COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: EQSC 1100: Introduction to Equine Science

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): None
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None
5. MnTC Goals (if any): NA

This course provides students with the foundational knowledge and theory needed to complete other Equine coursework. This course introduces the student to the basics of equine evolution/history, breeds and types of horses, anatomy & physiology, conformation & movement, equine psychology/behavior, health care, nutrition, reproduction, and management. RECOMMENDED ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE: High school diploma or GED.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): March, 2009

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
1. Evolution and history of the horse
2. Identification, colors, and markings of the horse
3. Distinguish breeds and types of horses
4. Analyze conformation, gaits/movement, and common defects
5. Horse behaviors, vices, and safety around horses
6. General conformation
7. Health care: parasite control, diseases, hygiene, First Aid
8. Nutrition and feeding practices
9. Reproduction and breeding management
10. Equine psychology as it pertains to handling and training

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:
1. Describe the evolution/history of the horse.
2. Discuss the present impact of the horse industry on society.
3. Identify anatomy and major body systems/organs of the horse, and relate form to function.
4. Identify and discuss the various horse breeds/types and their functions/uses.
5. Identify the various colors and markings of horses.
6. Understand desirable conformation and movement.
7. Identify and describe the mechanics of the various gaits.
8. Identify and describe the basic principles of nutrition and health care.
9. Be familiar with the major sports and disciplines involving horses.
10. Identify major diseases: causes, symptoms and prevention/management.
11. Understand parasitism and explain parasite control methods.
12. Identify common horse behaviors and apply basic equine psychology to the handling and training of horses.
13. Understand the reproductive cycle and basic breeding management.
14. Describe the range of modern equine activities available in the United States.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): NA

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
Methods may include any of the following
1. Reports, quizzes, tests
2. Practical demonstrations
3. Oral discussion and question/answer sessions
4. Group work or team projects
5. Course assignments
6. Essay tasks
7. Attendance
G. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any):
This course may include trips to nearby equine businesses or facilities, for which the student is expected to provide his/her own transportation.