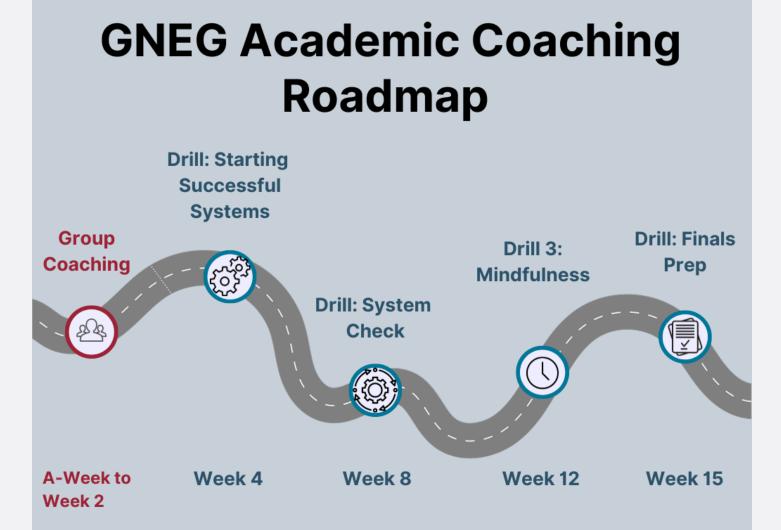
### MINDFULNESS

### CALM THE STORM

ENGR ACADEMIC COACHING TEAM



# What to Expect

- ★ What is Mindfulness?
- ★ Benefits of Mindfulness
- ★ Mindfulness Exercises
- ★ Mindfulness for Test Anxiety
- ★ Additional Tips for Test Anxiety
- ★ Resources

#### Why Mindfulness Is a Superpower: An Animation



### What is **Mindfulness?**

Mindfulness can be described as paying attention to what is happening in the *mind*, *body and immediate surroundings*.



# What do I get from **being mindful?**

→ Studies show that students who

#### meditate before an exam

perform better than students who

do not.

- → Can improve concentration.
- → Increase our immune system

- Mindfulness-based interventions have been demonstrated to reduce the symptoms of:
  - → Every day stress
  - → Test Anxiety
  - → Chronic Stress
  - → Insomnia
  - → Depression

### What does **mindfulness** look like?

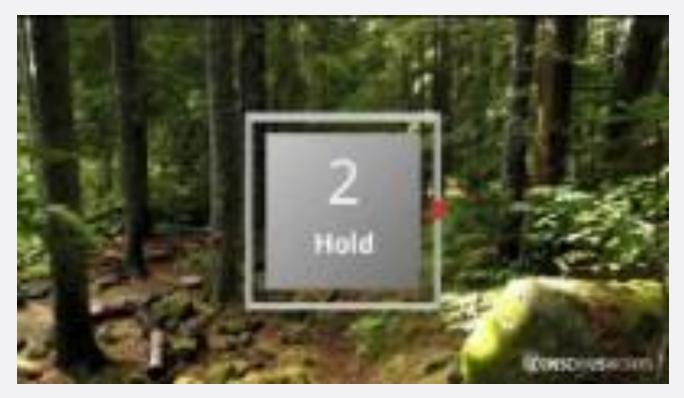
# When you think of activities that you can do mindfully, what comes to mind?





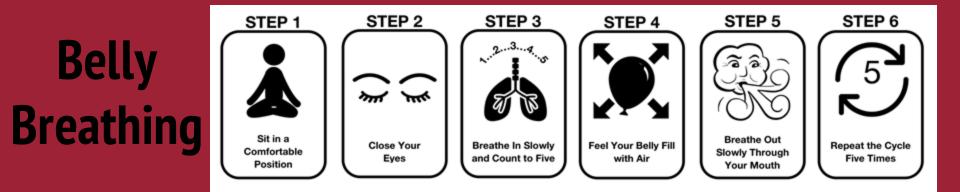


### **Box Breathing (The Navy SEAL technique)**



# Alright, let's try it out!

#### <u>Toolbox</u>: Feeling overwhelmed, panicked, need to get in a good headspace, or trying to calm down



5-4-3-2-1 Grounding

<u>Toolbox</u>: Feeling overwhelmed, panicked, or distracted



around you.

around you.

