

George Mason University
College of Education and Human Development
Physical Activity for Lifetime Wellness

RECR 187.005 – Yoga: Intermediate
1 Credit, Spring 2020
M/W 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm RAC 2201 Fairfax Campus
3/16-4/29

Faculty

Name: Dena Jensen, M.Ed., E-RYT 200
Office Hours: By Appointment
Office Location: RAC 2201
Email: djense@gmu.edu

Prerequisites/Corequisites

RECR 186 or Permission from the Instructor

University Catalog Course Description

Emphasizes mastery of yoga asanas (postures) and pranayama (breathing techniques) to enhance physical fitness and mental concentration. Focuses on 10 new yoga poses and practice of the complete Sun Salutation.

Course Overview

Readings, lectures, demonstrations and class participation will be used to analyze the practice of yoga asana and yoga philosophy.

- Students with injuries or pre-existing conditions that may affect their participation must inform the instructor.
- Students with specific medical conditions, limited flexibility or injuries will learn appropriate modifications of poses for their own practice.
- All communication will be through GMU e-mail (Patriot Web Site).
- Students are required to bring their own yoga mat to class.
- Comfortable stretch clothing is required. No street clothes may be worn.
- Please arrive 5-10 minutes before class start time to set up your practice space. We will begin practice promptly at 3:00. It is not safe to join practice late. Arriving to class on time is part of your participation requirement.

Course Delivery Method

This course is an activity-based course.

Learner Outcomes or Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate at least 25 asanas, including proper alignment.
2. Identify the poses and demonstrate proficiency in the “Sun Salutation” (Surya Namaskar).
3. Classify asanas as to their types.
4. Name benefits and contraindications of asanas.
5. Develop proficiency in the practice of three types of pranayama.
6. Define the “limbs” of the “Eightfold Path” outlined in Patanjali’s Yoga Sutras.

Professional Standards

N/A

Required Texts

None

Readings will be made available online via Blackboard from various sources listed below:

Bir, Singh Khalsa Sat, et al. *The Principles and Practice of Yoga in Health Care*. Pencaitland, East Lothian, UK: Handspring Publishing Limited. 2016. Print.

Ferretti, Andrea. “A Beginner's Guide to the Chakras.” *Yoga Journal*, 30 July 2014, www.yogajournal.com/practice/beginners-guide-chakras.

Kempton, Sally. “Getting to Know You: The Five Koshas.” *Yoga Journal*, 9 October 2009, <https://www.yogajournal.com/yoga-101/getting-know>

Roa, Ram. “The Fifth Branch of Yoga: Pratyahara.” *Yoga For Healthy Aging*, 29 Oct. 2014. www.yogaforhealthyaging.blogspot.com/2014/10/the-fifth-branch-of-yoga-pratyahara.html. 15 Oct. 2017

Roa, Ram. “The First Branch of Yoga: The Yamas.” *Yoga For Healthy Aging*, 3 July. 2014. <http://yogaforhealthyaging.blogspot.com/2014/07/the-first-branch-of-yoga-yamas.html>. 15 Oct. 2017

Roa, Ram. “The Fourth Branch of Yoga: Pranayama.” *Yoga For Healthy Aging*, 15 Sept. 2014. www.yogaforhealthyaging.blogspot.com/2014/09/the-fourth-branch-of-yoga-pranayama.html. 15 October. 2017

Roa, Ram. “Samyama: The Trinity of Dharana, Dhyana, and Samadhi.” *Yoga For Healthy Aging*, 15 Dec. 2014. www.yogaforhealthyaging.blogspot.com/2014/12/samyama-trinity-of-dharana-dhyana-and.html. 15 October. 2017

Roa, Ram. “The Second Branch of Yoga: The Niyamas.” *Yoga For Healthy Aging*, 15 July. 2014. <http://yogaforhealthyaging.blogspot.com/2014/07/the-second-branch-of-yoga-niyamas-your.html?q=sixth+branch>. 15 Oct. 2017

Roa, Ram. "The Third Branch of Yoga: Asana." *Yoga For Healthy Aging*, 13 August 2014. www.yogaforhealthyaging.blogspot.com/2014/08/the-third-branch-of-yoga-asana-being-in.html. 15 Oct. 2017

Course Performance Evaluation

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, Tk20, hard copy).

