



**Tentative Course Syllabus: Foundations of Recreation & Leisure  
Gordon T. & Ellen West College of Education  
KNES 2003 Section 101  
Fall 2025**

**Contact Information**

Instructor: Dr. Sandra Shawver  
Office: 321 Bridwell Hall  
Office hours: Mon. 9:00 AM-10:30 AM; Wed. 2:00 PM-3:30PM; Thur. 2:00 PM-4:00 PM.  
Office phone: (940) 397-4941  
E-mail: [Sandra.shawver@msutexas.edu](mailto:Sandra.shawver@msutexas.edu)

**Class Meeting Information**

Tuesday/Thursday      12:30pm – 1:50 pm      Bridwell Hall Room 209

YouTube and ZOOM will be used in this course for some presentations and/or assignments.

**Instructor Response Policy**

During the week, I will typically respond to your emails within 36 - 48 hours. Do not expect a response during the evening hours or over the weekend. Any emails received over the weekend or after a holiday will receive a response no later than the following Tuesday by 12:00 noon.

**Required Course Materials**

Textbook: Tapps, T., & Wells. M. S. (2019) Introduction to recreation and leisure (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed). Chicago, IL., Human Kinetics.

APA Publication Manual, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition   [Purdue Owl](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/8/) : APA Formatting and Style Guide

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/8/>

Course Materials: Access to a personal computer with Microsoft Software, high speed Internet and the ability to access D2L (the MSUTexas Online Learning System, and Smart phone, I Pad or similar technology for Flipgrid assignments.

Technology: All students must have internet access and be able to: send and receive e-mail, create, send and receive Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher or PowerPoint documents; use Google documents, sites & slides, use Desire 2 Learn portal through MSUTexas portal, YouTube, and ZOOM meeting platform for class assignments/meetings & presentations, post to discussion boards, appropriately use internet links and online websites.

**Course Description**

This course introduces students to the general principles and practices in the recreation and leisure segment of the sport industry. Students will gain a general understanding and appreciation of career options that they will be prepared for as they complete the Sport and Leisure Studies major. The course will examine history, philosophy, theory, professional standards, basic management principles and concepts, industry trends and best practices.

## Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Course Competencies

Satisfactory completion of the course will document that students have demonstrated the ability to:

1. Gain knowledge of the history of sport & leisure.
2. Gain knowledge of professional standards within the sport and leisure industry.
3. Gain knowledge of career and professional opportunities through the sport and leisure service field.
4. Develop a professional philosophy for working in the field of sport and leisure studies.
5. Gain knowledge about trends and best practices used in the field of sport and leisure studies.

## Student Handbook

Refer to [Student Handbook-2025-26](#)

## Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, use of AI passed off as original writing, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given).

Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

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- a. The term “cheating” includes, but is not limited to (1) the use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (3) the acquisition without permissions, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the university, faculty, or staff.
- b. The term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation of another person's published or unpublished work without full and clear acknowledgment. The use of AI. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency selling term papers or other academic materials.
- c. “collusion” means collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit if the faculty member in charge does not authorize that collaboration.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and goes against the principles of integrity and originality that are essential in an educational setting. In this course, we uphold a zero- tolerance policy towards plagiarism and the use of AI-generated content without proper attribution. It is crucial that all students understand and adhere to this policy to maintain the academic integrity of the course.

Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct/Rights & Responsibilities.

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- c. “collusion” means collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit if the faculty member in charge does not authorize that collaboration.

Plagiarism is the act of presenting someone else's work, ideas, or intellectual property as one's own without appropriate acknowledgment. This includes, but is not limited to, copying and pasting from online sources, using another student's work, paraphrasing without proper citation, and using AI-generated content without proper attribution.