## Body Scan Meditation

(When our emotional state is affecting our physical body)

Let's just notice. Don't try to change.

Just notice.

<u>Toolbox</u>: Feeling tense, overly stressed, or trouble sleeping

STAY WITH THE PHYSICAL BODY, ALLOWING THE THOUGHTS TO COME AND GO WITHOUT CLINGING

SIT UP, KEEPING THE BACK AS

STRAIGHT AS POSSIBLE. FIND

A POSTURE THAT IS BOTH

ENERGIZED AND EASEFUL

BRING GENERAL AWARENESS TO THE POSTURE AND PRESENCE OF THE BODY AS IT IS IN THIS

BRING AWARENESS TO INDIVIDUAL PLACES IN THE BODY, STARTING AT THE TOP AND WORKING YOUR WAY DOWN

### Mindfulness Exercise Discussion

- How did the exercises make you feel after?
- Was there one that resonated with you?



### Example: When Can I Use Mindfulness?



Before the test: I can **belly breathe** to make sure I am calm.

During the test: I can use a grounding exercise when I am feeling overwhelmed.

After the test: I can do a **body scan** to assess my feelings.



Alternatives: Yoga, Guided Medidation, Massage Therapy

# "Habits are the brain's way of conserving energy and resources."

"Mindfulness is a key to habit change because it brings awareness to behaviors and activities that have become automatic and unconscious." Hugh Byrne, PhD

### Mindfulness: Choosing New Testing Habits



- → When you receive the test, review it so you can budget your time.
- → Don't rush- pace yourself!
- → Do problems that are the easiest first to gain confidence.
- → Circle key words in difficult questions.
- → Reserve time at the end to review your answers.

## **Mindfulness resources:** There's an app for that

#### Calm



Provides meditations, calming music and sleep stories (Free Version & Premimum Student Discount)

#### Headspace



Provides meditations, animations, articles, and videos on mindfulness (Free Version & Premimum Student Discount)



#### Mindfulness Coach App

Offers audio-guided mindfulness exercises, goal-setting assistance, reminders, crisis resources, and more (Free)



**Smiling Mind** Daily meditations and mindfulness exercises for teens (Free)



#### #SelfCare

Interactive self-care app to practice mindful techniques (Free) (iPhone exclusive)



**Breathe: relax & focus** Offers guided breathing exercises (Free)

## Razorback Resources: Campus Cares



#### UARK Wellness

- Relaxation Room
- Massage Chairs
- Welltrack Boost
- Free Online Wellness Classes

Pat Walker Health Center
CAPS
SEAR
Razorback Recovery



Pat Walker Health Center ----

UNIVERSITY OF

College of Education & Health Professions Counselor Education and Supervision **CNED Online Counseling** Email <u>uarkcned@gmail.com</u> with your name, date of birth, and email to get connected to a counselor.

### How Mindfulness Empowers Us



### "We can choose what we strengthen and let go of."



#### Mindfulness is a <u>choice</u>.

- It is not about being perfect; it's about being present in the current moment.
- It's making the choice to allow your mind and body to work in harmony.
- It is an additional tool for stress management, test anxiety, insomnia, and more.
- It is recognizing when you need additional help.

### Make an Appointment

Drop-in Hours:

- Wed 2-4pm
- (ENGR 315)
- Fri 9-11am
- (ENGR 309A)

engcoach@uark.edu

#### SKILLS COACHING

1:1 HELP WITH THESE SPECIFIC SKILLS:

- Creating a study plan for an exam
- Prep and review strategies for an exam
- Creating a weekly schedule
- Learning strategies (note-taking, outlining, reading academic material)

#### ACADEMIC COACHING

1:1 SUPPORT WITH THESE SUCCESS TOPICS:

- Identifying specific goals to create an individualized success plan
- Navigating campus life and resources
- Prioritizing questions, exploring future planning and areas of growth

#### CALCULUS COACHING

1:1 SUPPORT WITH SKILL DEVELOPMENT IN CAL I & II:

- Creating a study plan for a Cal exam
- Calculus prep and review strategies
- Cal specific learning strategies (note-taking, outlining, reading academic material)

#### Schedule Here







### Drill 3: Sign-Out Survey

Mindfulness: Calm the Storm

