Information
Instructor: Kevin Klim
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Class Location: EPIC Climbing Wall
University Recreation Center

Class Time: TBA

Course Description
This class is designed to increase the tools available to climbers across a wide spectrum of skill-sets. Safety in a multi-pitch or wilderness climbing environment depends upon having the skills available to apply to a particular set of problems to be solved. This class is designed to teach you several different ways of doing the same thing so that you will have a greater choice of skills to apply to any problem you face, ensuring a better chance of success.

IMPORTANT
Further instruction and proper supervision are required if you continue to pursue climbing in an outdoor setting. Climbing is an inherently dangerous activity, and this class alone is not adequate preparation for facing the hazards of an outdoor climbing site without the guidance of a qualified and experienced instructor. Use good judgment.

Course Objectives
The student will:
• Understand how to use the EPIC Climbing Wall policy for accessing the boulder top training area and appropriately access it.
• Know and understand the properties of various cordage and webbing used in climbing applications.
• Know and understand the various carabiners available for climbing use.
• Understand how to belay with several different belay devices including aperture, assisted locking, locking and muenter hitch.
• Become competent with top managed belay setups and understand the pros and cons of belaying: off of yourself while anchored, redirecting the belay through your anchor and belaying directly off of your anchor.
• Understand the importance of rope management and competently manage multi-pitch belay transitions.
• Competently set up a rappel and understand several different configurations and back ups including: extending rappels, backups below and above rappel device, prusik/bachman/autoblock backups and connecting ropes for longer rappels.
• Competently perform a basic muenter hitch lower and tie it off with a mule knot.

Course Disclosure
Rock climbing is an inherently dangerous sport. Novice and expert climbers are injured and die every year (even in climbing gyms); however, modern equipment and proper instruction can minimize most risks. Rock climbing can be a blast, but take it seriously.

**Grading and Evaluation Procedures**
The criteria for evaluation in this class, is based largely upon class participation and demonstrated proficiency during the practical exam.

Grading will follow normal university standards.

**Class Participation**
Class participation makes up seventy percent of your final points; if you miss three or more classes you will receive a advance if you are going to miss a session. Lack of cooperation, behaviors that affect the instructor’s ability to teach, and behaviors that compromise safety may result in a lowered class participation grade. Turn cell phones off.

**Practical Exam**
Exam time will be arranged with the instructor for the last day of class. For the exam, students must demonstrate proficiency with various belay devices, belay configurations rope management and rappelling.

**Class Schedule**

1) Week 1
   - Introduction
   - Syllabus and course overview
   - Boulder top access and safety orientation

2) Week 2 - Equipment review
   - Cordage/Webbing properties
   - Carabiners – properties/uses
   - Belay devices / Belaying

3) Week 3– Belay devices/configurations
   - Direct belay off harness
   - Redirected belay
   - Belay directly off of anchor

4) Week 4– Belay devices continued
   - Alcove belaying (Group 1)

5) Week 5 – Belay devices continued
   - Alcove belaying (Group 2)

6) Week 6 – Rappelling
   - Setting up a rappel
   - Extending rappels
   - Backing up rappels
   - Joining ropes for long rappels.

7) Week 7– Rappelling / Lowering

8) Week 8 –Ascending a rope

9) Week 9
   - Mule hitch tie off
   - Muenter Mule combo
   - Rescue intro / baseline

10) Week 10– Practical Exams