The use of AI-generated content is not permitted in this course, unless explicitly specified by the instructor. If the use of AI-generated content is allowed for specific assignments, students must disclose this fact and provide appropriate attribution to the AI tool used. Most importantly, you must provide citations and references for all generative AI information used. Since generative AI information is not reproducible, you should save copies of the information you obtained and include those documents in appendices attached to your paper or project. Full citation information can be found at the APA How to Cite link. [How to Cite ChatGPT](#)

Self-plagiarism refers to submitting work for credit that is the same or substantially similar to work prepared or submitted for another course, without appropriate citation. This includes reusing previous assignments, papers, presentations, or other submissions without instructor approval. Self-plagiarism gives the impression of original work, when in fact the content has already been submitted for assessment elsewhere.

Students should be aware that turning in the same or similar papers for multiple classes violates academic integrity, unless expressly authorized by the instructor. To avoid self-plagiarism, communicate openly with your instructor about building on existing work or repurposing prior submissions. Provide proper citations for any previous work referenced. Unless the instructor indicates otherwise, all assignments submitted for this course must be newly prepared by you and you alone for this specific class.

Any instance of plagiarism, AI generated content, and/or self-plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Academic Integrity Policy outlined in the [Student Handbook-2022-23](#).

### [Office of Student Conduct](#)

## Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, MSUTexas endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

## Grading/Assessment

### Assignment Overview and Grading Criteria

Due dates will be shared in D2L or in class. All assignments unless otherwise stated in the individual instructions are required to be submitted as a Word document using the APA 7<sup>th</sup> Ed formatting standards. Any submissions in a different format will be returned to the student and not graded until it is submitted in the correct format. This could cause the student to incur the 5 point deduction per day for late submissions. Any assignment can be submitted before the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted. Do not wait until the last minute on any of your work!!

Grammar will be graded as a part of any course work. All work should be in your own words! Format – FOR ALL PAPERS: 12 point Times New Roman font, one (1) inch margins, and doubled spaced. The title (cover page) should include the following information (Page number, title of paper, name of author, course number & name, instructor name and assignment due date). \*See each individual assignment for more detail. If assignments are submitted as a pdf, notes, google, etc. will not be graded until submitted in the correct format and receive the 5 point/day deduction for being late from the date returned to the student by the professor.

I will give feedback on assignments when appropriate, including, comments through “news items”, comments directly in the discussion board, and comments to the feedback box associated with each assignment submitted to drop box. Please take the time to read these comments as I am taking the time to make them.

Grades for each assignment will be posted in the D2L course grade book.

## LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment please contact me a minimum of 72 hours before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Unless pre-approved late assignment submissions will not be accepted/graded.

## Course Grade

Table 1: Points allocated to each area

Assignments	Points
Quizzes (5 @ 15 pts)	75
Discussions/Videos (9 @10 pts)	90
Chapter Analysis (5 @ 20 points)	100
Class Engagement 3 pts/day	75
Facility tours	20
Interview	15
Recreation Comparison	15
Program Leadership	10
State Park Outline	10
Rec Sport Program Design	30
Volunteering (6 hours)	30
Final Exam	35
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>505</b>

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A = 90%	455 +
B = 80 %	404 - 454
C = 70%	354 - 403
D = 60%	303 – 353
F = 59%	Less than 203

## Homework

A tentative course schedule has been posted on D2L. All course content, assignments, and due dates have been outlined.

## Quizzes/Exams

These assignments are to check students understanding of knowledge on each of the chapters and information covered. The exams will be done online through the D2L platform, each quiz will be timed. These will appear on the Course Schedule in more detail.

## Projects Required

Chapter Analysis: Students will complete each required analysis as assigned on D2L using correct APA 7<sup>th</sup> Ed. formatting throughout.

Field Interview: Each student will select professionally appropriate interview questions from those provided that will then be used to interview an individual within leisure/recreation profession. Preferably with someone who does programming for a recreation/leisure organization now.

Risk Assessment: Students will physically assess and report on risks and how, as an organization leader address the risks by either accepting, modifying or removing them with appropriate reasoning.

Professional Resume': Students will develop their professional resume' for review by the MSU career center and the instructor.

Volunteer Hours: Each student is required to volunteer with a non-profit organization for 6 hours and submit an overview of the experience and a supervisors verification of hours worked. Students must have the organization approved by the professor prior to starting their hours.

