STUDY GUIDE FOR 1407 – HOOF PATHOLOGY 1

BOOKS REQUIRED:
“The Lame Horse” by James R. Rooney, DVM

MEDIA REQUIRED:
“Under The Horse” DVD Series by Pete Ramey

BOOKS REFERENCED IN THE COURSE MATERIAL:
“Making Natural Hoof Care Work For You” by Pete Ramey
“Horse Owner's Guide to Natural Hoof Care” by Jaime Jackson

GETTING STARTED:
Print out this document and place it in the appropriate section of your notebook.
Familiarize yourself with the Quia class page.
Sign into your discussion group. You will receive an approval email once you have been verified as an active student of this class.
If you have not already, register at http://www.thehorse.com/ so you can gain full access to articles referenced in the course.

As you run across terms you are not familiar with, go out on the web or to a dictionary and look it up. Many aspects of the information presented are not automatically explained. If you must dig for information, search for understanding, the knowledge you gain will “stick” with you much better than if someone just tell you the answer. If you get stuck, go to your group. Chances are that someone there has already had the same problem and can guide you.

NOTE: When presenting to your group, be prepared to back up your argument or claim with facts or experience, otherwise preface your comments with a statement that lets others know that what you are writing is your theory, or your opinion, or that you are simply thinking out loud.

When posting links, files or photos to your discussion group, make SURE you place them ONLY inside the folders designated for students.

Grading is as follows:
Quizzes/Assignments – 35%
Final Exam – 65%
The class is Pass/Fail. An overall score of 85% or greater is needed to pass the class.

SUGGESTED PROGRESSION (Check ☑ as you go if it helps keep you on track):

FORM TO FUNCTION
If you have looked over the study guide, you may be wondering why you will be studying hoof form and hoof function in a pathology course. Before we can recognize pathology, we must have an understanding of hoof function and how it relates to hoof form. Hoof form is often the first (certainly the most obvious) indicator we have that a hoof is unhealthy. However, form varies relative to age, health, terrain, use, diet, climate and even breed.

Once we have a basic understanding of form to function, we must then examine what constitutes basic hoof pathology and compare that with what constitutes healthy hooves from a natural perspective. It is in what is conventionally considered normal that we discover the beginning principles of pathology.
In your Quia class page – Study the documents in Section I: “The Shape of the Equine Hoof”, “How Form Relates to Function” and “Foal Feet”.
In your discussion group “Links” section study document Contrasting Structural Morphologies of ‘Good’ and ‘Bad’ Footed Horses, by Robert Bowker, VMD
Take Quiz #1 – Form to Function

WILD HOOVES
In your Quia class page – follow the link to Tribe Equus and explore the various wild horse pages with attention to the hooves of the various wild horses featured there.
In your discussion group “Files” section, read the article “Rediscovering The Natural Hoof”
Study the information and images on wild hooves Chapters 1 & 2 in “Horse Owner’s Guide to Natural Hoof Care” by Jaime Jackson
Study Chapter 1 in “Making Natural Hoof Care Work For You” by Pete Ramey
Take Quiz #2 – The Wild Hoof

ASSIGNMENTS
Search for other sites on the web or in books/magazines, etc. that show wild equines hooves. Post your source in your group “Files” section, in the “Student Files” folder after first creating a folder with your name on it for ease of reference by others.
Write a brief summary of the similarities as well as the variations of hoof form among the different wild equines presented on Tribe Equus and any other wild hoof images that you can find. Post your summary to your group for discussion.

