

Course Syllabus Spring 2023

SPAD 6023 X20/DX1 Graduate Project

Dr. Sandra Shawver

January 16 – May 8, 2024

Contact Information

- Office: Bridwell 321
- Hours: Mon. 9:00 AM– 10:00 AM; Tue. 10:00 AM-12:00 PM & Wed. 3:00 PM-5:00 PM
- Email: sandra.shawver@msutexas.edu

Learning Outcome

The graduate project is intended to give students the opportunity to demonstrate competency on the following program outcome.

- O3 Acquire, synthesize, evaluate, and use information to make informed decisions. This outcome involves the ability to use the current literature and research to develop and support the project submitted.

Purpose of Graduate Project

Graduate project is designed to give students an opportunity to use their creative talents, research abilities, and understanding of best practices to accomplish a goal or need associated with a real or hypothetical sport-related organization.

Project Information

Topics

The project completed should be directly associated with one of the following areas of study related to sport administration.

- Leadership
- Ethics and Philosophy
- Programming
- Risk Management
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Current Controversial Issues in Sport

Students must select a topic different from the one studied in SPAD 5013 Research Methods in Sport Management.

Format/Design

The project is a creative, original endeavor that can take many forms. The following examples have been submitted by students in the past.

- Review of literature on a current topic.
- Quasi-research study including data collection and analysis.
- Analysis of player/team stats for a given competitive season.
- Risk analysis that includes identification of risks and strategies for reducing/eliminating the risk.
- Creation of handbooks, manuals, professional presentations, and articles for publication.

Scholarly Requirements

The following scholarly requirements should form the basis for the project you select to complete. The degree of expectation is dependent on the type of project you complete.

- The information presented should be supported by research-based studies from professional journals.
- The professional literature should provide guidance relative to the design, direction, organization, and structure of the project undertaken.
- The student's work should demonstrate an understanding of best practice specific to the project completed.

Project Components

- Title Page
- Abstract
- Table of Contents
- Introduction to Project
- Body of Project
- Conclusion or Summary
- References
- Appendices (as needed)

General Requirements

- *APA Formatting Required*
 - 1-inch margins
 - Calibri, 12-point font
 - Double spaced
 - Document must be submitted in Microsoft Word (No pdf, note, or other document type will be accepted, or graded)

- *Body of Project*
 - Appropriate length for the body of the project is determined by the type of project completed. In general, most written projects (literature reviews, research studies, analyses, etc.) require a minimum of 10 pages to sufficiently cover the information being presented
 - Citations should be provided where appropriate for the information presented (APA format expected)
 - Quoted material should be kept to a minimum (citations should also include page numbers for quotes)
 - Any generative AI information should be appropriately cited and referenced (see AI Generated Writing under Student Integrity below)
 - Subheadings should be used throughout to organize the project
 - All papers will be submitted to Turnitin to check for plagiarism and use of AI

- *Reference Page*
 - This page should be separate from the body of the paper
 - Sources should be listed in alphabetical order and follow APA format
 - Professional sources may include academic journals, business/industry publications, limited professional websites (NCAA, CDC), and credible news sources (New York Times, Washington Post)
 - Primary sources are most credible and preferred
 - The reference page includes only those sources cited within the paper

Student Integrity

AI Generated Writing

Using ChatGPT and other AI generative programs to compose a paper or project are not yet considered acceptable practices. AI generated information is not original work. If you copy and paste AI generated information, you have plagiarized the information authored by the machine. If you rephrase AI generated information, you have again committed plagiarism because the information is not your original work.

That said, if you decide to use generative AI for parts of a paper or project, please read the information at the following two links carefully. The Best Practices article gives you suggestions and guidelines for acceptable use. Keep in mind that AI is not always correct or current or trustworthy. However, you are responsible for the accuracy of all material you include in a paper or project. You should locate and cite professional sources that support the AI generative information you use. [Best Practices AI Scientific Manuscripts](#)

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](#)

Plagiarism

All papers and projects are submitted to Turnitin for plagiarism and AI checks. Next, the instructor will review the plagiarism/AI issues. Many times, scores can be impacted by reference and citation information, and these issues will be disregarded. All paraphrased and quoted information should be cited and a reference for that citation should be included on the reference page. Remember, this is true for AI generated information as well. The APA manual 7th edition can be found online. [Purdue Owl APA](#) or [American Psychological Association](#)

Assessment

Assignments

Please refer to the SPAD 6023 Grading Rubric for detailed grading criteria.

Assignments	Points	Due Date
Project Proposal	10	Wed., January 31
Project Outline	10	Monday March 4
Tentative Sources	10	Friday, April 5
Graduate Project	170	Monday, May 6

Graduate Project Components

Components	Points
Student Integrity	20
Introductory Documents	30
Project/References/Appendices	70
Style/Formatting/Presentation	50

Late Project Submission

***Graduate projects must be submitted on or before the deadline indicated above. The dropbox for the project will close at 11:59 pm, Monday, May 6. Failure to submit your project to the dropbox by the deadline will result in a final grade of F. Projects must be submitted to the dropbox for acceptance. Hard copy submissions and projects submitted via email attachment will not be accepted for grading.**

Final Grade Determination

Final grades are determined as follows.

Grade	Points	Percent
A	170-200	85-100
B	150-169	75-84
C	130-149	65-74
D	110-129	55-64
F	000-109	00-54