### Final Exam

Final exam will be over all chapters and information from the semester. It will be a timed test and is scheduled for December . The exam will be available from TBA on that day only.

### Extra Credit

If there is a special event put on by the university that the professor deems as valuable to the students, she reserves the right to add attendance of the event as extra credit to the course.

### Make Up Work/Tests

Unless contacted by the student a minimum of 72 prior to an assignment or quiz due date no make-up work or test will be allowed. In the case of an unexpected emergency that incident will be evaluated and decided upon on a case by case situation by the instructor.

### Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes & Late Registration: August 28: Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).

Deadline to file for graduation: December graduation is September 22; May graduation is October 6: Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" 4:00 PM on November 24: Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

### Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

### Online Computer Requirements

Taking this class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments as directed. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class.

**Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. **Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!** There are many places to access your class portal. Our MSUTexas class portal can be accessed from any computer in the world that is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

## Instructor Class Policies

### ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend and engage in class activities and discussions. When class discussions, group and table learning activities are presented, individual participation is advantageous. Class engagement is evaluated each day & worth a total of 75 points as part of your overall grade. If a student is absent they will lose 3 points for that day.

### CITATION AND REFERENCE STYLE

Students will follow the APA Style Manual, 7th Edition as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation used in the APA Style Manual, 7th Edition. The MSU writing lab is available to all MSU students [Writing Center](#)

### THREE THEN ME RULE

Before contacting me, make sure to follow the “Three then Me” rule. The “Three then Me” rule says that you search for your answer regarding the course in at least three other places before you contact me. For example, if you have a question about an assignment, you should consult your syllabus, your grading scale or rubric, or the assignment description on D2L, you can also reach out to a peer in the course for needed information. Remember, check three sources before emailing me your question. It is very likely you’ll find the answer and not need to email me. If you don’t find the answer, and need clarification, feel free to email me.

Please note: By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a “limited right” in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The “limited right” shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student’s work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.

### Plagiarism Statement

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Student Handbook-2024-2025

### Cell Phone Policy

In accordance with Texas House Bill (HB) 1481, the Prohibition on Student Use of Personal Communication Devices on School Property During the School Day, I (Dr. Shawver) am instituting a prohibition on student use of cell phones during a face-to-face class that is unrelated to individual lectures, activities or assignments per the professor.

Multiple studies have documented the harmful effects of cell phone and social media use on student well-being and academic progress. As a result, Texas law requires public schools to prohibit the use of personal communication devices during the school day on school property. This policy is adopted to implement this requirement and improve the quality of the learning environment in our schools.

Hence, **(READ THIS TWICE, PLEASE)**, there are NO cell phones permitted to be out and/or in my (or your) sight in this class. This class requires your engagement, and cell phones serve to detract from that engagement. Additionally, your phone should be not only put away, but on “silent” (NOTE: vibrate is NOT silent). If your phone is out and/or in sight, you will be asked to put it away. If it is not, you will be given one warning. After that if it is still out and/or in sight, you will lose 10 points off of your FINAL grade for each infraction. Should your phone ring/vibrate during class, you are dismissed for the day. You are to silence it immediately, and quietly leave the class session. You will be counted absent for the session. Failure to adhere to this will result in more stringent disciplinary action.

### Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the [Schedule of Classes](#) each semester.

### Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

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### College Policies

#### Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

#### Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

#### Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

#### Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [Safety / Emergency Procedures](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled "Run. Hide. Fight." which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

#### Obligation to Report Sex Discrimination under State and Federal Law

Midwestern State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. State and federal law require University employees to report sex discrimination and sexual misconduct to the University's Office of Title IX. As a faculty member, I am required to report to the Title IX Coordinator any allegations, personally observed behavior, or other direct or indirect knowledge of conduct that reasonably may constitute sex discrimination or sexual misconduct, which includes sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, or stalking, involving a student or employee. After a report is made, the office of Title IX will reach out to the affected student or employee in an effort to connect such person(s) with resources and options in addressing the allegations made in the report. You are also encouraged to report any incidents to the office of Title IX. You may do so by contacting:



