

Midwestern State University
Gordon T. & Ellen West College of Education

GRADUATE SPORT ADMIN SYLLABUS, CALENDAR, ASSIGNMENTS

SPAD 5033 X20, DX1 Ethics & Legal Issues in Sport Management Spring 2022

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Julie Wood

Office: Bridwell 322

Office hours: 9:00-11:00 TWR

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Contact Preference

My preferred method of communication is by email. I check my email throughout the day (MTWR), so you can expect to hear back from me usually within a few hours of receiving your message. Do not expect a response during the evening hours or over the weekend. I generally do not pay attention to the phone, so if you call and leave a message, you may not receive a return call.

Required Course Materials

1. Textbook
2. Internet access and computer

Textbook

Champion, W.T., Karcher, R.T., & Ruddell, L.S. (2020). *Sports Ethics for Sports Management Professionals* (2nd ed.). Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett.

Course Description

Study of ethical and legal issues related to the sport industry and historical foundations of sport law.

Learning Outcomes

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the U.S. legal system, tort law, product liability, risk management, employment law, and gender equity.

Students will demonstrate an understanding of current ethical and moral issues facing professionals in recreation, leisure and sport.

Students will apply ethical, moral, and legal principles to current controversial issues in sport.

Students will discuss culturally divergent standards of conduct of coaches and athletic administrators.

Students will complete a problem analysis of a sport-related ethical, moral, or legal dilemma.

Elements of the Course

Syllabus

The syllabus provides general information about the course, assignment expectations and requirements, and assessment information.

Calendar

The calendar lists the weekly topics, assignments, and due dates for each assignment.

Textbook

The textbook is required reading for this course. Assignments are connected directly to the text.

D2L Dropboxes

Weekly dropboxes will be created for submission of assignments.

Learning Activities

Chapter Related Questions (210 pts)

Questions will be posted related to each chapter. Responses are expected to be factual in nature with support from information in the chapter readings.

Case Analysis (50 points)

Students are required to complete an analysis of a sport-related case that is currently being litigated – meaning a case in which a decision has not yet been rendered.

Final Grade Determination

A	234-260 points
B	208-233 points
C	182-207 points
D	156-181 points
F	000-155 points

Professional Expectations

Students are expected to behave academically, interpersonally, professionally, and collaboratively in a manner consistent with standards set by the West College of Education.

Assignments
SPAD 5033 X20 DX1 Ethics & Legal Issues
Spring 2022

Week 1

Purchase Textbook

Champion, W.T., Karcher, R.T., & Ruddell, L.S. (2020). *Sports Ethics for Sports Management Professionals* (2nd ed.). Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett.

Week 2 (40 points) Due Friday January 21

Read Chapter 1 Ethical Concepts in Sports

Read Chapter 2 Sportsmanship, Gamesmanship, and Cheating

Respond to the following questions:

1. Just because an act or decision is legal or in compliance with a rule does not necessarily make it ethical. Explain this concept and give examples.
2. The connection between athletes and fans should exemplify a collaborative model rather than an adversarial model. Explain this concept and give examples.
3. It has been argued that American sports are consumed with gamesmanship and that players rarely value sportsmanship. Explain this concept and give examples.
4. Is spying on another team always wrong? Why or why not? Give examples.

Week 3 (50 points) Due Friday January 28

Read Chapter 4 Ethical Issues Involving Coaches

Read Case 4-5 Vendrell v. School District No. 26C, Malheur County

Respond to the 5 questions presented at the end of the case study.

Week 4 (60 points) Due Friday February 4

Read Chapter 6 Violence in Sports

Read Case 6-4 State of Colorado v. Nathan Hall

Respond to the 3 questions presented at the end of the case study.

Read Case 6-7 Hackbart v. Cincinnati Bengals

Respond to the 3 questions presented at the end of the case study.

Week 5 (40 points) Due Friday February 11

Read Chapter 8 Ethical Considerations of Race in Sports

Read Case 8-4 Malcom v. Novato United States School District

Respond to the 4 questions presented at the end of the case study.

Week 6 (20 points) Due Friday February 18

Read Chapter 11 Ethical Considerations in Sports Media

Respond to the following questions:

1. Should universities and high schools be able to limit and monitor what student-athletes post on social networking website? Why or why not?

2. Should the private lives of athletes, coaches and administrators be off-limits to reporters if their actions have nothing to do with the sport? Why or why not?

Week 7 (50 points) Due Friday February 25
Final Case Analysis

Complete the following case analysis and submit your analysis to the appropriate dropbox (Case Analysis). The case analysis is worth 50 points.

Research the current literature and select a case that is currently being litigated – meaning a case in which a decision has not yet been rendered. You are to write a 2-3 page paper that covers the items presented below. The paper is worth 50 points and will be graded using the attached rubric.

Paper Guidelines:

- 2-3 pages, no more than 3 pages and no less than 2 pages
- Use 12 point, Times New Roman font
- Set all margins at 1"
- Use double spacing throughout the paper
- Give your paper a title and include your name in the heading
- Check all grammar and punctuation
- Use your own words in the construction of the analysis

Expectations for Case Analysis (You MUST present information from steps 3-7 in your paper)

1. Read the case to get an overview of what is occurring.
2. Read the case a second time and make notes about the significant aspects—the individuals and their actions, circumstances surrounding the situation, and contributing factors.
3. Identify the central ethical/legal issues of the case and describe the issues succinctly.
4. Determine any areas of conflict or potential conflict as they relate to the central issues.
5. Identify the causal factors (any behavior, omission, or deficiency that if corrected, eliminated, or avoided probably would have prevented the situation) that could influence acting in an unethical/unlawful manner as they relate to the central issue.
6. Suggest courses of legal action for this case.
7. Describe the ramifications if your suggested actions are taken.

Grading Rubric

	10 points	8 points	6 points	4 points	2 points
Legal/Ethical Issue(s)	Describes the legal/ethical issue clearly and concisely.	Describes the legal/ethical issue(s) clearly.	Describes the legal/ethical issue(s) in broad and general terms	Describes only a portion of the legal/ethical issue(s)	Fails to describe the legal/ethical issue(s)
Associated Factors	Provides an in-depth analysis of the factors associated with the issue	Provides some analysis of the factors associated with the issue	Provides little analysis of the factors associated with this issue	Provides a description but no analysis of the factors associated with the issue	Fails to provide a description or analysis of the factors associated with the issue
Legal Actions/ Resolutions and Ramifications	Suggests a significant and relevant legal action for the case; describes the ramifications	Suggests one possible legal action for resolving the issue; describes the ramifications	Suggests one possible legal action for resolving the issue; no description of the ramifications	Suggests unrelated legal actions or describes unrelated ramifications	Fails to suggest legal actions or ramifications
Presentation of Information	Presents information in a well-written and understandable manner; paragraphs are used correctly and aid in the flow of the paper	Presents information understandably; paragraphs are used correctly and aid in the flow of the paper	Presents information understandably, but paragraphs are used incorrectly and has an undesirable flow	Presents information in an unclear or scattered manner; difficult to read and grade	Presents information in a manner that is difficult to understand; cannot follow paper for suitable grading
Grammar and Editorial Components	Contains no grammatical or editorial errors	Includes a few grammatical or editorial errors	Includes several grammatical or editorial errors	Includes numerous grammatical or editorial errors	Includes an objectionable amount of grammatical or editorial errors and is unsuitable for grading

Note: Dr. Stacia Miller developed the requirements for the final case analysis. This is a common assessment that is used in this course, regardless of instructor.