

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**  
**School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism**  
**SPMT 455 Governance and Policy in Sport Organizations**  
**Fall 2011**

|               |                       |           |  |
|---------------|-----------------------|-----------|--|
| DAY/TIME:     | Tu/Tr 10:30-11:45am   | LOCATION: | <b>West 1004</b>                                       |
| PROFESSOR:    | Craig Esherrick, J.D. | EMAIL:    | <a href="mailto:cesheric@gmu.edu">cesheric@gmu.edu</a> |
| OFFICE:       | 201 C Bull Run Hall   | PHONE:    | 703 993 9922   |
| OFFICE HOURS: | By Appointment (Wed.) | FAX:      | 703 993 2025   |
| CREDITS:      | 3 hours               |           |  |

PREREQUISITES: SPMT 201, 60 hours

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an examination of sport organizations focused on both professional and amateur governance structures and processes. The study of policy in educational, non-profit, professional and international sport venues will also be addressed.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The student will be able to:

1. Identify governing bodies in professional and amateur sport
2. Recognize policy components and processes in major sport governing bodies
3. Recognize the influence of governmental bodies and commissions on sports
4. Identify the organizational structure of various sport governing bodies
5. Assess the authority and functions of various sport governing bodies
6. Identify the membership requirements of various sport governing bodies
7. Identify the sanctions and appeal processes utilized by sport governing bodies
8. Understand American sport policy and governance in comparative and international context
9. Understand different forms of sport policy and governance internationally

**COURSE OVERVIEW:**

The learning experiences in this course are afforded through assignments, class participation, lecture, notes, discussion, group activities, technology, assisted activities. Course content includes, but is not limited to, the following: Sport in education (intercollegiate, recreation, interscholastic, international); Professionalization of sport; Organizational communication; Management Theories; Present status of the sports industry - collegiate, professional, private, manufacturers; governing bodies in professional and amateur sport; Organizational structure of a variety of sport governing bodies; Authority and functions of various sport governing bodies; Requirements for membership in sport governing bodies; Sanctions and appeal processes utilized by sport governing bodies; Influence of governmental bodies and sports commissions on sport governing bodies; sport policy and governance in international sport.

**HONOR CODE:**

George Mason shares in the tradition of an honor system that has existed in Virginia since 1842. The Honor Code is an integral part of university life. On the application for admission, students sign a statement agreeing to conform to and uphold the Honor Code. Students are responsible, therefore, for understanding the code's provisions. In the spirit of the code, a student's word is a declaration of good faith acceptable as truth in all academic matters. Cheating and attempted cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing of academic work and related materials constitute Honor Code violations. To maintain an academic community according to these standards, students and faculty must report all alleged violations to the Honor Committee. Any student who has knowledge of, but does not report, a violation may be

accused of lying under the Honor Code. With this in mind, all students in this course are held to the strictest standards of the George Mason University Honor Code.

### **STUDENT SUPPORT:**

Any eligible student with an exceptionality documented through George Mason University's Disability Resource Center must notify the instructor so that suitable accommodations can be implemented. The notification should take place during the **first week** of classes. **Office of Disability Services** Phone 703 993 2474 <http://ods.gmu.edu>

### **Expectations:**

1. All assigned reading for each class is to be completed prior to coming to class.
2. All written assignments must be typed (computer word processing is recommended).
3. Regular attendance and participation is expected. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain class materials from sources other than the instructor.
4. Students must abide by the Honor Code, guided by the spirit of academic integrity.
5. We will refrain from the use of electronic devices in class during the lecture period. Please put laptops and phones, PDA's, iPads, iPods, iPhones.....away. Take notes the old fashioned way.

### **Class Attendance:**

It enhances your academic success to be in class; therefore, you should attend **ALL** scheduled class meetings in accordance with George Mason policy. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but to the class as a whole. We will have fun if everyone is engaged. To be engaged you have to keep up with the reading and be **refreshed** when you attend class. Class participation, assignments and quizzes count for **30%** of your grade in this class. It is important that everyone arrive to class on time.

