Equine Reproduction 445A

C Gradil, DVM, MS, PhD, DACT
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Laboratory meeting: Hadley farm and campus as designated
Wed 8 – 8:50 AM

Office hours: I am available after class if you have further questions/issues.

Required text: None (see list of references for additional reading). If you have any special interests, I can recommend additional reading materials at your request.

Required reading: Notes provided and taken during labs

Examination dates:
Mid-term: to be announced
Final: last week of classes
Location: classroom as per Spire

1. Attendance to laboratories is mandatory. For every lab missed without legitimate justification 5 points will be deducted from the final grade. Please note that absence from lab is only considered legitimate due to a medical problem with doctor’s notice or family death.

2. Students are responsible for all information distributed digitally, in print or discussed in the laboratories. It is your responsibility to gather information from missed labs. I will not take any excuses on missed information for the exams. If you attend labs consistently and you have a specific question or issue you do not understand I will be very happy to help you and discuss it with you. If you miss labs consistently, please seek help elsewhere!

3. There will be two exams that will consist of a mix of multiple choice, true/false and short answer questions; the final exam will be comprehensive. The exam results will represent 70% of the grade (Midterm = 40% and Final = 40%). Exams must be taken in the dates scheduled. If you have a legitimate excuse not to take an exam at the scheduled date, you must notify me at least one week in advance. The only valid excuses to miss an exam include hospitalization for serious illness or death of a close family member.

4. 20% of the grade will be based on an assessment of attendance, participation, enthusiasm and technical ability during laboratories. In other words, the harder you work, the more you will be noticed during labs! I may ask you to perform a task at any time during laboratories, and grade you based on expectations of what you should already have learned. Participation in labs includes also taking turn to put things away and clean after labs. You must treat the lab as if it were your own. Additionally, as part of this grade, you are required to participate in foal watching at least as many times as required to fill up the schedule up to when the mares foal. A schedule for foal watching will be available for you to sign up.
5. You may not switch from one lab to another without prior consent, and then only occasionally with a reasonable justification. I like to encourage teamwork during labs and it is easier if the same groups of students stay consistent. For the benefit of all it is also important to keep the student numbers in each lab as balanced as possible.

6. Comments, questions and discussions during labs are strongly encouraged: you are here to learn! I will also appreciate suggestions on topics that you would like more thoroughly discussed during laboratories. If you feel you are not getting enough hands-on experience on a particular subject, speak up! I will try to accommodate your requests as much as it is possible.

7. Please treat your peer students, faculty and staff with respect, just like you would like to be treated yourself!

8. My grading system will be as follows:
   Maximum number of points for the exams = 80
   Maximum number of points for class participation = 20

   Total number of points possible = 100

   Students must complete all sections above satisfactorily in order to pass the course. Failing to comply with one of the sections will result in an F grade.

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<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>96 - 100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>92 - 95</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>89 - 91</td>
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<td>86 - 88</td>
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<td>62 - 68</td>
<td>D</td>
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<td>&lt; or = 61</td>
<td>F</td>
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I have been asked to bring the campus academic honesty policy to your attention. This is described at: [http://www.umass.edu/dean_students/code_conduct/acad_honest.htm](http://www.umass.edu/dean_students/code_conduct/acad_honest.htm)
Laboratory topics

Introduction to the course; organization of lab groups
Tour of the breeding facilities
Stallion handling and mare teasing techniques
Teasing records in the farm
Lab equipment and preparation for semen collection
Semen collection and evaluation
Introduction to cooled semen calculations
Semen collection and packaging for cooled shipment
Semen collection, evaluation and processing practice; foaling/breeding chores
Evaluation of the transitional mare
Prebreeding evaluation of the mare’s reproductive tract
Discussion in mare breeding management and use of hormones
Practice techniques; Preparation of the mare for breeding
Introduction to embryo transfer

Additionally, the mares in the breeding program at the Hadley Farm will be worked-on during laboratories and students will be able to participate in teasing and decision-making on breeding management. Client based cases may also be introduced during lab sessions.

LIST OF REFERENCES –