

The Physical Education program at USC provides a variety of opportunities for students to improve their general health and fitness through fitness related and recreational activities classes.

**Golf - PHED 155a 1 unit**  
**Summer 2025**

**Location:** Allison Felix Field

**Brightspace:** <https://brightspace.usc.edu>

**Instructor:** Tim Burton

**Office Hours:** MW 9-10 am

**Contact Info:** [Tim.Burton@usc.edu](mailto:Tim.Burton@usc.edu)

### Course Description

This course is an introductory golf class to develop basic golf skills, swing mechanics (stance, grip, posture, and alignment), utilization of golf equipment (irons, woods, and putter), history, rules, scoring, etiquette, and strategies of play (golf course layout/play). This course will provide fundamental golf skills through practice and play.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Co-Requisite:** None

**Recommended Preparation:** None

### Course Learning Objectives

1. To acquire fundamental golf skills with proficiency and ability to apply these skills.
2. To gain sufficient knowledge of basic golf rules, scoring, etiquette, and play.
3. To develop knowledge and competency in golf fundamentals, skills, and games.
4. To develop, appreciate, and commit to adapting movement (golf) activity for lifetime fitness.

### Physical Education Objectives

**Students will understand the importance of sound health & fitness principles as they relate to better health & will be able to:**

- Recognize the physical and mental benefits of increased physical activity.

**Students will be exposed to a variety of activities providing them the opportunity to:**

- Apply learned fundamental golf skills.

**Students will demonstrate proficiency through knowledge & acquired skills enabling them to:**

- Understand and utilize various training methods.
- Develop an appreciation of physical activity as a lifetime pursuit and a means to better health.

### Course Textbook

United States Golf Association (2018). *Player's edition of the rules of golf, effective January 2019*. R&A.  
<https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/rules-hub.html>

The Official Rules of Golf App (USGA) 2019 Most updated version. Free iOS and Android.

Professional Golfers' Association of America (2004). *First swing: Golfer's guide*.

### Equipment

Golf equipment will be provided. Personal equipment is encouraged, but not mandatory. Appropriate workout attire is required. *Recommendations include:* athletic shoes, water & towel. Lockers are available for a rental fee in the PED building. Equipment may be checked out with a student ID.

## In-Class Work

Timely and consistent participation is imperative, to develop appropriate skills and obtain supplemental information for course assignments/exams. Failure to participate in class **WILL IMPACT** your final grade. Overall 30% of your grade. Participation can not be made up.

***\*Students LATE beyond 15 minutes will not be allowed to participate for the day. This is for the safety of the class/students and limits interruptions.***

## COVID-19 (Class Guidelines)

USC (Covid-19) Resource Center – *Information, Updates & Support for USC Community*

<https://coronavirus.usc.edu/>

### Signs & Symptoms

#### *Brightspace & Email Postings*

- Posting of Current/Updated USC COVID-19 guidelines along with local and state supplemental information.

### Behaviors to Reduce Spread

#### *Stay Home or Self-Isolate, when sick*

- Stay at home & inform instructor if experiencing COVID-19 [symptoms](#), tested positive for COVID-19, or potential [exposure](#) to someone with COVID-19. Consult with USC [Student Health](#) (213) 740-9355, for additional assistance and resources.

#### *Hand Hygiene*

- Reinforcement of [handwashing practices](#) – with soap & water for at least 20 seconds or hand sanitizer (containing at least 60% alcohol).

#### *Face Covering*

- Face covering must be worn at all time during class instruction. Adherence to USC & CDC guidelines of [proper use, removal, and washing of face coverings](#).

#### *Social Distancing*

- Stay 6 feet (2 arm's lengths) from classmates/instructor. *See course modifications for additional class guidelines for social distancing.*

## Course Modifications & Cleaning/Disinfection

### *Classroom Layout*

- Golf mats and course instruction will adhere to social distancing guidelines.

### *Golf Equipment*

- Students will not share any golf equipment and will be given their own set of equipment before class. After class, all equipment will be cleaned/disinfected after class and prior to next class usage. (TBD)

### *Cleaning/Disinfection*

- All golf equipment (golf balls/clubs) will be cleaned and disinfected after class. Hand washing practices will be instituted before and after class.

## Assignment Submission Policy

**Video Analysis** – (1-2 page[s]) paper analyzing the video of your golf swing mechanics, due via Blackboard (submit under Video Assignment, not through email). \*Use mytpi.com/improve my game/ swing characteristics as a reference.

**\*OPTIONAL Experiential → Driving Range (6 pts.) or Golf Round (12 pts.)** – Driving range receipt or golf course scored scorecard and receipt, due by the **Final Exam**. Only 1 submission will be credited. Submit online to Bb- do not email.

## Course Policies

- **No Make-Ups** will be given for any missed in-class work or late assignments, including exams.
- Email ([tim.burton@usc.edu](mailto:tim.burton@usc.edu)) is the preferred method of communication outside of class. Email generally answered within 48 hours & 72 hours over a weekend, and the work day following a holiday. **Please NOTE: Class time in the subject line of email.**
- In the event of adverse weather conditions (i.e., rainy days), please check your email for additional class information. Options include indoor activity, zoom, or Bb asynchronous assignment.
- Wear appropriate clothing and athletic shoes. No sandals or bare feet.

## Additional Policy

- USC Physical Education **IS NOT** responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged property. If you choose to bring any valuables to class, it is strongly recommended to lock them up during class. Lockers are available for rental fees in the PED building and Lyon Center.

## Grading Criteria

### 100 Total Points

Cognitive	50%	50 pts.	Psychomotor	55%	55 pts.
Midterm	20%	20 pts.	In-Class Work	30%	30 pts.
Final Exam	25%	25 pts.	Video Analysis	15%	15pts.
			Skill Assessment	10%	10 pts.

