

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

RECR 108 (001,002) - Self Defense: Introduction (1)
1 Credit, Fall 2024
(001) 10:30-11:45, 8/26 - 10/13 / RAC 2002 - Fairfax Campus
(002) 1:30pm - 2:45pm 10/21-12/09 RAC 2002 - Fairfax Campus

Faculty

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Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

University Catalog Course Description

Teaches beginner level of self-defense such as defensive techniques to be used against an attacker along with escapes and submissions from a variety of different attacks. Requires participation in basic sparring with particular attention to safety.

Course Overview

- Students with injuries or pre-existing conditions that may affect performance must inform the instructor. All communication will be through GMU e-mail.
- Long sweat pants or any martial arts uniform pants are recommended; however, shorts may also be worn. Students may wear a short or long sleeved t-shirt.
- Students will NOT wear shoes, tank tops, dresses, jeans or “cut offs” of any kind. All jewelry MUST be removed before class and stored properly.
- Consistent attendance is necessary to develop minimum acceptable performance.
- The nature of this course incorporates both offensive and defensive movements, and these actions are accepted as part of the class. Excessive force, violence, or aggression, however, are not required or expected and will not be tolerated.

Course Delivery Method

This course is an activity-based course delivered in person via direct instruction.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Understand the social and psychological factors related to assaults and violation.
2. Draw the vulnerable spots of the human body on paper and explain them how they can be affected by striking.
3. Demonstrate the following techniques:
4. Three defensive and offensive stances

5. Application of kicks and punches (Counterattacks)
6. Escapes from grip and hold
7. Escapes from the back
8. Three chokes and three arm locks
9. Intermediate level of rolling and falling techniques

Professional Standards

Not Applicable

Required Texts

Any required handouts will be given by instructor as necessary.

Course Performance Evaluation

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

Assignments and/or Examinations

Lab Exercises (15%)

Quizzes (15%) – Three pop quizzes covering material taught in class

Midterm Exam (20%) – Written (5%) and practical (15%)

Final Exam (50%) – Written (10%) and practical (40%)

Total: 100%

Mid-term and Final Exam

Mid-term (written) will be given as “take home” exams. They will be handed out from the instructor, or e-mailed as attachments. The Mid-Term will be handed in on a date to be determined, which will be at the approximate middle point of the semester. Students will have several days to obtain and take the exam. Practical part will be done in a class hour.

The Final Exam will be administered as a demonstration last scheduled day of class.

Students are required to personally attend or make other arrangements with the instructor to take the test. On the consideration that these exams would be given in-class on a specific class day, they will only be accepted on the date specified. No early hand-ins, mailings, or proxy hand-ins will be allowed. Since outside class assignments are allowed, and are based per hour on the number of credits / weekly class meetings, the taking of this test outside of class requires no more time than would be allotted for outside work. It also avails the students more class time dedicated to learning self-defense skills. In the case of the final, it also allows for individual skills evaluation and grading in-class.

Grading

A= 94-100

B+ =88-89

C+ = 78-79

D = 60-69

A- = 90-83

B = 84-87

C = 74-77

F =0-59

B- =80-83

C- = 70-73

Use of Generative AI

Use of Generative AI tools should be used following the fundamental principles of Mason’s Academic Standards. This includes being honest about the use of these tools for submitted work and

including citations when using the work of others, whether individual people or Generative AI tools.

Professional Dispositions (CEHD Student Guide)

Throughout study in the College of Education and Human Development, students are expected to demonstrate behaviors that reflect the positive dispositions of a professional. See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/current-students/cehd-student-guide>.

Class Schedule

DATE		TOPIC	READINGS / ASSIGNMENT DUE
T		Introduction; discuss about harmful factors of assaults, rules, and safety issues .	
TH		Fundamental striking techniques	
T		Defensive Standing Positions/ Offensive Positions	
TH		Application of kicks and punches with kicking paddle.	
T		Escaping the Mount	
TH		Escaping from wrist grip	
T		Vital points of human body/attacking area/Mid-term exam	
TH		Striking techniques	
T		Rolling and falling techniques	
TH		Submissions from Guard	
T		Counterattack toward vulnerable points.	
TH		Striking techniques	
T		Submissions from Cross Body mount	
TH		Review	Written exam due
T		Final Exam	

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

CEHD Commitments

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to fostering collaboration and community, promoting justice and equity, and advancing research-informed practice. Students are expected to adhere to, and contribute to, these commitments, the CEHD Mission, and Core Values of George Mason University. More information can be found here:

<https://cehd.gmu.edu/about/culture/>

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to Mason's Academic Standards (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic-standards/>)
- 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 VIA should be directed to viahelp@gmu.edu or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/assessments>.
- Questions or concerns regarding use of your LMS should be directed to:
 - Blackboard Learn: <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>
 - Canvas: <https://its.gmu.edu/service/canvas/>
- For information on student support resources on campus, see:
 - TimelyCare: <https://caps.gmu.edu/timelycare-services/>
 - Writing Center: <https://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>
- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development's Student Success Resources, please visit: <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/>.

Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, sexual harassment, interpersonal violence, and stalking:

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Non-Confidential Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, sexual harassment, 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 or support measures from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.