

HPE* K261 – Yoga

John Benbow

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Office Hours: by appointment

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Prerequisite: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This class serves as an introduction to the ancient physical and philosophical practice of yoga, a practical system that can help manage stress and improve our overall wellness in a high-paced world. Guided by the subtle energy system of the seven Chakras and the energetic layers of the Koshas, we will explore the qualities of these systems and see how they apply to our lives and to our yoga practice. With a full Asana practice as a backdrop, we will experience the fundamental aspects the Chakras and/or Koshas through postures (Asana) that help to achieve balance and/or activate that Chakra/Kosha.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Understand the fundamental history of yoga and be conversant with the basic Sanskrit terms most commonly associated with yoga (i.e., Asana, Pranayama, Ashtanga, Chakra, etc.).
- Develop an understanding of how a yoga practice can balance one's body, mind and spirit.
- Understand the Eight-limb (Ashtanga) path of yoga as described by Patanjali.
- Understand the aspects of the Autonomic Nervous System and how different types of breathing relate to them.
- Develop an understanding of how a yoga practice can manage stress levels by activating the parasympathetic nervous system.
- Understand the principles of the Subtle Energy system.
- Learn the seven major Chakras, their Sanskrit name, their associated symbols, corresponding principal elements, organs of sense and expression and major attributes to a body's wellbeing.
- Learn how to determine the status of the chakras using a pendulum and explore the effect of essential oils on chakra function.
- Understand the basic principles of alignment of the physical body in terms of anatomy and muscle balance and how this can affect Chakra function.

- Learn how to return a body to alignment as a means of creating balance within the body.
- Learn the principles of a yoga practice that incorporates Pranayama, Asana and Meditation (Dhyana).
- Understand how specific Asana are related to certain Chakras and Koshas.
- Develop body awareness through the weekly yoga practice.
- Experience the connection of body and mind through a yoga practice.
- Understand the value of Final Relaxation (Savasana) in a yoga practice.
- Develop an appreciation for journaling as a means of exploring all aspects of a yoga practice.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

Required texts:

“Chakra Yoga” – Alan Finger, Shambhala Publications Inc. – ISBN 978-1590302552

“Chakra Balancing Workbook,” Anodea Judith, Sounds True Incorporated – ISBN 978-1591790884

Texts on Reserve:

“The Subtle Body: An Encyclopedia of Your Energetic Anatomy,” Cyndi Dale (1 copy on reserve).

NOTES ON THE COURSE AND ASSIGNMENTS:

A journal and attendance will be required from each student as the work product of the class. **There are NO make-up sessions.**

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Each student is expected to do the reading prior to the class and will attend each practice session. The journal may be electronic or hand-written and should provide an overview of the class topics (Chakra, Asana that directly relate to the topic, along with an explanation of why those Asana were chosen. The journals are **due each week on the following days: Wed, 9/9; Wed 9/16; Wed, 9/30; Mon 10/5.**

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

The instructor has primary responsibility for the control over classroom behavior and maintenance of academic integrity, and can request the temporary removal

or exclusion from the classroom of any student engaged in conduct that violates the general rules and regulations of the institution. Extended or permanent exclusion from lecture or laboratory activities or further disciplinary action can only be effected through appropriate procedures of the institution.

Plagiarism, cheating on quizzes or tests or any form of academic dishonesty is strictly prohibited. Students guilty of academic dishonesty directly or indirectly will receive a zero for the exercise and may receive an “F” grade for the course in addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures. Any student that believes that he or she has been erroneously accused may appeal the case through the appropriate institutional procedures if their grade was affected.

MAKE-UP WORK:

There are NO make-up sessions. If a student misses a practice session, appropriate make-up work may be granted on an individual basis only following a conference with the instructor; where the reason(s) for missing the practice must be determined to be mitigating circumstances beyond the control of the student such as illness, death in the family or change in the condition of employment.

REVISIONS TO THE SYLLABUS:

Students are responsible for learning all of the objectives and all of the items in the course outline whether they are discussed in lecture or lab or not. The instructor reserves the right to revise the objectives, topic outline or academic schedule contained in the syllabus without notice. However, if revisions affect scheduled unit tests, a 48-hour notice will be given for the new test date.

CELLULAR PHONES AND BEEPERS:

Cellular phones and beepers are **ONLY** allowed in class or lab if they are **turned off** or in silent mode. Under NO circumstances are phones to be answered in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone or beeper, that student must speak to the instructor prior to the class, so that together they can arrive at an agreement.

SPECIAL NOTICES:

If you have a disability that may affect your progress in this course, please meet with a Disability Service Provider (DSP) as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations cannot be provided until you provide written authorization from a DSP.

TRCC Disabilities Service Providers	
Counseling & Advising Office Room A-119	
Matt Liscum (860) 383-5240	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical Disabilities• Sensory Disabilities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Disabilities • Mental Health Disabilities
Chris Scarborough (860) 892-5751	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Disabilities • ADD/ADHD • Autism Spectrum

DIGICATION

As a student you will maintain an online learning portfolio using a college-designed template in Digication. Through this electronic tool you will have the opportunity to monitor your own growth in college-wide learning. It may even help you determine a major that is best suited to you. You will be able to keep and maintain your learning portfolio after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select and review random works to improve the college experience for all. If your work is selected and reviewed for assessment purposes, it will remain anonymous and private. Digication provides a “place” where you will connect your learning from the classroom, college, and life in general. Sometimes when you review all of the work you have done and think about it, you end up learning something different and perhaps unexpected. Please review your course outlines to determine what assignments to upload into the TRCC Digication template and please post your own choices, as well. Have fun in learning!

CLASS CANCELLATION:

You will be notified via e-mail in the event of a class cancellation.

SUMMARY OF EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Requirement	% of total
Class participation	80
Journal	20

CLASS TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS:

- Aug 31 - Intro and general practice
- Sept 2 - Muladhara (Root) Chakra - CY pp 1-36; Workbook pp 8-20
- Sept 9 - Svadisthana (Navel) Chakra - CY pp 37-52; Workbook pp 21-30;
Journal Due
- Sept 14 - Manipura (Solar Plexus) Chakra - CY pp 53-70; Workbook pp 31-40
- Sept 16 - Anahata (Heart) Chakra – CY pp 71-84; Workbook pp 41-52;

Journal Due

- Sept 21 - NO class
- Sept 23 - Vissudha (Throat) Chakra CY - pp 85-98; Workbook pp 53-63
- Sept 28 - Ajna (Brow Center) Chakra CY - pp 99-112; Workbook pp 64-75;
Sahasrara (Crown) Chakra CY - pp 113-119; Workbook pp 76-87
- Sept 30 - Chakra assessment – Pendulums and Essential Oils; Journal
Due.
- Oct 5 - Closing practice. Final Reflection Journal Due (this could be
your
Digication assignment)