

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism
SPMT 455 Governance and Policy in Sport Organizations
Fall 2012

DAY/TIME:	Tu/Tr 10:30-11:45am	LOCATION:	Innovation 209
PROFESSOR:	Craig Esherick, J.D.	EMAIL:	cesheric@gmu.edu
OFFICE:	210C Bull Run Hall	PHONE:	703 993 9922
OFFICE HOURS:	By Appointment /Wed from 10 to 2pm.	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> **Student Union I, Room 2500**

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 **35%** 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 (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:

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

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Aug 28	Course Introduction/Overview/Intro to Sport Governance Textbooks, assignments, expectations, Syllabus
Aug 30	Intro to Sport Governance Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 1
Sept 4	Managerial Activities and Planning Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 2
Sept 6	Strategic Management and Policy Development Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 3
Sept 11	In-Class Assignment
Sept 13	Ethics in Sport Organizations Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 4

- Sept 18 **Quiz (Chap 1-4)**
- Sept 20 Sport Policy text, Introduction
Reading: Bergsgard, et al, Chapter 1
- Sept 25 Comparing Sport Policies
Reading: Bergsgard, et al, Chapter 2
- Sept 27 Political and Historical Context
Reading: Bergsgard, et al, Chapter 3
- Oct 2 Structure of Sport, voluntary sector
Reading: Bergsgard, et al, Chapter 4
- Oct 4 Country Project Discussion/Research
GMU Librarian Jenna Mattson
- Oct 9 Monday Classes meet-NO CLASS**
- Oct 11 **Quiz (Chap 1-4)**
- Oct 16 High School Sports
Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 5
- Oct 18 Amateur Sport in the Community
Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 6
- Oct 23 Campus Recreation
Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 7
- Oct 25 Intercollegiate Sport
Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 8
- Oct 30 Major Games
Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 9
- Nov 1 **Quiz (Chap 5-9)**
- Nov 6 Sport Policy: Structures and Values
Bergsgard: Chapter 5
- Nov 8 High Performance Sport
Bergsgard: Chapter 6
Country Project Three page Outline-- **due in class**
(Economy, Government, History, Olympics, Favorite Sport)
- Nov 13 Sport for All/Sports Policies Compared
Bergsgard: Chapter 7/8
- Nov 15 Olympic Sport
Hums & MacLean: Chapter 10
One page; references for country project *due in class-at least one book*
and one journal
- Nov 20 Paralympic Sport
Hums & MacLean: Chapter 11
- Nov 22 Thanksgiving Recess-NO CLASS**
- Nov 27 North American Pro Sports
Hums & MacLean:Chapter 12

Nov 29	International Sport and the Future Hums & MacLean: Chapter 13 and 14 Oral Presentations/US Sport Federations
Dec 4	Oral Presentations Research Project Due
Dec 6	Oral Presentations, review for Final Exam
Dec 18	Final Exam 10:30am-1:15pm

Other student resources-

- **Writing Center**

A114 Robinson Hall

703 993 1200

<http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>

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

Student Union I, Room 3129

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.