**Optional Experiential (EXTRA Credit)** – Driving Range (3 points max) or Golf Course Round (6 points max) Proof from current semester i.e. receipt and pictures required for credit.

**A** (94+%), **A-** (90-93%), **B+** (87-89%), **B** (84-86%), **B-** (80-83%), **C+** (77-79%), **C** (74-76%), **C-** (70-73%), **D+** (67-69%), **D** (64-66%), **D-** (60-63%), **F** (0-59%)

**In-Class Work (30%):** Regular participation in class activities is a cumulative portion of your grade and active participation is fully expected.

**Final Exam (25%):** Comprehensive final examination of all coursework. Students are responsible for all material covered. The examination will be on BB and consist of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer. Administered on week 15/last class meeting.

**Midterm (20%):** Will consist of material covered to this point. Refer to the course text, handouts, lectures, and activities. The examination will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer. Exam on Bb week 8.

**Video Analysis (15%):** Students will video during class time and analyze their swing including, 1. grip 2. posture 3. alignment 4. set-up 5. Strengths/weaknesses 6. Swing characteristics. Students are expected to use initial-class to mid-class videos to compare and contrast themselves. Analysis paper (1-2 page paper).

**Skills Assessment (10%):** In-class demonstration of learned skills of the basic elements of golf. Including but not limited to putting, short game, iron play, drivers, and basic play and etiquette. To be administered during Weeks 13-14-15. A formal rubric will be given and used for this assessment activity- which is found in the course reader. Skill Assessments can not be made up.

**OPTIONAL Experiential – Driving Range (3 pts. or 3%) or Golf Course Round (6 pts. or 6%):**  
Optional extra credit for applying learned golf skills at driving range or playing either a 9-hole or 18-hole golf course. Receipt/video and/or scored scorecard and receipt are required for credit. Up to 6 points only will be credited. Due by the Final Exam week 15, last class meeting. Submit online to Bb only- do not email.

## Course Schedule

*\* tentative and subject to change*

Week 1	Course Introduction <i>Golf 101 – Chapter 1</i>	
Week 2	Grip, Stance & Mechanics — Skills Practice <i>Review: Safety &amp; golf terminology – Chapter 4</i>	
Week 3	Swing Fundamentals — Skills Practice <i>Equipment &amp; principles – Chapter 6</i>	
<b>LAST DAY TO: REGISTER &amp; ADD CLASSES, DROP WITHOUT THE MARK OF “W”, CHANGE ENROLLMENT OPTION TO P/NP OR AUDIT &amp; PURCHASE/WAIVE TUITION REFUND INSURANCE</b>		
Week 4	Skills Practice <i>Ball flight laws/strategy – Chapter 5</i>	
Week 5	Short Irons — Skills Practice <i>Ball flight laws/strategy – Chapter 5</i>	
Week 6	Mid Irons — Skills Practice <i>Equipment selection, golf rules, scoring &amp; etiquette</i>	
Week 7	Club Selection (Short Game) <i>Skills Practice</i>	
Week 8	Midterm (Review) Video Analysis Assignment Due	Midterm Exam on BB
<b>LAST DAY TO: DROP COURSE WITHOUT MARK OF “W” ON TRANSCRIPT &amp; CHANGE ENROLLMENT P/NP COURSE TO A LETTER GRADE</b>		
Week 9	Long Irons — Skills Practice <i>Ball positioning, targets &amp; distance</i>	In Class Play
Week 10	Woods & Fairway Clubs <i>Skills Practice</i>	
Week 11	Facility Orientation & Courses — Skills Practice <i>Chapter 2</i>	
Week 12	<b>Skills Assessment Practice / Preparation</b>	
Week 13	<b>Skills Assessment (short game)</b>	
<b>LAST DAY TO DROP CLASS WITH MARK OF “W”</b>		
Week 14	<b>Skills Assessment (mid game)</b>	<b>Skills Assessment (long game)</b>
Week 15	Final (Review)	Final Exam on BB

## Academic Conduct/Integrity

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” [policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b](http://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b). Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, [policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct](http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct).

## Support Systems

### **Student Counseling Services (SCS) – (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call**

[engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling](http://engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling)

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

### **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call**

[suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### **Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) – (213) 740-4900 – 24/7 on call**

[engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp](http://engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp)

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

### **Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX Compliance – (213) 740-5086**

[equity.usc.edu](http://equity.usc.edu), [titleix.usc.edu](http://titleix.usc.edu)

Information about how to get help or help a survivor of harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following protected characteristics: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations.

### **Bias Assessment Response and Support**

[studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support](http://studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support)

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions for appropriate investigation and response.

### **The Office of Disability Services and Programs – (213) 740-0776**

[dsp.usc.edu](http://dsp.usc.edu)

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test-taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

### **USC Support and Advocacy – (213) 821-4710**

[studentaffairs.usc.edu/sssa](http://studentaffairs.usc.edu/sssa)

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

### **Diversity at USC – (213) 740-2101**

[diversity.usc.edu](http://diversity.usc.edu)

Information on events, programs, and training, the Provost’s Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

### **USC Emergency Information – UPC: (213) 740-4321 – HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call**

[dps.usc.edu](http://dps.usc.edu), [emergency.usc.edu](http://emergency.usc.edu)

Emergency assistance and avenues to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

**USC Department of Public Safety – UPC: (213) 740-6000 – HSC: (323) 442-1200 – 24/7 on call [dps.usc.edu](http://dps.usc.edu)**  
Non-emergency assistance or information.