

# A Case for Team-Based Learning in a Horse Production Course

Kalynn Baldock

Eastern New Mexico University

## Introduction

- Collaboration is one of the 4 Cs essential for academic and professional success (NEA, 2012)
- Collaboration is one of the top employability skills (Stewart, 2020)
- Team-based Learning (TBL) is a great strategy for collaboration and social learning.
- Team-based learning requires students to demonstrate application of content, accountability, and decision - making (McCubbins et al., 2019)
- Management positions in the equine industry require students to demonstrate these skills, as well as the ability to work effectively with a diverse team.

"I would recommend it for other classes especially like with our AG classes I like how we have like our projects with this class or how we just had that ability to work with everybody" Student A

"I think I learned more than a typical lecture class because if I didn't understand something my group members could explain it to me in a different way that could help me understand it " Student B

"I think that was a good way for like kids to learn and then especially like me like I had knowledge of it but I still have to learn and I had to use my voice to explain it" Student C

"I think it was good to like get to know other people in the class" Student D

## Methodology

- Intentionally formed three teams, each with five students based on the following criteria:
  - Experience with horses
  - Agricultural courses completed
  - Communication abilities
- Course content was divided into four modules
  - Biology
  - Nutrition
  - Reproduction
  - Management
- Flipped Classroom design for content
  - Readiness Assessment Test (RAT) – Individual and Group
- Two to six team assignments per module
- Peer Evaluations for each assignment
- Data collected via:
  - Researcher journal
  - Student journals
  - Unstructured Interviews

As the professor for this course, it was amazing to watch students who normally do not engage, lead discussions and teach their peers.

## Advice to Others

- Be very intentional when creating teams
- Emphasize the team not group aspect
- Collaboration training
- Have discussions on expectations
- Research ways to increase accountability within teams
- Continue to adapt peer evaluations to meet the needs of the students
- Provide some lectures

Scan for references

