I. **TITLE:**

Beginner Hunt Seat Equitation

II. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

Designed for beginner riders in their first year and for riders that are considered unsafe to ride an unfamiliar horse in a group at a canter. Heavy emphasis is placed on developing a competent rider with proper Hunt Seat Equitation skills. Weekend participation in Intercollegiate Horse Show Association horse shows is mandatory. Participation in weekend riding clinics is required. Instructor approval required; Students must be selected for the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association horse show team to enroll in this class.

III. **PURPOSE:**

To supply the student with the ability and knowledge to show a horse in an equitation class with a workmanlike appearance with light hands, seat, and correct leg position. In addition, the rider will be introduced to the basic concept of collection of the horse and how to request and obtain a correct head set for the horse while in the show ring. Also, students will develop skills that will enable them to correctly perform various straight line and bending line riding patterns.

IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

After completion of this course, the student should be able to:

A. Safely ride an unfamiliar horse in a group
B. Ride and control a horse while showing Hunt Seat Equitation at the walk, sitting trot and posting trot, while on the correct diagonal.
C. Correctly applying and understanding the concept of collection of the horse
D. Correctly requesting and obtaining a proper head set on a horse
E. Ride Hunt Seat Equitation while performing various Hunt Seat patterns.

V. **CONTENT OUTLINE:**

A. Familiarize students with facilities and horses.
B. Terminology.
C. Controlling the horse at the walk, sitting trot and posting trot.
D. Controlling the horse while riding in a group of horses.
E. Conditioning of the horse and rider.
F. Emergency procedures.
G. Proper equitation at the walk, sitting trot and posting trot.
H. Development of light hands and seat.
I. Ride Hunt Seat Equitation while performing Hunt Seat patterns.

VI. **INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

A. Barn assignments
B. Videos
C. Reading assignments
D. Handling and riding horses

VII. **FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:**

Weekend participation in Intercollegiate Horse Show Association horse shows is mandatory. Participation in weekend riding clinics is required.

VIII. **RESOURCES:**

A. All students are required to wear proper footwear (boots with heels) and headgear (helmets).
B. All students are required to present proof of health insurance.
C. All students are responsible for supplying their own show outfits, after discussion with the instructor.
D. Students are responsible for all weekend expenses with the exception of van transportation.
E. All students are responsible for transportation to the university horse farm.

IX. **GRADING PROCEDURES:**

Students will be graded on class participation, riding improvement, barn assignments, and attendance.

Grading scale:
90 – 100 = A
80 – 89  = B
70 – 79  = C
60 – 69  = D
Below 60  = E

X. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Please refer to the most current copy of the *Murray State University’s Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin.*
XI. **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

(Adopted by the MSU Board of Regents)

Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person’s material as one’s own), or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, term papers, or the presentation on unacknowledged material as if it were the student’s own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the faculty member who teaches the course in which the cheating took place.

NOTE: The School of Agriculture Faculty have adopted and implemented an Academic Honesty Policy in addition to the University Honesty Policy, which can be found in the current *Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin*. The policy sets guidelines regarding acts of dishonesty and the procedure to follow should an event occur. It is each Agriculture student’s responsibility to obtain and read a copy of this document. The School’s Academic Honesty Policy can be obtained by asking for a copy from any Agriculture Faculty member or the Secretary.

XII. **TEXT AND REFERENCES:**

IHSA rule book and AHSA rule book

XIII. **PREREQUISITES:**

Instructor approval; Students must be selected for the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association horse show team to enroll in this class

XIV. **STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:**

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact Sabrina Y. Dial, Director of Equal Opportunity, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318. Telephone: 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).
XV. **MSU SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE CELL PHONE POLICY**

The School of Agriculture recognizes that in today’s world cell phones are a familiar and often necessary form of communication for students.

It shall be the policy of the School that no cell phone usage shall be allowed in class and/or labs without the prior consent of the course instructor. This shall include verbal calling, incoming calls, email, text messaging, and use of cell phone calculators on tests and quizzes.

Cell phones must be kept off and out of sight (i.e. secured to a person’s belt or kept in a bag or purse away from desks and lab counters).

Should a student’s cell phone be visible, ring, or other form of unauthorized usage that is interruptive to the class or lab, the student may be asked to leave class and not return for that class/lab period.

Upon prior consent of the instructor, a student may obtain permission to have their phone on in case of an emergency or in critical family situations.

This policy also includes pagers and other electronic equipment such as blackberries and/or computers/laptops.