

## Statement Regarding Closed Campus Policies

Although these are incredibly challenging and trying times due to COVID-19, the AFOP department is looking very forward to having students back on campus and participating in a wide range of courses and experiences offered by the department. Within AFOP we have a strong understanding for and appreciation of how important athletic, fitness and outdoor opportunities are for physical health and mental well-being. In past years our department has proudly offered students numerous opportunities to take advantage of off-campus fitness experiences, from taking classes off-campus in order to gain PE credit to participating in Gray Fund or Outing Club endeavors across the state and beyond.

It is with a heavy heart that we acknowledge this academic year will look quite different from previous years for the AFOP department. Due to the closed campus policy enacted at Reed for the first semester, the AFOP has been mandated to change several key aspects of how it works. First, in an effort to encourage students to stay on campus, no PE credit will be given to off-site classes. In addition, there will be no financial support or compensation offered for any off campus events or activities not officially part of department programming, including but not limited to Gray Fund or Outing Club activities to take place off campus, and access to Reed College vehicles will be strictly limited.

We know this is a huge change. These measures are certainly not ideal, but they are concrete steps we, as a community, can take to contribute to the greater good during this pandemic. It is our hope that by not encouraging off-campus activities, we will limit the number of students coming into contact with, and therefore becoming infected with and spreading, COVID-19.

The AFOP department is well aware of how this change will impact Reed's students and is eager to help provide as many virtual or socially distanced athletic, fitness and outdoor opportunities as possible. Off-campus, remote classes still remain an option, and we are hopeful that collectively we can come up with numerous opportunities to practice athletics, fitness and a connection with nature. This is not an easy time for any of us, but we are hopeful that by changing our behavior for a semester, we will help flatten (or lower) the curve. Please reach out to the AFOP department if there are course offerings or suggestions you have that you feel could enrich our community during this time.