

Wildcat Canter

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY AG EQUINE PROGRAMS NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2017

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An equestrian for the past 15 years, University of Kentucky junior Anna Intartaglio loves everything about horses. It's no surprise she jumped at the chance to spend her summer conducting research that's meaningful to the industry. As an intern in the UK Horse Pasture Evaluation Program, she has gained a deeper understanding of the industry she loves so much.



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UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- September 4, Labor Day, academic holiday
- September 5, ESMA Program Reception, 5 p.m., Spindletop Hall
- September 11, Get the Scoop Welcome Back Event & Ice Cream Social, 3-5 p.m., Seay Lobby
- September 11-23, Keeneland September Yearling Sale
- September 13, Last day to drop a course
- September 20, Harvest for Horses, 6-9 p.m., 21c Museum Hotel
- September 22, Kentucky National Horse Show, Kentucky Horse Park
- September 24, Last day to change major
- September 28, UK Department of Veterinary Science Equine Diagnostic Research Seminar Series, 1-6 p.m., Topic: 100th Equine Diagnostic Seminar Series Celebration featuring a mini symposium, UKVDL

Welcome back, students! For those of you that do not know me, my name is Dr. Kristine Urschel and I am the new Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Equine Science and Management program.

A little bit about me: I am originally from Alberta, Canada, and I have loved horses for as long as I can remember. I grew up participating in my local 4-H horse club and now focus on the hunter/jumper disciplines. I have 19-year-old Shire/Thoroughbred gelding, Remington, that I have owned since he was a 3-year-old. Remi's current aspirations are to be a leadline horse for my 1.5-year-old son.

At the University of Kentucky, I have an active research program looking at the factors that may help to regulate muscle mass in horses of all ages, as well as assessing dietary protein adequacy. I also teach the undergraduate animal physiology course, which is one of the courses in the science emphasis area and advise students in the ESMA and Animal Science programs.

As you start out this academic year, I would like to offer the following advice: take advantage of all of the opportunities available to you at UK and in Central Kentucky. Join a student club or team; we have eight equine-related clubs and there are dozens of other non-equine related clubs throughout the university. Interacting with fellow students outside of the classroom setting will provide you with valuable friendships for years to come.

Get to know your professors. Moving forward in your careers, you will likely need to use your professors as professional references, so it will help if they know something about you beyond what your grade was in their class. Also, it makes our jobs so much more rewarding if we have a stronger connection to our students.

Outside of the university, remember that you are in the 'Horse Capital of the World'! There are always equine-related events going on, so take advantage of them and go out and watch something that you've never seen before, be it the Thoroughbred races at Keeneland, combined driving at the Kentucky Horse Park, a rodeo at Alltech Arena or the Kentucky Three-Day event. There are also countless opportunities for volunteering, internships and networking, so make sure to seek out the industry experiences that you think will help you in your future career. Your in-classroom education is certainly the foundation of being about to get a good job in the future, but your out-of-class experiences are what will truly set you apart from other job applicants.

I hope that everyone has a fantastic year as an ESMA student and I look forward to meeting all of you in the coming months or years.

Kristine Urschel
Director of Undergraduate Studies and Associate Professor





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UK's Gluck Equine Research Center to celebrate 30 years of improving horse health and well-being

By Jenny Evans

The University of Kentucky Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center is celebrating 30 years of legacy service to the equine community worldwide.

A 30th anniversary research seminar, open house and celebration dinner will be Oct. 12. The seminar will begin at 8 a.m. at the Gluck Center and will feature the inaugural Teri Lear Memorial Lecture followed by an open house. The dinner will begin at 6 p.m. in the Woodford Reserve Room at Kroger Field. Stuart Brown, chair of the Gluck Equine Research Foundation and Hagyard Equine Medical Institute veterinarian, will host the program honoring Peter Timoney, Gluck Center professor, for his lifelong contributions to equine infectious disease research.

"I look forward to this milestone 30th anniversary of the Gluck Center and the recognition of the contributions of Dr. Peter Timoney throughout his career. The Gluck Center is an internationally recognized center of excellence in equine research and discovery for the benefit of the health of horses of all breeds and disciplines," Brown said.

