

AGR 399 SPECIAL TOPICS
Therapeutic Riding

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Purpose: Allow students to develop an understanding of the horse's role in a therapeutic riding program and to provide students the opportunity to assist in the development of horses for and the use of horses in a therapeutic riding program, Therapeutic Riding of the Ozarks. Students will be expected to assist, as volunteers, during the Saturday spring semester therapeutic riding sessions as part of the course.

Prerequisites: AGS 162 or significant experience with horses and a strong desire to learn more about therapeutic riding.

Texts: Agriculture 162 Horseback Riding, Lindsey (SMSU Bookstore); North American Riding for the Handicapped Association (NARHA) guide (available to members from NARHA) and various handouts.

Grading:	<u>Grading Category</u>	<u>Points Possible/Activity</u>	<u>Points Possible</u>
	*Class participation/journal	3 points/day	90
	Class practicals	20 points each	60
	*Lesson plan/Lesson	20 points/30 points	50
	*Service participation	5 points/hr	150
	Research paper	50 points	50
	Written exams	50 points/each	<u>100</u>
			500

Students will be expected to sign appropriate liability forms and releases and attend all scheduled classes and a minimum of four of the Saturday (8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) therapeutic riding sessions. Failure to attend class or therapeutic riding sessions will result in the loss of grade points. Students must combine points from **all grading categories** to receive a passing grade.

***Service-Learning Project Requirements.** The service-learning portion of this course is to clarify and enhance understanding of course goals and objectives. The class journal will document activities, observations, and reflections on course and therapeutic session activities. Journals will be reviewed regularly and the reflections will be discussed in class following all therapeutic sessions. A minimum of 15 hours will be required of all students.

Absentee Policy:

1. No unauthorized absences are acceptable.
2. Authorized absences do not excuse the student from assigned course work.

Make-up Policy:

1. Permission for making up any missed work will be granted only for absences authorized prior to the scheduled class meeting. In the case of emergency, illness or a death in the family, it is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor as soon as possible. In case of absence due to illness, verification of the illness must be presented upon return to class.
2. Work missed due to an unauthorized absence, or work not submitted within one week of an authorized absence, will receive a grade of zero.

Inclement Weather: We will meet at the Darr Agriculture Center on Kansas Expressway in all weather, except severe ice, snow, or sleet which make the entrance dangerous for traffic and the bridge dangerous for horses. Class will not be cancelled for rain or cold.

Academic Dishonesty Statement: All members of the University community share the responsibility and authority to challenge and make known acts of apparent academic dishonesty. Any student detected participating in any form of academic dishonesty in this course will be subject to sanctions as described in the Student Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures (<http://www.smsu.edu/acadaff/AcademicIntegrity.html>), also available at the Reserves Desk in Meyer Library, and in abbreviated form in the SMSU Undergraduate Catalog).

Nondiscrimination Policy: SMSU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, and maintains a grievance procedure incorporating due process available to any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against. At all times, it is your right to address inquiries or concerns about possible discrimination to Jana Long, Equal Opportunity Officer, Office of Human Resources, Carrington 128, (417) 836-4252. Concerns about discrimination can also be brought directly to your instructor's attention, and/or to the attention of your instructor's Department Head.

Disability Accommodation: To request academic accommodations for a disability, contact Katheryne Staeger-Wilson, Disability Services (<http://www.smsu.edu/disability>), Plaster Student Union, Suite 405, (417) 836-4192 or (417) 836-6792 (TTY). Students are required to provide documentation of disability to Disability Services prior to receiving accommodations. Disability Services refers some types of accommodation request to the Learning Diagnostic Clinic, which also provides diagnostic testing for learning and psychological disabilities. (A fee is charged for testing.) For information about testing, contact Dr. Steven Capps, Learning Diagnostic Clinic (417) 836-4767; <http://www.smsu.edu/contrib/ldc/>.

Tentative Therapeutic Riding Schedule—Spring 2003

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Events/Activities</u>
January 13c*, 15f	Introduce the course, safety, rules, catching and grooming.
January 20	Martin Luther King Holiday, No Class
January 22c	Discuss basic horse behavior and training principals.
January 27c, 29f	Review specific disabilities and the impact of therapeutic riding; introduction to lungeing and control using body position.
February 3c, 5f	Discuss lesson development, handling horses safely in groups, and herd behavior.
February 10f, 12f	Discuss volunteer training topics; introduce desensitization; and select lesson plan topics.
February 17	President's Day Holiday, No Class
February 19f	Initiate desensitization to mounting ramp and turn in written lesson plan draft.
February 24f, 26f	Practice lessons for volunteer training; review ramp desensitization; and introduce sidewalking.
March 1f	Volunteer Training Session, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Darr Ag Center. Present lessons.
March 3c, 5f	Discuss appropriate activities and client horse pairing; evaluate horses for therapeutic riding; and continue ramp and equipment desensitization. Midterm Written Exam

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Events/Activities</u>
March 10f,12f	Select horses and desensitize them to specific props for the next TRO session
March 15f	Therapeutic Riding of the Ozarks, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
March 17f, 19f	Review observations and insights from TRO session; make adjustments and prepare horses for next session. Research Topic Due
March 22f	Therapeutic Riding of the Ozarks, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
March 24-April 1	Spring Break
April 2f	Review observations and insights from TRO session; make adjustments and prepare horses for next session; and evaluate prospective therapeutic riding horses.
April 5f	Therapeutic Riding of the Ozarks, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
April 7f	Assist with Judging Contest
April 9f	Review observations and insights from TRO session; make adjustments and prepare horses for next session; and work on leading and longing new prospects.
April 12f	Therapeutic Riding of the Ozarks, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
April 14f, 16f	Review observations and insights from TRO session; make adjustments and prepare horses for next session; and initiate desensitization of prospects to ramp and equipment.
April 19f	Therapeutic Riding of the Ozarks, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
April 21f, 23f	Review observations and insights from TRO session; make adjustments and prepare horses for next session; and initiate desensitization of new prospects to props. Research Paper Due
April 26f	Therapeutic Riding of the Ozarks, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
April 28f, 30f	Review observations and insights from TRO session; make adjustments and prepare horses for next session; and continue desensitization of new prospects to props.
May 3f	Therapeutic Riding of the Ozarks, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
May 5f, 7f	Review observations and insights from TRO session; make adjustments and prepare horses for next session; and evaluate prospects as future TRO mounts.
May 10f	Therapeutic Riding of the Ozarks, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
May 14c	Final Exam, 1:15-3:15 p.m. Journal Due.

*c=meet in classroom in Karls; f=meet at Darr Agriculture Center