*Reedley College Natural Resources Program*

Course Syllabus Spring 2022

**Class Name & Number:** NR 31 – Animal Packing – Section 52409

**Units: 2.0** (1 - hour lecture 3 - hour lab per week)

**Instructor Information:**

Clyde “Tug” O’Bannon

Email: [shoebender47@gmail.com](mailto:shoebender47@gmail.com), clyde.o’bannon@reedleycollege.edu,

Phone: 559-314-5310

Office hours: TBA

**Class Meetings:**

Friday 9:00am – 12:50pm in the Livestock Pavilion. Please check campus email and Canvas regularly for any class location notification.

**Holidays:**

Holidays will be observed as per the State Center Community College District

January 17th -Martin Luther King, Jr. Observed

February 18th - Lincoln Day Observed

February 21st - Washington Day Observed

April 11th – April 15th - Spring Break

**Drop Deadline:**

January 21st is the last day to drop with a full refund; January 28th is the last day to add a class, January 30th is the last day to drop a class on WebAdvisor to avoid a W; **March 11th** is the last day to drop the class with W, after that a letter grade must be given.

**Final Exam:** TBA

**Prerequisite:** None

**Text & Other Course Material:**

“Packing and Outfitting, Field Manual”, by Oliver C. Hill, published by University of Wyoming. Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Attn: Alternate Enterprises, 5400 Bishop Boulevard, Cheyenne, WY 82006. Phone (307)-777-4570 Not Required

“The Packer’s Field Manual”, by Bob Hoverson, published by Stonedale Press Publishing Company, P.O. Box 188, Stevensville, MT 59870. Not Required

“Techniques and Equipment for Wilderness Travel with Stock”, USDA Forest Service Technology and Development Program, 23-00Recreation, October 1993, #9323-2839- MTDC, U. S. Government Printing Office: 1994-589-244/80021

**Grading Policy:**

**Equitation Proficiency 10%**

* Saddling
* Bridling
* Mounting
* Control of Animal in Motion
* Balance and Posture of Rider
* Passing Obstacles on Trail
* Leading Pack Animal

**Packing Proficiency 30%**

* Saddling
* Load
* Pack Balance
* Mantee Use
* Lash Rope Hitches
* Knots
* Stringing Animals Together

**Camp Skills 10%**

* High Line
* Staking Animals
* Backcountry Etiquette
* Feed Requirements
* Food Storage
* Site Rehabilitation

**Animal Handling Proficiency and Safety 10%**

* Catching
* Haltering
* Leading
* Hoof Care
* Grooming
* Health Assessment

**Competition 10%**

* Teamwork
* Event Elapsed Time
* Quality
* Score
* Appearance
* Dignity

**Animal Driving 5%**

* Harnessing
* Hitching
* Driving Skill

**Class Participation 10%**

(Begin w/100%, lose 10% per absence)

**Cumulative course grade will be based upon the following**

* A 90 – 100%
* B 80 – 89
* C 70 – 79
* D 60 – 69
* F 59 or less

**Attendance Requirements:**

You are expected to attend every class session. Be in class on time. Some class meetings will require that you travel to a site off the Reedley College Campus including a pack station in the mountains. Unless otherwise notified you should be at the class by 9:00am and remain until all equipment is stored, animals have been tended to and cleanup is complete.

Participation will count for at least 10% of your final grade. Participation points will be deducted for any class that a student misses. You will have 10% out of 100 %deducted from your participation grade for each absence. Packing is a physically demanding skill. Tasks will be shared, and so students are expected to help each other fairly. The responsibility to drop the course lies with the student

* Student are responsible for obtaining the notes and information missed due to an absence from the instructor or fellow student
* College policy dictates that an instructor should drop a student with two consecutive weeks of unexcused absence.
* At the end of the ninth week of instruction no withdrawals are permitted, and a student must receive a grade.
* Please refer to the Website, campus email and Canvas regularly to be notified of any canceled classes

**Required Equipment**

Students are required to have western boots with smooth soles. You should not wear wide soles or lug-sole boots while riding because they are difficult to get out of a stirrup. You will not be permitted to ride without proper boots. Long pants that are loose enough for easy movement are essential. Long sleeve western shirts and a western hat will be necessary for competition. It is recommended that you use a riding helmet to protect your head while riding animals in the event of a fall. You will be responsible for having you own helmet. Gloves are recommended to protect your hands but are not required.

**Laboratory Responsibilities**

You must help with cleanup at the conclusion of each class. There is a lot of equipment that must be stored in the tack trailer, mules must be returned to pastures, and all manure must be shoveled and hauled. If you leave before the work is done you may lose credit for attendance that day.

**Physical Requirements**

This course is physically demanding. It will be necessary for you to walk and run, carry and lift up to 75 pounds of weight, and perform arduously work for at least one hour without a rest period. However, you should communicate to the instructor any physical limitation you have that may prevent you from safely performing any action asked of you. If you have any temporary or long-term disability which inhibits your performance or safety, please discuss that with the instructor. The instructor will strive to accommodate your needs.