DOMESTIC HOOVES
In your Quia class page – Read the document “What is a Healthy Hoof?”
In your discussion group “Files” section, in the folder “Domestic Hooves” read the articles “Recognizing Hoof Deformity” and “Hoof Distortion” by Gene Ovnicek
In your discussion group “Files” section, in the folder “Domestic Hooves” view the images in the document “Common Domestic Hooves”

ASSIGNMENTS
Search for “Barefoot” web sites/articles that describe “What is a Healthy Hoof” from a natural hoof perspective.
Compare/contrast the discussion of a healthy hoof in the document “What is a Healthy Hoof” (conventional perspective) with the “barefoot” perspective. Post to your group for discussion.
Find and present images of domestic hooves with a brief comment on what you think is unnatural about each. If you pull an image from a web site, include the link for reference. You should place the images and comments in a Word document rather than individual images. Upload into your group “Files” section, in the “Student Files” folder after first creating a folder with your name on it for ease of reference by others.
Take Quiz #3 – The Domestic Hoof
COMMON PATHOLOGIES

☐ Study the information in the “Links” and “Files” sections of your discussion group in the folders titled “Common Pathologies.” Also the article “Lameness Evaluation” in the “Files” section.

☐ Study chapter 4 in “The Lame Horse” by James Rooney, DVM focusing on the sections of “contracted hoof”, “Thrush and Canker” and Hoof Cracks’

☐ Study Chapter 16 in “Horse Owner's Guide to Natural Hoof Care” by Jaime Jackson. Focus on the specific pathologies outlined in the course. More advanced pathologies discussed in the book, such as founder and navicular, will be specifically covered in later classes.

☐ Browse through Ramey’s book “Making Natural Hoof Care Work For You” and “Under the Horse” DVD for his comments on various pathologies mentioned in various sections and cases.

☐ Review the various “Notes from the Field” documents in your Quia class page.

ASSIGNMENTS:

☐ Search for both conventional and natural approaches to cause and correction of:
  - Flares
  - Contraction
  - Abscess
  - Thrush
  - Cracks
  - Under-run heels

Note: You can visit the Farriers Helping Owners Bulletin Board in your group “Links” section to browse through the various forums to get an idea of the conventional views and approaches for these pathologies.

☐ Prepare an outline comparing/contrasting theories on cause for each common pathology. Be sure to reference the source briefly next to each entry. Post to your discussion group. This should be brief and if done in outline form, it should only be about 2 -3 pages. Do a search online for “How to write an Outline” if you sure not sure.

☐ Take Quiz #4 – Common Pathologies

REHABILITATION

☐ Study the information in the “Links” and “Files” sections of your discussion group in the folders titled “Rehab.”

☐ Browse through Ramey’s book “Making Natural Hoof Care Work For You” and “Under the Horse” DVD for his comments on his recommended treatments for the common pathologies being discussed in this class.

☐ Review the various “Notes from the Field” documents in your Quia class page.

ASSIGNMENTS:

☐ Search for information online for various treatment methods for the pathologies mentioned in this class. Post links in your discussion group’s “Student Links” folder.

☐ Create a handout suitable to give to owners that will help them understand and guide their treatment of the common pathology of thrush. It should guide them not only in what treatment you recommend that they use, but how to use it, i.e. how to use various soaking boots or other soaking methods. You may include pictures if you wish. Post the handout in your discussion group’s “Student Files” folder.

☐ Create a handout suitable to give to owners that will help them understand and guide their treatment of abscesses. Include such information as how to soak and how to apply a
poultice as well as your product recommendations and where to get them. You may include pictures if you wish. Post the handout in your discussion group’s “Student Files” folder.

☐ Take Quiz #5 – Rehabilitation of Common Pathologies

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT:**
*We must turn to nature itself, to the observations of the body in health and in disease to learn the truth.* - Hippocrates

☐ Take the Final exam **ONLY WHEN YOU FEEL THAT YOU ARE READY.**
There is a fee to retake any Final exam. Email us at finals@equinesciencesacademy.com and let us know your name, and the final you wish to take and you will be contacted with further information.

This is an "open book" test. You may use whatever resources you need to answer the questions.

We strongly recommend that you set aside several hours to complete the exam without interruption. There is no “save as you go” feature in Quia as of yet. Should your session time out, you may loose what you have already written.

The final exam is graded by the instructors. You will not receive an immediate score. You will be notified by email of your final grade and whether or not you have successfully completed the course.