Laura Hetrick  
 Title IX Coordinator  
 Sunwatcher Village Clubhouse  
 940-397-4213  
[laura.hetrick@msutexas.edu](mailto:laura.hetrick@msutexas.edu)

You may also file an online report 24/7 at [Online Reporting Form](#)

Should you wish to visit with someone about your experience in confidence, you may contact the MSU Counseling Center at 940-397-4618. For more information on the University's policy on Title IX or sexual misconduct, please visit [Title IX Website](#)

### Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

### Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

### Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 1 8/25-8/31	Power, Promise, Potential & possibilities  History of Recreation	- Read Chapter 1 & 2 - Online Discussion (PR & L Role) <b>Due 9/2</b> - <b>Chapter 2 Analysis Paper Due 9/7</b>
Week 2 9/1-9/7	Philosophy of Leisure  Leisure & Recreation in Our Society	- Read Chapter 3 & 4 - Censoring and Suppressing Leisure - <b>Quiz #1 (Info from weeks 1 &amp; 2) 9/9</b>
Week 3 9/8-9/14	Leisure Service Delivery Systems  Parks & Protected areas in Canada & the U.S.	- Read Chapters 5 & 6 - State Park Assignment <b>Due 9/16 &amp; 9/18</b>
Week 4 9/15-9/21	Public Recreation	- Read Chapter 7 - <b>Online Discussion (ADA) 9/19 – 9/23</b> - <b>Facility Tour Assigned</b> - <b>Quiz #2 (Info from weeks 3-4) 9/18</b>
Week 5 9/22-9/28	Nonprofit Sector	- Read Chapter 8 - <b>Facility Tour Assignment 9/28</b> - Nonprofit DB <i>common features</i> - <b>Field Interview Assigned</b>
Week 6 9/29 -10/5	For-profit Sector  Therapeutic Recreation	- Read Chapters 9 & 10 - <b>Online Discussion (RET Job descriptions)/Resume Devlpt.</b> - <b>Field Interview Due 10/5</b> - <b>Quiz #3 (Info from weeks 5 -6) 10/2</b>
Week 7	Unique Groups	- Read Chapter 11



Week	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
10/6-10/12		- Recreation Comparisons (assigned) <b>Due 10/14</b>
Week 8 10/13-10/19	Leisure & Recreation across the Life Span	- Read Chapter 12 - Analysis Paper Due 10/16? - Life Stages - <b>Quiz 4 (Info from weeks 7-8) Due 10/19</b>
Week 9 10/20-10/26	Program Delivery System	- Read Chapter 13 - Trends Discussion - Program Leadership Assignment <b>Due 10/26</b>
Week 10 10/27-11/2	Recreational Sport Management	- Read Chapter 14 - Chapter 14 Analysis <b>Due 11/ 1</b> - Volunteer Hours Reminder
Week 11 11/3-11/9	Health, Wellness & Quality of Life	- Read Chapter 15 - <b>Quiz 5 (Info from weeks 9-10) 11/9</b> - Quality of life Tenets <b>Due 11/9</b>
Week 12 11/10-11/16	Outdoor & Adventure Recreation <i>Carrie Teach or Tim Swagerty</i>	- Read Chapter 16 - Personal OAE Experiences
Week 13 11/17-11/23	Arts & Culture	- Read Chapter 17 - Discussion (Careers) - <b>Quiz 6 (Info from weeks 11- 12) 11/20</b> - Resume Development Reminder
Week 14 11/24-11/30	Nature of Rec & Leisure as a profession - Professional Development - Careers in Recreational Sport	- Read Chapter 18 - Resume <b>Due 11/25</b>  **Happy Thanksgiving**
Week 15 12/1 – 12/7	International Perspectives on Rec & leisure	- Read Chapter 19 - <b>Volunteer Hours Due 12/2</b>
Week 16 12/8 –12/113	Final Exam	- <b>Final Exam due 12/ @ 10:30 AM (Comprehensive)</b>