Texting in class is **NOT** acceptable behavior; neither is falling asleep.

### **Alternative Work:**

There is NO make-up work and late assignments will not be accepted. Absences supported by documentation may be excused (e.g. a physician's note for an illness). Alternative work due to intercollegiate athletic competitions or other legitimate university activity must be arranged **PRIOR** to due date. **There will be NO extra credit.**

### **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Mary A. Hums & Joanne C. MacLean (2004,2009). *Governance and Policy in Sport Organizations* (Scottsdale: Holcomb Hathaway).

Nils Asle Bergsgard, Barrie Houlihan, Per Mangset, Svein Ingve Nødland & Hilmar Rommetvedt (2007). *Sport Policy: A Comparative Analysis of Stability and Change* (Burlington, MA: Butterworth-Heinemann).

**ASSESSMENT:**

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| Class Assignments, Participation, and Quizzes: | 30% |
| Comparative Sport Policy Research Project:     | 35% |
| Exam:  | 35% |

**COURSE SCHEDULE:**

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| Aug 30 | Course Introduction/Overview/Intro to Sport Governance<br>Textbooks, assignments, expectations, Syllabus        |
| Sep 1  | Intro to Sport Governance<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 1   |
| Sep 6  | Managerial Activities and Planning<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 2<br><i>Last day for no-penalty drop</i> |
| Sep 8  | Strategic Management and Policy Development<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 3                               |
| Sep 13 | In-Class Assignment   |
| Sep 15 | Ethics in Sport Organizations<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 4   |
| Sep 20 | <i>Quiz</i> (Chap 1-4)  |
| Sep 22 | Scholastic Sport<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 5  |
| Sep 27 | Amateur Sport in the Community<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 6  |
| Sep 29 | Campus Recreation<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 7   |
| Oct 4  | Last day to drop class ( <i>67% tuition penalty</i> )   |
| Oct 6  | Intercollegiate Athletics<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 8   |
| Oct 11 | <i>No Class</i> (holiday on Oct 10-Monday classes meet)   |
| Oct 13 | Major Games in Amateur Sport<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 9  |
| Oct 18 | <i>Quiz</i> (Chap 5-9)  |
| Oct 20 | Olympic Sport<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 10  |
| Oct 25 | <i>Guest Speaker</i>  |
| Oct 27 | Paralympic Sport<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 11   |
| Nov 1  | North American Professional Sport<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 12  |
| Nov 3  | International Professional Sport<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 13   |
| Nov 8  | The Future of Sports Governance<br>Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 14  |
| Nov 10 | <i>Quiz</i> (Chap 10-14)  |
| Nov 15 | Introduction to Policy Discussion<br>Bergsgard: Chapter 1   |
| Nov 17 | Comparing Sports Policy in Economically Developed Countries<br>Bergsgard: Chapter 2                             |

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Nov 22    | Rough Draft, Country Project Three page Outline-- <b>due in class</b><br>Policy in Political and Historical Context<br>Bergsgard: Chapter 3                    |
| Nov 24-27 | <i>Thanksgiving Break</i>  |
| Nov 29    | Structure of Sport/Voluntary Sector<br>Bergsgard: Chapter 4  |
| Dec 1     | One page; references for country project <i>due in class-at least one book and one journal</i><br>Govt structures and values in policy<br>Bergsgard: Chapter 5 |
| Dec 6     | High Performance Sport<br>Bergsgard:Chapter 6<br>Oral Presentations NGB  |
| Dec 8     | Sport for All<br>Bergsgard: Chapter 7<br>Oral Presentations NGB; <i>Research project due</i>   |
| Dec 13    | <b>Final Exam</b>  |

*Other student resources-*

- **Writing Center**

A114 Robinson Hall

703 993 1200

<http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>

- **Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**

703 993 2380

<http://caps.gmu.edu>

- **University Policies**

The University Catalog, <http://catalog.gmu.edu>, is the central resource for university policies affecting student, faculty, and staff conduct in university academic affairs. Other policies are available at <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/>. All members of the university community are responsible for knowing and following established policies.