- **Assignments and/or Examinations**

Class Participation (70 points) Daily attendance and participation required. Students will demonstrate proficiency in asana and pranayama.

5 points will be given each day with a deduction of 1 point for each five-minutes that a student is late. Attendance/Participation score will be the number of points a student gains each day. Absences are excused with a doctor's note or preapproved by the instructor. Phone calls, emails, and texts do not excuse an absence. Doctor notes must be submitted immediately upon return to class or scanned and emailed immediately.

One letter-grade will be deducted for two unexcused absences or for classes not made up at Sun & Moon Yoga Studio in a timely manner (within one week of missed class or other **agreed upon timeframe between professor and student).

- Students have the opportunity to make up no more than TWO classes due to absence. Make-up classes must be accompanied by a journal entry (write up of your experience) to be submitted via Blackboard. Students should complete the make-up practice within one week of the class they missed.
 - Make-up Details:
 - First missed class may be made up at Sun & Moon Yoga at either the Fairfax (9998 Main Street, Fairfax VA 22031) or Arlington (3811 Lee Highway, Arlington VA 22207) location free of charge. Tell them you are a "first class free" student when you arrive.
 - Second class may only be made up at Sun & Moon Yoga's Fairfax location (9998 Main Street, Fairfax VA 22031) on Saturday at either 9:15 a.m. or 10:45 a.m.

Journal Writings (30 points; 6 entries worth 5 points each) Students will complete journal entries of 100 words or more reflecting on topics read in required reading via Blackboard. Journals are assigned on the first class meeting of the week and due before

the next class meeting (by 3 p.m.). Journal entries are submitted through Blackboard and should be reflective in nature. Points will be deducted for late assignments.

Final Quiz (20 points) Students will have access to the final quiz via Blackboard during the last week of class.

Total Points 120

• **Letter Grade Ranges** based on percentage of 120 points

A	= 94 –100	B+	= 88 –89	C+	= 78 –79	D	= 60 – 69
A-	= 90 –93	B	= 84 –87	C	= 74 –77	F	= 0 – 59
		B-	= 80 –83	C-	= 70 –73		

Professional Dispositions

See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/> .

Class Schedule

Date	Topic	Assignment
Mon 3/16	Overview of Course Content and Expectations	Read <i>The Historical Background of Yoga</i>

Wed 3/18	Timeline & 8 Limbs of Yoga Standing Poses	Journal due today by 3 p.m.
Mon 3/23	Intermediate Backbends	Read <i>YFHA</i> Blog posts: <i>The First Branch of Yoga: The Yamas</i> AND <i>The Second Branch of Yoga: Niyamas</i>
Wed 3/25	1st & 2nd Limbs of Yoga Intermediate Backbends	Journal due today by 3 p.m.
Mon 3/30	Intermediate Balance	Read <i>YFHA</i> Blog posts: <i>The Third Branch of Yoga: Asana</i> AND <i>The Fourth Branch of Yoga: Pranayama</i>
Wed 4/1	3rd & 4th Limbs of Yoga Intermediate Balance	Journal due today by 3 p.m.
Mon 4/6	Intermediate Forward Bends	Read <i>YFHA</i> Blog posts: <i>The Fifth Branch of Yoga: Pratyahara</i> AND <i>Samyama: The Trinity of Dharana, Dhyana, Samadhi</i>
Wed 4/8	5th-8th Limbs of Yoga Intermediate Forward Bends	Journal due today by 3 p.m.
Mon 4/13	Intermediate Twists	Read <i>Beginner's Guide to the Chakras</i>
Wed 4/15	Chakras Intermediate Twist	Journal due today by 3 p.m.
Mon 4/20	Intermediate Lateral Bends	Read Essays on Blackboard: <i>Secrets of Sequencing</i> and <i>Developing Your Own Yoga</i>
Wed 4/22	Review for Quiz Inversions	Journal due today by 3 p.m. Blackboard Quiz Opens today
Mon 4/27	Class Evaluation Inversions	
Wed 4/29	Restorative Yoga	Final Quiz Due by midnight

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>.

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <https://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <https://ds.gmu.edu>).
- Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to tk20help@gmu.edu or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>.
- Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking: As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <http://cehd.gmu.edu/>