

Syllabus

College of Education and Human Development * School of Kinesiology * Physical Activity Program

PE 1205 SCUBA & Skin Diving -- All Fall & Spring sections

Instructor Information

Robert J Karl
University of Minnesota, Physical Activity Program

Contact Information

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Preferred mode of communication: E-Mail

Office Hours

I will be available for questions 15 minutes prior to the start of class and at the end of each class. If you need additional time, please contact me via email to schedule an appointment.

Biography

I have been working with the PAP program since I was a TA with Les Bolstad back in 1974 while I was getting my BBS at the U and continued working with the Life guarding and Water Safety Instructor courses while enrolled at the U.

I graduated from the U in 1979, and finally got my MBA in 2006.

After graduating from the U of M, I became SCUBA certified in 1982, and started as a TA with the U's SCUBA class in 1983. About 1993 I started teaching the PE 1205 SCUBA course full time, and have continued since then.

I have worked with the YMCA, MDEA and CMAS, SCUBA programs as an instructor, and for the last 15 + years have been teaching through the SSI system. Currently I am rated as an SSI Dive Control Specialist Master Instructor with more than 3500 open water dives. I also have instructor ratings in specialties, including Deep, Wreck, Nitrox, Stress and Rescue, Underwater Photography and many more.

I have held a US Coast Guard Masters license for the Great Lakes and Inland Waters for 15 years. Through my company Superior Expeditions we run SCUBA charters in Lake Superior during the summer, and lead SCUBA trips throughout the underwater world. These include Micronesia and many of the Caribbean islands.

My biggest thrill in teaching is seeing the amazed look in student's eyes when they get their first chance to dive in the ocean, as they experience the wonderful critters they find there. Luckily I get to experience that on the many trips I get to lead.

After numerous jobs in business I discovered that I really enjoy teaching SCUBA. I have been blessed in being able to teach something I love, to the over 200 students a year we get through the University SCUBA course.

Class Meeting Details

Your course meets at the times specified for your section. All classes meet in the Aquatic Center room 45 unless otherwise notified by the instructor. Evening classes will be 2 hr of classroom followed by 2 hrs of pool. There will be time to change into swimming attire between. Day classes are usually Tue classroom and Thursday pool. However those do switch occasionally due to scheduling conflicts.

Description:

This course is available to all students and prospective students (through CCE) at the University. The course consists of classroom instruction and practical pool work. SCUBA Certification is not included in the course. The third part necessary for certification (4-open water dives) can be arranged through the instructor at an additional charge. Students may also decide to get a referral letter and take their open water dives at numerous locations around the world. Classroom subjects include the physics and physiology of diving, equipment, decompression, dive planning, emergencies, and the marine environment. Some topics require mandatory attendance. Pool work covers all necessary applications to diving. **All students must be comfortable being in the water, and must be able to swim a minimum of 400 yards.**

Students should plan on attending all class and pool sessions, as quizzes will be administered throughout the course and all pool work is built on previously learned skills. All evening students and all day school students, whose classes start on Thursdays, must

come to the first class with appropriate swimming attire (i.e. swimming suits). **Please**

check the website <http://SuperiorExpeditions.com> for forms and notes for requirements and limitations for

SCUBA diving. There will be a \$125 course fee. Additionally there is a \$60 course Kit that needs to be purchased from the instructor the first day of class.

Delivery Method:

Class meetings will be 50 percent lecture and 50 percent activity.
Classroom session will consists of Lecture, class discussions and videos
Pool sessions will be spent working on skills in a variety of formats

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this course you should be comfortable with the skills necessary to complete you open water dives and complete you SCUBA certification. From there you should be able to have many enjoyable diving experiences for the rest of your life.

Those skills include but are not limited to:

Mask and regulator clearing, Air sharing, gear assembly and care, emergency procedures, entry an exit procedures, decompression procedures, buddy procedures and dive planning

Course Materials and Resources

A course kit is required for this course by the certifying agency (SSI), and includes a textbook with study guide questions (completion of these is required), decompression tables and a logbook. The cost is \$60.00 and will be made available for purchase on the first day of class.

Equipment, Clothing, and Supplies

Appropriate swimming attire is required for pool times (Females are usually more comfortable in a one piece suit) All SCUBA equipment except a wetsuit, including Mask, Fins and Snorkels are provided. You may provide your own snorkel fins and wetsuit if you desire.

