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 2021**

**Contact Information**

Instructor: Dr. Julie Wood

Office: Bridwell 322

Office hours: 10:00-12:00 MWF

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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**

Spengler, J.O., Anderson, P.M., Connaughton, D.P., & Baker III, T.A. (2016). *Introduction to Sport Law* (2nd ed.). Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics.

**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 (160 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.

Concept Applications (60 points)

A concept application activity will be posted for each chapter. Information from sources beyond the textbook may be necessary to adequately apply various concepts.

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 243-270 points

B 216-242 points

C 189-215 points

D 162-188 points

F 000-161 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.

**Course Calendar & Assignments**

**January 11 – January 15**

Assignment

Read relevant materials listed on the course browser.

Purchase textbook.

**January 18 – January 22**

Required Reading

Chapter 1 U.S. Legal System

Learning Activity 1 (Due: Friday, January 22, 11:00 pm)

Complete the following questions and submit your responses to the appropriate dropbox (Legal System). Each question is worth 5 points (total = 15 points).

1. Explain the difference between the 4 sources of U.S. laws – common law, constitutional law, statutory law, and administrative law.
2. Describe the difference between criminal law and civil law.
3. Describe the difference between the 2 types of legal resources – primary sources and secondary sources.

Concept Application A (Due: Sunday, January 24, 11:00 pm)

Complete the following concept application and submit the assignment to the appropriate dropbox (Application A). The assignment is worth 10 points.

Locate and read a sport management-related case opinion from a reporter or from the internet. Outline the key facts and legal issues. What was the court’s decision, and why did they decide that way? Do you agree with the decision? Why or why not?

**January 25 – January 29**

Required Reading

Chapter 2 Tort Law

Learning Activity 2 (Due: Friday, January 29, 11:00 pm)

Complete the following questions and submit your responses to the appropriate dropbox (Tort Law). Each question is worth 5 points (total = 55 points).

1. Describe the concept of negligence.
2. Explain the element of negligence referred to as standard of care.
3. Explain the element of negligence referred to as breach of duty.
4. Explain the concept of causation, the third element of negligence.
5. Explain the fourth element of negligence, injury (damages).
6. Explain the concept of assumption of risk.
7. What is meant by the term inherent risks?
8. Explain the concept of voluntary consent.
9. Discuss the concept of knowledge, understanding, and appreciation as it relates to negligence.
10. Describe the difference between expressed and implied assumption of risk.
11. Explain the concept of intentional tort.

Concept Application B (Due: Sunday, January 31, 11:00 pm)

Complete the following concept application and submit the assignment to the appropriate dropbox (Application B). The assignment is worth 10 points.

Identify and discuss examples of how express and implied assumption of risk might arise in the sport context.

**February 1 – February 5**

Required Reading

Chapter 2 Product Liability

Learning Activity 3 (Due: Friday, February 5, 11:00 pm)

Complete the following questions and submit your responses to the appropriate dropbox (Product Liability). Each question is worth 5 points (total = 25 points).

1. Explain the concept of product liability.
2. Discuss the concept of negligence relative to product liability.
3. What is meant by the term strict liability?
4. Explain the concept of breach of warranty.
5. What is the difference between a manufacturing defect and a design defect?

Concept Application C (Due: Sunday, February 7, 11:00 pm)

Complete the following concept application and submit the assignment to the appropriate dropbox (Application C). The assignment is worth 10 points.

Explain how product liability might arise in the context of a lawsuit against those who buy and distribute equipment to players under their care.

**February 8 – February 12**

Required Reading

Chapter 3 Risk Management

Learning Activity 4 (Due: Friday, February 12, 11:00 pm)

Complete the following questions and submit your responses to the appropriate dropbox (Risk Management). Each question is worth 5 points (total = 20 points).

1. Identify the primary guidelines for maintaining and providing proper equipment.
2. Identify the primary guidelines for maintaining and providing safe facilities.
3. Identify the primary guidelines for providing safe, quality instruction.
4. Identify the primary guidelines for providing adequate supervision of participants.

Concept Application D (Due: Sunday, February 14, 11:00 pm)

Complete the following concept application and submit the assignment to the appropriate dropbox (Application D). The assignment is worth 10 points.

Outline the components of an emergency plan for a sport-related crisis of your choosing.

**February 15 – February 19**

Required Reading

Chapter 6 Employment Law

Learning Activity 5 (Due: Friday, February 19, 11:00 pm)

Complete the following questions and submit your responses to the appropriate dropbox (Employment Law). Each question is worth 5 points (total = 30 points).

1. Identify the purpose and major concepts covered by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
2. Explain the concept of affirmative action.
3. Explain the concept of age discrimination relative to employment.
4. Identify the purpose and major concepts covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).
5. What is meant by the term reasonable accommodation?
6. Discuss the concept of sexual harassment relative to employment.

Concept Application E (Due: Sunday, February 21, 11:00 pm)

Complete the following concept application and submit the assignment to the appropriate dropbox (Application E). The assignment is worth 10 points.

Explain the concept of disparate-treatment discrimination and provide an example in the sport context.

**February 22 – February 26**

Required Reading

Chapter 8 Gender Equity

Learning Activity 6

Complete the following questions and submit your responses to the appropriate dropbox (Gender Equity). Each question is worth 5 points (total = 15 points).

1. What is the 3-part test, and how is it used to determine whether a school complies with Title IX?
2. Discuss how participation in sport has been impacted by the implementation of Title IX.
3. Explain how Title IX applies to equality in athletic facilities and scheduling of practices and contests.

Concept Application F (Due: Sunday, February 28, 11:00 pm)

Complete the following concept application and submit the assignment to the appropriate dropbox (Application F). The assignment is worth 10 points.

What types of comparisons must an athletic administrator make to determine whether an athletic program provides equal opportunities for men and women?

**March 1 – March 5**

Learning Activity 7 (Due: Wednesday, March 3, 11:00 pm)

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

Case for Analysis

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.