The center opened its doors June 5, 1987, with a promise to fulfill Thoroughbred breeder and entrepreneur Maxwell Gluck's legacy and to continue the research and distinguished service in the Department of Veterinary Science, established in 1915, to the equine industry. Professors in the department were already world-renown for their important contributions to equine reproduction and infectious disease research.

"From its beginning, the Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center has represented a partnership between the University of Kentucky and the equine industry," said David Horohov, center director and department chair. "This collaborative spirit continues to this day as the mission of the Gluck Center is the scientific discovery, education and dissemination of knowledge for the benefit of the health and well-being of horses."

Maxwell Gluck, and his wife, Muriel, pledged a \$3 million challenge grant to the university to build a \$9 million equine research facility on the condition the state and those in the equine industry match the funds. Kentucky Gov. John Y. Brown Jr. matched the challenge grant with \$3 million in state economic development bonds. Other equine industry leaders quickly embraced Gluck's idea by rallying together to make his vision a reality. UK President Otis Singletary organized a special advisory committee of influential equine industry representatives led by William S. Farish III, owner of Lane's End Farm, to meet the challenge through a "Support the Foundation"

campaign.

Farish, along with a group comprised of John Gaines, owner of Gainesway Farm; James E. "Ted" Bassett III, president of Keeneland; Albert G. Clay, owner of Fairway Farm; and Frederick L. Van Lennep, owner of Castleton Farm, quickly raised more than \$4.2 million within a month.

"This accomplishment could not have been possible without the vision of many leaders from the equine industry and the University of Kentucky who partnered in this venture 30 years ago and assembled such a distinguished faculty to execute on the strategy of this equine-focused research center," Brown said. "Today, we recognize the benefit of this investment across the many areas of cutting-edge research performed by our team of faculty members, under the leadership of Dr. Horohov, as we celebrate the legacy of this commitment for decades to follow in support of the mission to improve horse health and well-being."

Today the Gluck Center is part of the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and has 20 faculty members conducting equine research in the areas of genetics and genomics, immunology, infectious diseases, parasitology, pharmacology and toxicology, musculoskeletal science and reproductive health.

"Over many years, our college and Kentucky's signature industry have been dependent on each other to do what is best for the equine economy," said Nancy Cox, college dean. "The health and well-being of the horse underpins the industry. The Gluck building investment was a manifestation of this interdependency of the university and the industry. While we celebrate the past 30 years, we pledge continued dedication to this evolving industry for many more years."

Full details about the 30th anniversary events, along with the opportunity to reserve tickets, is available at <http://www.ukalumni.net/gluck>.



A Visit with UK's Historic Horse Herds: An Experience to Remember

By Maddie Regis

Early Wednesday morning, every week, Martin Nielsen, professor in the parasitology laboratory at the Gluck Center, and his group of graduate students venture to UK's Maine Chance Farm to collect samples from their herd of research horses. I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to go with them.

The group met at the Gluck Center promptly at 7 a.m. and then headed out to Maine Chance Farm. Their job was not the most glamorous in the world – they go to the farm to collect fecal samples from a herd of horses, and then a herd of miniature horses. However, the research that the fecal samples are involved in is very important for horses around the world.

Nielsen explained that these herds are very unique, as the horse herd has not been dewormed since 1979, and the miniature horse herd has existed since 1974. Both of these herds were established by Gene Lyons, professor in the Gluck Center, along with his research companion and former chair of the Veterinary Science department, Hal Drudge, PhD.

"These herds represent a remarkable resource for our research program, and they were a main reason why I chose to move from Denmark to Kentucky and start working at UK. What an incredible foresight demonstrated by these esteemed gentlemen four decades ago," Nielsen said. "Dr. Lyons remains a very active part of this research today."

Lyons remains very involved, indeed. He was the first person to get to the farm on the day of my visit, and he works tirelessly in and out of the lab to care for the horses and produce research results.

The horse herd and miniature herd are both influential in parasitology research for a variety of reasons.

"The horses have substantial parasite burdens, but they are remarkably healthy, so that is interesting. Perhaps we don't need to deworm as much as we tend to do. In recent years, we have used this herd to develop and validate new diagnostic methods for important parasites. We collect samples from these horses and use these to tweak, optimize, and validate our diagnostic tests. We also collect the parasites, and study their DNA and genes to learn more about how drug resistance may develop." Nielsen said.