Student Work and Grading:

- Your final course grade is determined by how many points you earn during the course (150 points are possible): ✓ Attending all pool sessions and performing the required skills earns you 50 points. ✓ Quiz and Final Exam account for another possible 100 points.
✓ Grading is as follow: Earning 150-135 points is an "A;" 134-120 points is a "B;" 119- 105 points is a "C;" 104-90 points is a "D."
*** *To continue to your open water training sessions you must first get 40 points or better on the Final Exam, and comfortably execute all required SCUBA skills while in the pool.*

Schedule of Course Topics

Date	Topic	Chapter(s)	Quiz
Week 1	<i>Into and equipment</i>	1, 2	No
Week 2	<i>Physics & Physiology</i>	3	Yes
Weeks 3 & 4	<i>Decompression</i>	4	Yes
Week 4 & 5	<i>Diving Concerns</i>		Yes
Homework assignment not graded			
Week 5 & 6	<i>Dive Planning</i>	3, 4	No
Week 6	<i>Aquatic Environment</i>	5	Yes
Week 7	<i>Final Exam</i>	1-5	No

*** **Please Note: Attendance policy**

Attendance and skill development

Classroom attendance is absolutely mandatory for weeks 1 & 2, and pool attendance is absolutely mandatory for weeks 1, 2 & 3.

It is in your best interest to attend all class sessions as pool skills are built on previous sessions and repetition, as are classroom discussions

Course Evaluations

You will be invited via email to complete an online course evaluation called the Student Rating Forms (SRT) at the end of the semester. You are strongly encouraged to complete the online evaluation. The SRT forms are anonymous and I (the instructor) will not have access to the results until after I have submitted final grades.

There are three purposes for the SRTs: evaluation of instructors, improvement of teaching, and assistance to future students in selecting courses.

The SRT will give you an opportunity to assess instructor preparedness, presentation, feedback, respectfulness, your understanding as a result of the course, and your interest in the subject as a result of the course. The form also includes open-ended questions on the learning experience and the physical environment of the course. Your written comments are especially requested and help me improve future course offerings.

Student Expectations and Course Policies

You are responsible for the specific course expectations outlined below. You will also be held to the University of Minnesota Student Expectations: <http://www.policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/STUDENTRESP.html>

Communication, Questions, Concerns and Evaluation

You are expected to check your email prior to class in the instance there is a calendar, meeting location, or lesson change. You are encouraged to bring any questions or concerns to my attention immediately.

University-assigned student e-mail X500 accounts (xxxx@umn.edu) are the University's official means of communication. You are responsible for all information sent to your x500 e-mail account, including class announcements and emails from me. If you choose to forward your x500 e-mail account, you are still responsible for all the information, including all attachments, sent to this account. Instructors are not expected to respond to all questions over email. Some questions may require you to schedule a meeting or attend office hours. I will provide clarification in these instances.

When emailing me, use the following format for the subject line: Last name, First name – Course #, section #, Question

In the body of your email, clearly articulate your:

- Full Name
- Student ID #

- UMN x500 email address
- Telephone number
- Questions – If you have multiple questions, please bullet them and briefly, but succinctly, explain them

Excused Absence

An excused absence will only be considered if you have received my permission prior to the missed class. To obtain my permission, you must send me an email from your UMN email address and include your full name, class number, class section, class name, reason for requested excused absence, and any additional information that will help determine whether or not your absence should be excused.

Preparation

You are expected to complete assigned readings and assignments *prior to* class to provide a knowledge base needed for discussion, participation, effective note taking, group work, and greater understanding of lecture material.

Safety

Prior to participating in course activities, students are required to complete the required medical form, and if any yes answers are required to have a Dr signature on the form by the 3ed week of class Students are required to inform the instructor of any pre-existing conditions, whether injury or illness, before class and must be aware of their own personal limitations. Additionally All students are required to view the risk awareness video and complete and sign a liability release prior to the first pool session. Students are expected to maintain a safe learning environment. They are also expected to notify the instructor immediately of any injuries or incidents that take place during the course.

Calendar Changes

The calendar is tentative and subject to change. Updates to the schedule will be announced in class and will be either e-mailed or handed out to the students in class. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to connect with a classmate for any syllabi changes and to **review your email** for updates.

Class Cancellations

There may be a rare instance when class will be canceled due to weather, sickness, or other emergency issue. Assignments due the day of a cancelled class will be due the following class day.

Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences

You are expected to take exams and submit student work at the times scheduled in the syllabus. If you have an unavoidable and legitimate circumstance, I will work with you to make accommodations. Such circumstances include, but are not limited to, verified illness, participation in intercollegiate athletic events or other group activities sponsored by the University, subpoenas, jury duty, military service, and religious observances. **You must provide documentation to verify the reason for the absence as far in advance as possible.** If the expected documentation is not, accommodations may not be made.

Incompletes

Receiving an incomplete (I) for this course is not an option unless you submit a formal request for an incomplete that includes a documented extenuating circumstance and a suggested plan for completion. This request must be submitted to me via email and as early as possible. Your request will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and approved in rare and unavoidable extenuating circumstance.

Exam Retakes, Participation Make-Ups, and Coursework Resubmission

You will not be allowed to retake any exams or quizzes or to resubmit assignments in an attempt to improve your grade.

Workload Expectations

One conventional credit is equivalent to three hours of learning effort per week averaged over the duration of a semester. Each week you should expect to spend two hours in class and one additional hour of work outside of class to earn an average grade.

Grading Concerns or Disputes

If you wish to dispute an assigned grade, including the final grade, you must do so within 48 hours of the grade being posted (online, paper or exam returned, etc). Your dispute must be sent to me from your UMN X500 email address, clearly identify the individual points you would like to dispute and a rationale for why you believe the assigned grade is inaccurate.

Use of Personal Devices

Electronic devices are not allowed in class. If you have an extenuating circumstance that requires you to have your electronic device on, you must inform the instructor before class begins.

University policy: <http://www.policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/CLASSROOMPED.html>

Diversity

Students come from widely diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds and hold different values. A key to optimal learning and successful teaching is to keep an open mind and hear, analyze, and draw from diverse views. Racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, ageism, and other forms of bigotry are unacceptable.

I encourage active, lively dialogue, and I expect collegial and respectful discourse. Failure to adhere to these expectations in the class and will be grounds for removal.

University policy: http://www1.umn.edu/regents/policies/administrative/Equity_Diversity_EO_AA.html.

Conduct

You are expected to show honesty, fairness, and respect during class. Inappropriate language, disruptive behavior, or signs of disrespect for instructors, guest speakers, and other students will not be permitted and will be grounds for removal from class. If your behavior suggests the need for counseling or other assistance, you may be referred to your college office or University Counseling Services. If your behavior violates the University Student Conduct Code, you may be referred to the Director of the University Counseling Office.

University policy: http://www1.umn.edu/regents/policies/academic/Student_Conduct_Code.pdf

Scholastic Dishonesty

Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in disciplinary action. Scholastic dishonesty includes the submission of false records of academic achievement; cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing; altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement. In this course, a student responsible for serious or intentional scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an "F" or "N" for the course. All Scholastic Dishonesty offenses will be reported to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs (<http://www.sja.umn.edu/>).

The Office for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity has compiled a useful list of Frequently Asked Questions pertaining to scholastic dishonesty: <http://www1.umn.edu/oscai/integrity/student/index.html>.

University policy: http://www1.umn.edu/regents/policies/academic/Student_Conduct_Code.html

Sexual Harassment

University policy prohibits unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and/or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or academic environment in any University activity or program. Such behavior is not acceptable in the University setting.

University policy: <http://www1.umn.edu/regents/policies/humanresources/SexHarassment.html>

Disability Accommodations

It is a University policy to provide on a flexible and individual basis a reasonable accommodation to students who have documented disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. The Office of Disability Services, 30 Nicholson Hall, 612.626.1333, internet at <http://ds.umn.edu/> assists in ensuring equal access for students with disabilities by documenting disabilities and providing or arranging reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments, auxiliary aids and services, trainings, consultations, and technical assistance. If you have a disability you are strongly encouraged to contact Disability Services and me to discuss your individual needs for accommodations.

Student Mental Health Services

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance and may reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. University of Minnesota services are available to assist you. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Student Mental Health Website: <http://www.mentalhealth.umn.edu>.

Mission Statements

The new College of Education and Human Development is a world leader in discovering, creating, sharing, and applying principles and practices of multiculturalism and multidisciplinary scholarship to advance teaching and learning and to enhance the

psychological, physical, and social development of children, youth, and adults across the lifespan in families, organizations, and communities.

The mission of the School of Kinesiology is to enrich the quality of human life by expanding, applying, and disseminating the body of knowledge germane to physical activity, recreation, sport, and their applied systems.