Turn in mid-term reports by Class 8
 - 1. Review material covered, discuss definition of terms, answer questions
 - 2. Discuss careers in the horse industry

VII. February 28th- 7th class: MID-TERM RIDING SKILLS EVALUATION

- A. 7:00 - 8:30 Groom, Saddle, Bridle, Demonstrate horsemanship knot, check off evaluation sheet
- B. Divide up into small groups, warm up, each group to evaluations separately
- C. Horsemanship pattern of different levels to be performed by students and graded
 - 1. Riders divided into small groups, according to levels, instructors to grade performances.
 - 2. Riders demonstrate ability to go over obstacle courses according to levels of ability
- D. Untack, put horses away 8:30 - 8:45 Break
- E. 8:45 - 9:45 Classroom participation: Turn in reports, if ready
 - 1. Go over possible exam questions -Subject matter to be covered this night will be explained in more detail as course progresses.
 - 2. Assignment is to study for mid-term - turn in mid-term reports no later than next week

**VIII - March 7th - 8th class - MID TERM WRITTEN EXAM - NO RIDING TIME TONIGHT
LAST CHANCE TO Turn in mid-term reports
YOU MAY BE EXCUSED WHEN YOU FINISH EXAM**

March 11 - 16th- MID SEMESTER BREAK - NO CLASS THIS WEEK

HAVE A GREAT SPRING BREAK!

Course outline cont:

IX. March 13th - 9th Class

- A. 7:00 - 8:30 Groom, tack up, warm up, riding lesson, continue to work on lope and canter departures, transitions, everyone work on balance in turns, at trot, etc.
 - 1. Trot over raised poles on ground, all riders work on balance/jump position, X rail jumps
 - 2. All riders do exercises preparatory to flying lead changes.
 - 3. Put horses away
- B 8:45 - 9:45 Classroom participation:
 - 1. Review graded papers.
 - 2. Talk about different breeds of horses
 - 3. Introduction of Equine senses and instincts
 - 4. Assign and explain 2nd Term Project, and assign reading for next class (see class material)

X. March 20th - 10th class:

- A. 7:00 - 8:30 Groom, tack up, warm up - Demo lateral work - side pass
 - 1. Demonstrate opening a gate from horseback using lateral work
 - 2. Work over more challenging obstacle course.
 - 3. Introduce, demonstrate and practice western riding pattern, simple lead changes Ok
- 8:30 - 8:45 Break
- B 8:45 - 9:45 Class room participation:
 - 1. More indepth discussion of equine behavior
 - 2. Understanding Instincts and resulting responses
 - 3. Differences in individual horses, normal and abnormal behavior
 - 4. Stable vices
 - 5. What to look for in buying a horse
- C. Assign reading for next class (see class material)

XI. March 27th - 11th. class:

- A. 7:00 - 8:30 Groom, tack up, warm up
 - 1. Class make up for any riding skills missed due to weather, etc
 - 2. Individuals work on specific riding problems in small groups with assistance.
- SEE SYLLABUS FOR RIDING SKILLS TO BE COVERED, BUT STUDENTS MAY SUGGEST OR REQUEST HELP ON OTHER AREAS AS WELL.
- 8:30 - 8:45 Break
- B. 8:45 - 9:45 Class room participation:
 - 1. Hand outs given, and brief discussion of topics on hand outs, including:
 - Feeding horse properly, Digestive problems, Parasite problems, Equine Dental information, and definition of horse terms. Detailed discussion of topics later.
 - 2. Assign reading for next class (see class material)

XII. April 3rd - 12th class:

- A. 7:00 - 8:30? Groom, tack up, warm up
 - 1. Riding time determined by amount of time ridden in previous classes, due to weather.
 - 2. Work on equitation, patterns, canter & lope departures, etc.
- 8:45 - 9:45 Break
- B. 8:45 - 10:00 Class room participation
 - 1. Discuss terminology:
 - a. Skeletal form
 - b. Blemishes and unsoundness
 - c. Nutrition
 - d. Digestion
- C. Assign reading for next class. (see class material)

Course outline cont:

XIII. April 10th - 13th class:

- A. 7:00 - 8:30 Groom, tack up, warm up
 - 1. Specific use of aids, work on turns on the haunches, side passes, lateral movement
 - 2. Use of aids for collection, flexing at poll, impulsion
 - 3. Translate more defined cues to better transitions8:30 - 8:45 Break
- B. 8:45 - 9:45 Classroom participation: Discussion and more detailed explanation of:
 - 1. Parasites
 - 2. Equine dentition (horse's teeth, how to tell a horse's age by teeth)
 - 3. Misc. equine terms and definitions
 - 4. Assign reading for next class - (see class material) Reminder; Term Papers due by Class 15

XIV. April 17th - 14th class:

- A. 7:00 - 8:30 Tack up, warm up, practice learned skills
 - 1. All riders practice horsemanship and equitation, use of aids, etc.
 - 2. Review skills to be evaluated for final riding evaluation(Take tack to class room) 8:00 - 8:15 Break
- B. 8:15 - 9:45 Classroom participation:
 - 1. Selecting proper saddle, making sure saddle fits rider and horse
 - 2. Saddle types
 - 3. More information about bridles and bits
 - 4. Other tack accessories
 - 5. Horsemanship - it's relationship to tack
 - 6. All clean tack, saddles & bridles
- C. Finish all assigned reading, Review class room information to be on final written exam
Turn in term papers next week



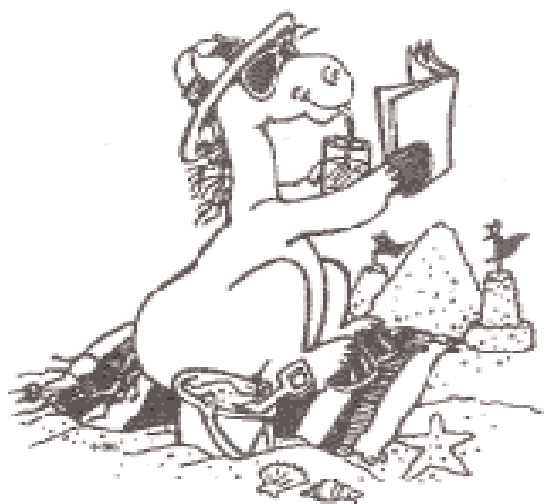
XV. April 24th - 15th class: FINAL RIDING EVALUATIONS

- 7:00 - 8:30 Final evaluation of riding skills, possibly three levels
- 8:00 - 8:15 Break

XVI. May 1st - 16th class: FINAL EXAM

- 8:45 - 9:45 Final written exam - Last chance to turn in term papers - No riding tonight

***HOPE YOU CONTINUE TO RIDE OVER THE SUMMER,
AND COME BACK TO SEE US AGAIN***



Monte Con Dios

Jorine Seale and all the staff at Pinebrook Farms