While the horse herd provides plenty of information for the future of parasitology, the miniature herd helps to address a common problem, Nielsen said.

"The miniature herd has been treated with regular paste dewormers following typical treatment programs over the decades. As a result, these minis have multidrug resistant parasites, just like we find on many horse farms across the world. With this herd, we are testing various treatment protocols to identify the best and most sustainable deworming strategy in face of all the drug resistance. Right now, we are evaluating different combinations of existing products to see if some of these may be useful in the short- and long-term," Nielsen said.

The parasitology information the two herds provide is invaluable, but being able to visit the herds and watch the research in action is a unique experience as well.

Nielsen and his group begin with sampling the horse herd, which involves moving the horses from their large field into smaller paddocks, and then bringing them into the barn to be sampled. Many of the herd members are foals, and it is quite a sight to see the group trying to get all of the mothers and babies organized if they decide they want to play. On the day of my visit, a foal had just been born that morning, which was an extra special treat. When I got to interact with these horses, it was easy to see why Nielsen and his team consider going to the farm the highlight of their week.

"I am a horse enthusiast, so for me it is just such a special treat to get out of the office and labs and get to hang out with 'my' horses," Nielsen said. "We enjoy hanging out with them and getting to know their personalities. When I started working here, a lot of the older mares had not been handled much and they were quite nervous about everything. Now, they have all turned into sweethearts and have become very comfortable with our procedures."

Foals, of course, are very popular, especially with Nielsen's students.

"We spend a lot of time with the foals to get them used to wearing a halter and to be brought in and out of the barn. This exercise is very popular with my students and I see lots of selfies being taken while doing this," Nielsen said.

The horse herd was turned out (with some enthusiasm from the horses) and then it was on to the miniature herd. Nielsen describes this herd accurately when he says they have a lot of personality. For such tiny horses, they have a lot of opinions. I helped herd them over to the sampling shed, and at first, they just stood there, deciding they did not want to move. Finally, however, they took off as fast as their little legs could carry them. Getting to watch a large herd of miniature horses gallop across a field is something pretty unique, and very entertaining. The minis (as they are affectionately called by the team) were very good for their sampling, knowing that it was time to get to work, although they were very happy when they got to gallop back to their field again.

After the miniature herd was sampled, it was time to pack up and head back into town, until the next time the group has to come out to visit the herd and collect samples.

Spending a morning at Maine Chance Farm watching Nielsen and his team was a wonderful experience. It is clear that they all care about the horses very much and are passionate about the research done with these horses.



photo by Alexandra Harper



**Natalie Heitz, '12
Student Resident,
Auburn University
Veterinary Teaching
Hospital**

By Maddie Regis

Where is home for you?

Louisville, Kentucky.

How did you first become involved in the horse industry?

I grew up with a horse interest, taking riding lessons and visiting racetracks with my grandmother, who was a handicapper. Once I came to UK, I had unlimited access to horse farms. My first job on a farm was at UK's Maine Chance Farm, followed by Hagyard Equine Medical Institute then Dixiana Farm.

What were your career goals before graduation?

I wanted to attend vet school, as well as learn more about the Thoroughbred industry.

Where are you currently employed?

I am currently one of eight student residents at Auburn's teaching veterinary hospital. I am also still attending vet school at Auburn and will be graduating May 2018.

What are your current job responsibilities?

We work the emergency shifts and assist with blood-work, initial exams, calling the on-call veterinarian, completing paperwork and communicating with the owner.

What led you to this position?

After graduation from UK, I entered the Godolphin Flying Start program, formally Darley Flying Start, where I traveled the world learning about various aspects of the Thoroughbred industry. After completing that two-year program, I entered veterinary school at Auburn University.

How are you currently involved in the horse industry?

I keep up with the horse industry, and I hope to come back to Kentucky and be a racetrack vet.

What advice do you have for current equine students?

Take any opportunity you get, no matter how small. It, along with hard work, will pay off.



