

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

RECR106 (001) – Krav Maga: Introduction (1)
1 Credit, Fall 2023
MW 1:30 – 2:45pm Fairfax RAC 2002
(8/21 – 10/8)

Faculty

Name: Nicolas Masi
Office hours: By Appointment
Office location: RAC
Email address: nmasi@gmu.edu

Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

University Catalog Course Description

Introduces students to the principles and practice of Krav Maga, an Israeli system of self-protection. Involves knowledge of threat response, skill training in self-protection, and mental preparation for defensive tactics. Prepares students in appropriate protective action in situations of threat or attack.

Course Overview

While primarily physical in nature, this class will also include lectures including “safety in training”, “principles of Krav Maga techniques”, and “threat response options” among others. Students will practice striking and self-defense techniques in response to specific threats and attacks. Classes begin with a warm-up and stretching. Warm-ups include functional games and drills relevant to the session and which help to create understanding and preparation for our Krav Maga techniques and learning material, enhance specific mental capabilities, and improve physical skills such as reaction time. In an average class, after warm-ups and stretching, students practice their striking skills paying particular attention to the correct application of striking surfaces to vulnerable targets. Following this, we will review and learn new self-defense techniques and participate in drills and scenario training. These techniques and drills prepare the student to take the appropriate actions in a situation if s/he had to protect themselves or the individuals around them from an aggressive threat or attack.

Learner Outcomes or Objectives

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

1. Demonstrate basic body mechanics in striking with the hands, feet, elbows, and knees.
2. Exhibit proper control and safety when training with other students.
3. State the eight general principles for Krav Maga techniques.
4. Explain the five threat response options and apply them in improvisational scenario training.
5. Demonstrate the ability to utilize common objects in self-defense situations.
6. Demonstrate the ability to perform striking and self-defense techniques under the following undesirable conditions:
 - a. Stress
 - b. Fatigue
 - c. Environmental constraints
7. Demonstrate self-defense techniques against a variety of common attacks:
 - a. Punches & kicks
 - b. Chokes & similar grabs
 - c. Bear hugs & similar holds
 - d. Threats and attacks with a knife
 - e. Attacks with a blunt object

Professional Standards N/A

Required Texts

Handouts will be provided to the students by the instructor.

Course Performance Evaluation

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

● Assignments and Examinations

The “practical” exams at the midterm and near the end of the class will involve each student demonstrating defense strategies using skills that were addressed in class such as releases vs. grabs, defending vs. attacks on the ground, demonstration of basic strikes, and releases from bear hugs. Skill demonstrations will be done individually and/or in partnership. They can also be done while students practice during class. Skills testing will be by instructor discretion.

Written exams, both midterm and final, will be multiple choice, true/false, and short answer. The final will be cumulative.

● Other Requirements

Attendance/Participation: 75 points possible depending on the calendar. 5 points will be given each day with a deduction of 1 point for each five minutes that a student is late. Students must

attend the entire class period and participate in the daily activities to receive full credit for the class. If you attend each class session, are on time and participate as scheduled, you'll receive the full 5 points for that day. Unexcused absences, late arrivals, and lackadaisical performance could significantly affect the grade. Absences are only excused with a doctor's note. Phone calls, emails, and texts do not excuse an absence. Doctor's note must be presented immediately upon return to class or scanned and emailed to the instructor before the next class.

- **Course Performance Evaluation Weighting**

This course will be graded on a point system, with a total of 100 possible points.

Requirements	Points
Attendance and Participation	75
Midterm (practical/written)	10 (5/5)
Final Exam (practical/written)	15 (10/5)
TOTAL	100

- **Grading Policies**

A+ = 97 – 100	B+ = 88 – 89	C+ = 78 – 79	D= 60 – 69
A = 94 – 96	B = 84 – 87	C = 74 – 77	F= 0 – 59
A- = 90 - 93	B- = 80 – 83	C- = 70 – 73	

Professional Dispositions

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

Course Schedule

DATE		TOPIC	READINGS/ASSIGNMENT DUE
M/W	Week 1	Introduction to Krav Maga, Safety in Training, Basic Striking, Defenses & Releases vs. chokes	General Principles of Krav Maga Techniques
M/W	Week 2	Basic Striking & Releases vs. chokes (cont.), Releases from headlocks, Defenses vs. punches	

M/W	Week 3		Basic Striking (cont.), Defenses vs. knife threats and attacks	Threat Response Options
M/W	Week 4		Mid-term Exam, Defending yourself on the ground	Skills Hierarchy
M/W	Week 5		Defenses and releases vs. bear hugs and similar holds	
M/W	Week 6		Defenses vs. blunt objects, use of common objects for self-defense	Using Common Objects in Self Defense
M/W	Week 7		Review of weeks 1-6, Final Exam	
M/W	Week 8		Review, additional techniques TBD	

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/>.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>

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

Mason is now partnered with TimelyMD to deliver **TimelyCare** – a new virtual mental health and well-being platform for students. The service provides 24/7 access to virtual care at no cost and augments the in-person and virtual mental health services that remain available to Mason students through Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and Student Health Services (SHS).

How can students access **TimelyCare?**

Students can go to timelycare.com/gmu or directly download the **TimelyCare** app from the app store to register with their school email address. Students can then start visits from any web-enabled device – smartphone, tablet, laptop, or desktop – anywhere in the United States.

Who can use **TimelyCare?** Any enrolled Mason student.

What services are available?

- **Talk Now:** Unlimited on-demand mental health support 24/7, available to all Mason students throughout the world!
- **Health Coaching:** Unlimited access to health coaching, available to all Mason students throughout the world.

- **Scheduled counseling sessions:** Limited to 12 sessions per academic year, available to all Mason students throughout the United States. Students can choose the day, time, and mental health provider of their choice.
- **Psychiatry sessions:** Available to all Mason students throughout the United States by referral from CAPS, Student Health Services, or a **TimelyCare** counselor.
- **Self-Care Content:** Yoga and meditation sessions and group conversations

How much does a **TimelyCare visit cost?**

TimelyCare services are available at no cost to students.