

## [Publication of New Translation of Federico Grisone's "The Rules of Riding," the First Renaissance Treatise on Classical Horsemanship](#)

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Grisone, Federico. *Federico Grisone's The Rules of Riding: An English Edited Translation of the First Renaissance Treatise on Classical Horsemanship*. Edited by Elizabeth Tobey. Translated by Elizabeth Tobey and Federica Deigan. Medieval and Renaissance Texts and Studies 454. Tempe, Arizona: Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2014.

Federico Grisone published *Gli ordini di cavalcare* (The Rules of Riding) in 1550, the first manual on manège riding, the ancestor of modern dressage. The *Ordini* codified a half-century of oral tradition of teaching this art and was a best seller and a welcome aid in educating noblemen at European courts in the art of the manège. Elizabeth Tobey and Federica Brunori Deigan have prepared the first modern edited English translation of the *Ordini*, which should interest Renaissance scholars and equestrians, and includes an introductory essay, a glossary of equestrian terms, and the transcription of the 1550 Italian first edition.

Grisone's treatise and the riding masters trained at his riding academy in Naples, Italy, spread the practice of the art of manège riding to courts throughout Europe. Twenty-three Italian editions of the text were published between 1550 and 1620 and the treatise was translated into French, English, German, Spanish, and Portuguese. Many of the concepts Grisone discusses in his treatise—such as developing contact between horse and rider and collection in the horse—are still major tenets of modern dressage riding. The *haute école* or High School movements of classical dressage are still practiced today by such traditional academies such as the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, Austria and the Cadre Noir in Saumur, France.

For more information and details on ordering visit <https://acmrs.org/publications/catalog/federico-grisones-rules-riding-edited-translation-first-renaissance-treatise> or contact Elizabeth Tobey at [etobey@verizon.net](mailto:etobey@verizon.net)