Ag Equine Programs
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

UK Horse Pasture Evaluation Program benefits students, farms

By Katie Pratt

An equestrian for the past 15 years, University of Kentucky junior Anna Intartaglio loves everything about horses. It's no surprise she jumped at the chance to spend her summer conducting research that's meaningful to the industry. As an intern in the UK Horse Pasture Evaluation Program, she has gained a deeper understanding of the industry she loves so much.

"This summer internship has been really fascinating," said Intartaglio, a native of Greentown, Pennsylvania. "I've been learning so much about pastures, horse nutrition, pasture management and farm management."

She is just one of a few select students chosen for the competitive summer internship program in the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. With guidance from Ray Smith, UK forage extension specialist, and Krista Lea, program coordinator, the interns work with farm owners and managers to provide in-depth pasture analysis with the ultimate goal of keeping horses safe and healthy and increasing the farms' efficiency and productivity.

Interns can apply to the program from any U.S. college or university. In addition to conducting research for area farms, many students use it as an opportunity to do independent research projects. Kelly Hagan, a Nicholasville native and senior at Asbury University, is one of those students. A biology major, she is studying the growth of alfalfa for her senior research project.

"Being able to go out and do the work and then come back and put the data in and see the differences gets me really excited," she said. "We're doing work, and changes are happening. It's fun to see the results."

The program is an opportunity to educate not only the interns but members of the horse industry on the importance of pastures. Knowledge of pasture forages is important, as some species, like tall fescue, could negatively impact broodmares and foals.

"A well-managed pasture provides a lot of the feed and nutrition for the horse," Smith said. "Having the ground covered in grass rather than bare places and dirt allows for good footing and safety."

Smith and Lea train the interns in forage and weed identification. The students spend the summer going to farms and analyzing the forage species and weeds within pastures. Once the analysis is complete, they and Lea present the results, along with short-term and long-term pasture management recommendations, to farm owners, managers and staff. Since the program began in 2005, more than 200 farms and more than 30 student interns have participated.

"Several of the interns have actually fallen in love with forage production and have gone on to do graduate school with us," said Lea, who also started in the program as summer intern before advancing to her current position. "They have chosen to do forage research long term. We have several that have actually changed courses because of this program. The other ones that don't, even if they continue on to whatever they want to do, they still have a much better appreciation for the ag community."



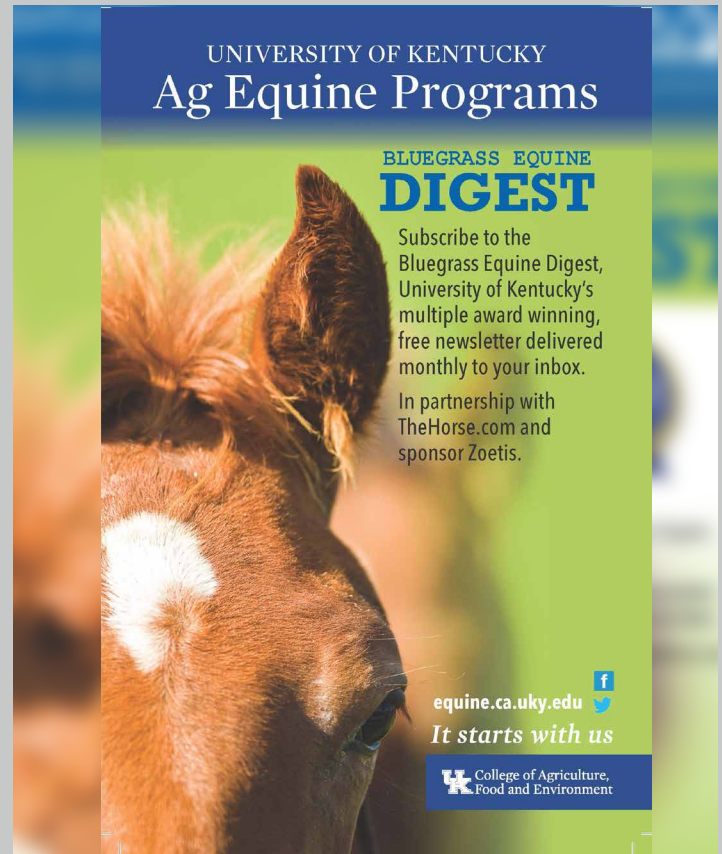
photo by Katie Pratt

Bluegrass Equine Digest

Check out the August issue of the Bluegrass Equine Digest, a free, monthly electronic newsletter dedicated to providing up-to-date information on equine research from the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture, Food and Environment in collaboration with TheHorse.com and sponsored by Zoetis.