Be prepared for any weather. Class will be held in all conditions

**Working Safely with Livestock**

Horses and mules weigh up to 1500 pounds and sometimes respond to situations quickly. You should remain aware of the animals’ likely actions at all times. You may be removed from a laboratory exercise if the instructor deems it appropriate for your well fair or for the benefit of an animal. You have the right to ask for assistance from the teacher at any time you are concerned for your safety.

Modified Schedule

Please note meeting locations vary. It is the student’s responsibility to meet at the correct place, on time.

Special Lab Locations to be Announced

**Behavioral Standards:**

All students are expected to act in a mature, responsible manner that respects the rights of all students, instructors, staff and guests of Reedley College. All cellphones and other electronic devices must be turned off and put away during lecture and lab. **Absolutely no cell phones during lab.**

**Cheating and Plagiarism:**

In compliance with SCCCD board policy 5410, each student is expected to extend an entirely honest effort toward attaining an education. Violations of this policy will result in disqualification for the course.

**Accommodations for Students:**

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in an alternate media (i.e. Braille, large print, electronic text, etc,) per the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) or section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Course Description:**

Students will develop skills in packing, driving and riding mules and horses. Students will gain experience in handling, feeding, health care and safety. Students will experience riding, packing and driving under arena and trail conditions. Low impact environmental livestock techniques and wilderness etiquette will be learned. The course will involve participation in collegiate competition. (A, CSU)

**Learning Objectives:**

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| *In the process of completing this course, students will:*   1. Perform basic horsemanship skills and animal safety. 2. Saddle animals, load cargo, and complete two types of rope hitches. 3. Identify and define parts of a horse, saddle, pack saddle, packing equipment, and grooming equipment. 4. Demonstrate basic knowledge of feeding requirements and emergency care under trail conditions. 5. Recite forest regulations for pack strings and camping. 6. Drive horses or mules pulling a log or vehicle. 7. Participate as a member of collegiate team.   **CSLOs** (common set of learning objectives)  **NR-31 SLO1: Examine and choose animals and equipment for safety and efficiency in packing.**  **NR-31 SLO2: Differentiate between proper and inappropriate livestock management techniques**  **NR-31 SLO3: Safely saddle, ride and pack mules or horses and drive**  **mules and horses in harness.** | |
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**Lecture Topics:**

* History of animal packing
* Recreation and backcountry management packing
* Backcountry feeding - grazing, picketing, fencing, supplements
* Equipment needs, availability and cost
* Animal selection, training and cost
* Backcountry destinations and access
* Livestock backcountry regulations
* Wilderness etiquette and conservation practices
* Planning for pack trips
* Animal safety and veterinary care

**Laboratory Topics**:

* Animal handling safety
* Riding equipment terminology
* Terminology of horses and mules
* Rope use and knot tying
* Catching, leading, and tying animals
* Grooming and saddling horses and mules
* Basic equitation
* Trail riding techniques and safety
* Leading pack stock
* Pack saddle and equipment terminology
* Saddling and fitting pack saddles on animals
* Planning and making loads for mules.
* Pack rope hitches
* Packing unusual or bulky items
* Stringing pack animals together
* Leading pack animals from saddle horse
* Backcountry horse camp organization
* Draft animal use, harnessing and pulling loads
* Horseshoeing Pack team competition, events, and skills

**COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES**

**Attendance Policies**

Students should evaluate their own health daily and must complete the online health screening available daily: <https://scccd.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3IO880HybZg7ajX>

If they have any of the following symptoms, they should not attend class. Students are encouraged to contact the nurse or healthcare provider for further guidance. Common COVID-19 symptoms include, but are not limited to:

* cough
* sore throat
* shortness of breath
* runny nose (not due to seasonal allergies)
* fever (100.4 degrees or more)
* and/or chills

Students should also not attend class if they have had close contact with anyone who has had these symptoms in the last 14 days.

Class lectures will be recorded and posted online daily. Students who have been absent should review the class materials and contact me to ensure that they do not fall behind in their course work.

Students may be dropped if they miss more than two consecutive class meetings without explanation before week 4.

**COVID 19 Safety Practices**

Facial Coverings: Students and instructors are required to wear facial coverings or masks that cover and fit the face against the nose and mouth when entering, exiting, and throughout class. Students who have a documented medical condition that prevents them from using a snugly fitting facial covering can use face shields as an alternative.

Handwashing: Students are required to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer prior to class. Hand sanitizer is available in the classroom for their use.

Social Distancing: Students are required to stay at least 6 feet apart while on campus. In the classroom, maintain social distance and sit in seats as designated by the seating chart.

Classroom Cleaning: Students will wipe down their seating/work area with disinfectant before and after class.

Safety procedures are subject to update.