5 Self-Care Tips for Balance

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Description and Purpose

Self-care is necessary to achieve balance among your professional and personal lives. Participants will explore:

- 1) Breathwork
- 2) Mindfulness
- 3) Nutrition
- 4) Exercise
- 5) Sleep



We will discuss strategies that participants may immediately implement into regular practice. Participants will be encouraged to keep a daily journal or log to track their progress.

#1 Breathwork

- You can regulate your breath by performing breathing exercises called BREATHWORK.
- Relax your face and shoulders.
- Inhale deeply into your belly, without moving your shoulders.
- Exhale slowly until your belly is emptied.
- Repeat the inhale-exhale exercise 5 or more times.



#2 Mindfulness

- Mindfulness is being aware of the present moment and noticing what is going on around you.
- Mindfulness is an awareness of your body and mind operating together.
- You can practice mindfulness by paying attention to your breath without letting outside thoughts dominate.

#3 Nutrition

- The food you eat must be nutritious and balanced to give you energy, including fruits, vegetables, grains, and proteins.
- ❖ Be sure your diet doesn't include too much fat or sugar.
- Drink enough water. Divide your weight (pounds) by two.
 Drink that amount in ounces of water. (Example: 150 lbs ÷ 2 =

75 oz of water)

#4 Exercise

- Move your body for at least 30 minutes every day.
- Change your exercises. Don't do the same activity every day.
- Incorporate cardio (running, walking, hiking), strength training (weight lifting), and stretching (restorative yoga).



#5 Sleep

- Determine how many hours of sleep you need. Most people need around 8 hours per night.
- Go to bed at the same time every night, and get up at the same time every morning.
- Do relaxing activities before bed, such as a bath, meditation, or stretching.

Summary

- Breathwork, mindfulness, nutrition, exercise, and sleep are five ways to provide self-care. The first four strategies will improve your sleep.
- Monitor these areas of your life by tracking your progress in a journal or wellness log.
- Enroll in STDY 100 for more practice!
- Email me with questions: acastagnaro@mtsac.edu

Resources

- Calm
- Mindful
- Yoga Journal
- Mind Body Green
- MyPlate
- Wellness Log