Click [here](#) to see this month's stories.

- Winterizing Pastures
- Cluster of PHF Cases in Kentucky
- Page Rejoins UK Gluck Center's Immunology Group
- UK's Gluck Center Celebrates 30 Years of Improving Horse Health, Well-Being



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[Click here to access contact information for these clubs.](#)

UK Department of Veterinary Science provides research opportunities for LMU veterinary students

By Jenny Evans

The University of Kentucky's Department of Veterinary Science cooperative agreement with Lincoln Memorial University's College of Veterinary Medicine provides research experiences for LMU veterinary students.

This partnership was the result of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Council on Education requirement that veterinary students be provided with the opportunity to participate in research programs. While LMU could provide state-of-the-art teaching facilities and classrooms, founding dean Glen Hoffsis of LMU-CVM felt students would benefit from hands-on experience in the established research laboratories at UK's Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center. These laboratories, along with scientific experts and a research farm of about 300 horses, provide a unique opportunity for both LMU faculty and veterinary students to engage in equine research. The location also played a key role, as LMU is located in Harrogate, Tennessee, approximately 130 miles south of UK.

"Since Kentucky does not have a veterinary school, this cooperative agreement also brings aspiring veterinarians to our area and introduces them to the local equine industry," said David Horohov, chair of the department of veterinary science and director of the Gluck Center.

LMU welcomed its first class of veterinary students in 2014 and that following summer, the first group of three veterinary students began their student research experience in laboratories at the Gluck Center. A second group of 11 students arrived in Lexington for their research experience the following year. This summer, another eight students spent several weeks collaborating with faculty, staff, and postdoctoral and graduate students at UK on a variety of research projects. There was a barbeque hosted at the Gluck Center to welcome the students and the summer concluded with an LMU student research presentations seminar at the UK Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.

Dean Hoffsis stepped down in May 2016 and was replaced by Jason Johnson, who continues to build the program. Johnson and Horohov also continue to look for opportunities to not only enhance the experience for the veterinary students but also to encourage collaboration amongst the faculty at LMU and UK. Several collaborative projects are already in the works with a lot more to come.



photo by Jenny Evans

Student Professionalism Series

By Elizabeth A. James

The University of Kentucky Equine Science and Management Undergraduate Degree Program strives to not only educate you about equine science, but also to prepare you for your future career. Part of this preparation includes classroom guest lectures, hands on labs, requiring an internship before you graduate, and exposing you to numerous industry related careers. The Student Professionalism Series offers insights and tips to help you effectively prepare for, find, apply to and obtain the career of your choice. This month we are going to take a closer look at getting started on the right foot.

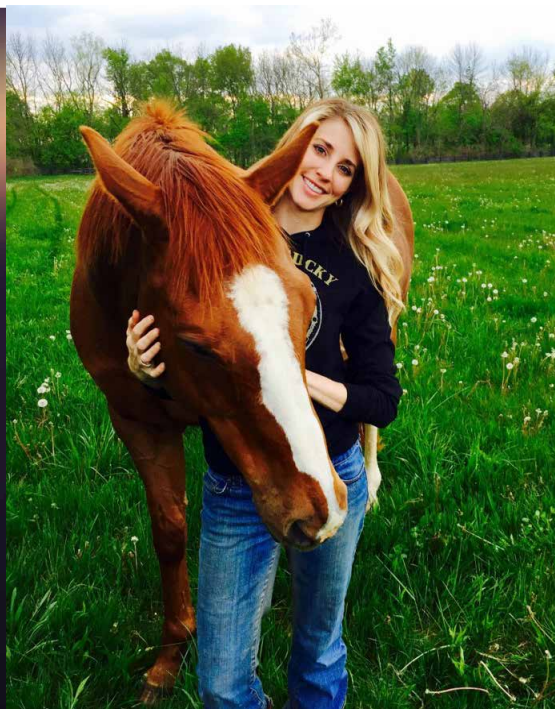
*Beginnings are usually scary,
endings are usually sad,
but it's what's in the middle that counts.*
- Stephen Rogers

At the beginning of August, the UK campus resembles a ghost town. There is ample parking, a walk across campus is peaceful and professors' email inboxes are bare. Then the first day of classes come and everything changes.

