COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: EQSC 1102: Horse Handling and Training

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

This course introduces the student to the principles of handling the horse, equine behavior and body language, behavior modification, lunging, ground driving techniques, and training theory. This course introduces the major theories/philosophies of training as well as tack and aids for handling and training. This course involves field trips to local barns as well as a practicum component in the college stable. RECOMMENDED ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE: High school diploma or GED.

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

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
1. Basics of equine behavior/psychology
2. Major theories/schools of horse training
3. Proper and safe handling of the horse
4. Method of learning for the horse
5. Human response to horse behavior and vices
6. Behavior modification
7. Repetition and reprimanding techniques
8. Training equipment
9. Ground work
10. Lunging
11. Ground driving/long-lining
12. Sacking out

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:
1. Define and identify abnormal horse behavior.
2. Demonstrate appropriate horse handling techniques.
3. Demonstrate ground training techniques.
4. Explain training theory for horses.
5. Describe the horse’s method of learning and basic skills of training.
6. Demonstrate proper and safe methods of training by repetition and reprimand techniques.
7. Identify various training equipment.
8. Demonstrate de-sensitization techniques such as sacking out.
9. Demonstrate lunging a horse at all three gaits without assistance.
10. Demonstrate safe ground driving (or long-lining) at the walk and trot.

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):
Working with horses involves inherent risks, which the student assumes while enrolled in the course. The laboratory component of the course includes trips to nearby farms, for which the student is expected to provide his/her own transportation and additional time spent at the college stable, completing assignments.