

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

PRLS 612 - 001 - Philosophy of Leisure and Sport (3)
Fall 2013

DAY/TIME:	M 7:20 – 10:00pm	LOCATION:	Robinson Hall B204
PROFESSOR:	Dr. David K. Wiggins	EMAIL ADDRESS:	dwiggin1@gmu.edu
OFFICE LOCATION:	RAC #2109	PHONE NUMBER:	703-993-2057
OFFICE HOURS:	M 3:00-4:00p.m. or by appt.	FAX NUMBER:	703-993-2025

PREREQUISITE: Graduate standing or permission of instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Investigates the phenomenon of leisure and sport from a philosophical perspective. Utilizes the philosophical approach to better explain the role that leisure and sport play in American society.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the role of philosophy in leisure and sport.
2. Demonstrate how philosophical issues effect policy and planning in leisure and sport.
3. Formulate interrelationships between philosophical and ethical issues and the practice of leisure and sport.
4. Present the relationship of the above-mentioned phenomenon with broader developments in American and global societies.
5. Justify the relationship between mind and body in western thought and the implications of that relationship to leisure and sport.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Secondary readings, lectures, and discussions will be utilized to investigate philosophical issues in leisure and sport. Utilizing a case study approach to fair play, cheating, doping drug- and risk taking, youth sport development, and access to leisure time and space the course's primary intent is to gain an understanding of the connection between ethics and body cultural praxis to understand better rationales for leisure and sport in American and global society.

REQUIRED READINGS

Boxill, Jan (2003). *Sport Ethics: An Anthology*. Malen, MA: Blackwell.
Hyman, M. (2010). *Until It Hurts: America's Obsession with Youth Sports*. Boston: Beacon.
Morgan, W. (2006). *Why Sports Morally Matter*. London: Routledge.

EVALUATION

This course will be graded on a point system.

Requirements	Points
Research Paper and Presentation	50
Participation and Discussion Presentations	<u>50</u>
TOTAL	100

Grading Scale

A+ = 97 – 100	B+ = 88 – 89	C = 70 – 79
A = 93 – 96	B = 83 – 87	F = 0 – 69
A- = 90 – 92	B- = 80 – 82	

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

DATE			TOPIC	READINGS/ASSIGNMENT DUE
M	August	26	Syllabus, Requirements and Overview	
M	September	9	Developing Philosophic Skills	Kretchmar, Chapter, 3-29
M	September	16	Sport and Education	Boxill, pp. 15-60
M	September	23	Sport and Sportsmanship	Boxill, pp. 63-103
M	September	30	Meeting with Dr. Wiggins to discuss Research Project	
M	October	7	Sport and Competition	Boxill, pp. 107-171
M T	October	15 16	No Class	
M	October	21	Sport and Drugs	Boxill, pp. 175-196
M	October	28	Sport and Violence	Boxill, pp. 199-222
M	November	4	Sport and Gender	Boxill, pp. 225-293
M	November	11	Sport and Racial Issues	Boxill, pp. 297-329
M	November	18	Sport and Role Models	Boxill, pp. 333-338
M	November	25	Why Sports Matter and Youth Sport	Morgan and Hyman texts
M	December	2	Out of Class Research on Paper	
M	December	9	Research Project Due	Research Project Presentation

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary.

Student Expectations

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code/>].
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See <http://ods.gmu.edu/>].

- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>].
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu/>].
- The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>].
- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism, please visit our website [See <http://rht.gmu.edu>].

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR: Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

CORE VALUES COMMITMENT: The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles.