One of the most unique things about being a college student is that your life becomes neatly packaged into semesters. There is a clear beginning and ending when it comes to classes and such clarity offers the unique opportunity to start fresh. Unlike life outside of school where beginnings and ending revolve around New Year's Eve—students get several opportunities throughout the year to wipe the slate clean and start over.

I would encourage you to take some time today to think about your upcoming semester. Decide where and when you will study for your classes. Get to know your professors and make friends in each class so you have people to study with. Write down your goals for each class, including what grade you want to end up with, what you want to learn and what you need to do to make it happen – and then put them somewhere you will see them often. Remember, professors don't give grades, students earn them. Every student has an A in every class on the first day, where it goes from there is up to them.

As you get older you will find that there are less and less chances in life to start over, and seasons of life last much longer than 15 weeks. I would encourage each of you to take advantage of the opportunity that each new semester provides. Come December, you will be glad you did.



Roundup

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 7
#ukroundup





Roundup

OCTOBER 7

**REGISTRATION & KENTUCKY
FARM BUREAU TENTS OPEN**

4 hours prior to kickoff



**THE KENTUCKY POULTRY
FEDERATION MEAL
LINES OPEN**

2 hours prior to kickoff

**LIVE PERFORMANCE BY
GRAYSON JENKINS & THE
RESOLUTIONS**



**PEP RALLY
FEATURING THE UK
CHEERLEADERS & PEP
BAND**

**LITTLE WILDCAT ZONE
FUN & GAMES FOR
THE KIDS**



HOMECOMING

Visit ukathletics.com for game time, announced 10 days prior to game day.

For more event information and to register visit
alumni.ca.uky.edu/roundup

#UKRoundup

**UK Ag & HES
ALUMNI**

Get the Scoop!

An Equine Science and Management Welcome Back Event

Door
Prizes!

Faculty and
Staff Meet
and Greet!

Meet our
Equine Clubs
& Teams!



Free UK
Ag Equine
Swag!

Monday, September 11

3-5 p.m.

Seay Auditorium Lobby
(in the Ag North Building)

Come join us for an ice cream social to kick off the new school year!



Ag Equine Programs
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

University of Kentucky Equine Clubs and Teams

	Dressage and Eventing Team	Horse Racing Club	IHSA Team Hunt Seat	IHSA Team Western Seat	Polo Team	R.E.A.D. (Research in Equine and Agricultural Disciplines Club)	Saddle Seat Team	Rodeo Team
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Farm	Clear View Equestrian Center Lexington, KY	N/A	Olive Hill Sporthorses Lexington, KY	Bennie Sargent Quarter Horses Paris, KY	West Wind Stables Lexington, KY	N/A	Wingswept Farm Nicholasville, KY	Striking KMA Performance Horses
Meetings	bi-monthly	once a month	weekly	weekly	once a month	once a month	monthly/bimonthly	monthly
Costs Per Semester (As of Summer 2017)	\$100 for competing members + additional costs \$50 non-competing members	\$15/semester or \$25/year	\$475 for dues and lessons \$30 per class at horse shows	\$425 for dues and lessons \$30 per class at horse shows	\$1,500 Varsity Dues \$500 Club Dues \$20/lesson for private lessons	\$10/year	\$150 dues \$120 for 4 lessons \$120 each show	Competing Membership: \$150 for dues & practice fee/semester \$260 NIRA Card/year (needed to compete)
Lessons	2 times a month	N/A	once a week	Once a week	2-3 times a week	N/A	2-3 time a month	2-4 practices/week
Competitions	3 Fall/4 Spring	N/A	4 horse shows = 4 classes per semester N/A	4 horse shows = 4 classes per semester N/A	8 Fall/8 Spring	N/A	2 Fall/3 Spring	Maximum of 5 rodeos/semester
Field Trips	2 Fall/2 Spring	3 Fall/3 Spring	N/A	N/A	4 Fall/4 Spring	once a month	N/A	N/A



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