

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

SPMT 455-002 – Governance and Policy in Sport Organizations (3)
Spring 2015

DAY/TIME:	R 4:30 - 7:10 p.m.	LOCATION:	FX – Music and Theater Building - Room # 1007
PROFESSOR	Dr. Christopher Atwater	EMAIL ADDRESS	catwater@gmu.edu
OFFICE LOCATION:	PW – Bull Run Hall Room # 223	PHONE NUMBER:	202-500-6279
OFFICE HOURS:	W 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.	FAX NUMBER:	703-993-2025

PREREQUISITES

60 hours, including SPMT 201, or permission of instructor.

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

At the conclusion of this course, students should 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

INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS

1. All assigned reading for each class is expected to be done prior to coming to class.
2. All written assignments must be typed in APA format (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. Attendance will be monitored and attendance is defined as arriving on time for class and remaining in class.
4. You will be expected to check Bb regularly as well as being alert to emails from the instructor. The instructor will email you using *Bb email*.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

It enhances your academic success to be in class; therefore, you should attend ALL scheduled class meetings. Students are expected to attend the class periods of the courses for which they register and attend those classes **on time**. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but to the class as a whole. Because class participation is a factor in grading, instructors may use absence, tardiness, or early departure as de facto evidence of nonparticipation. Texting in class is **NOT** acceptable behavior; neither is falling asleep. It is assumed that laptops are being used to take notes or to follow Blackboard power points; other use is a distraction to me and your classmates.

PARTICIPATION

Respect the free exchange of thought in an academic environment and the participants therein. For example: a) do not have any sound emitting devices turned on; b) wait until the teacher/guest speaker has finished prior to gathering your belongings; and c) do not smoke, chew tobacco, eat, sleep, disrupt others by inappropriate talking, or disrespect the class schedule by being tardy. You are encouraged to a) feel free to openly and respectfully contribute your thoughts; b) listen actively to the comments of others; c) be punctual; d) ask any and all appropriate questions that you have; and e) maintain civility in your interpersonal communications. Class discussions will be conducted in a civil, informed fashion wherein disruptive students will be asked to leave the class. Your contributions are not only welcomed, they are essential.

ALTERNATIVE WORK

There is NO make-up work. Only those excused absences supported by documentation will be addressed at the instructor's discretion on an individual basis (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. A grade of '0' will be assigned to all missed work unless otherwise determined by the instructor. You are strongly encouraged to hand assignments in on time.

GRADING *There will be NO extra credit.*

The instructor is solely responsible for assigning grades. As such, the instructor reserves the right to assess student performance in each of the categories identified in the EVALUATION section of this syllabus. Student non-compliance with stated academic, honor, attendance, or participation expectations will result in a '0' for the associated evaluation.

NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY

Face to face

REQUIRED READINGS

Hums, M. A., & MacLean, J. C. (2013). *Governance and Policy in Sport Organizations* (3rd ed.). Scottsdale, AZ: Holcomb Hathaway, Publishers, Inc.
Matthew Nicholson, Russell Hoye & Barrie Houlihan (Eds.) (2011) *Participation in Sport: International Policy Perspectives*. New York, NY: Routledge.

EVALUATION

This course will be graded on a percentage system, with a total of 100% possible.

REQUIREMENTS	% of Grade
Attendance and Participation: Students are expected to attend class regularly and participate in active discussions and lectures.	10%
Midterm Examination: True/False, Matching, Short Definitions and Short Essay. All materials covered prior to the exam will be included.	20%
Student Teaching – Global Sport Policy: Students are expected to lead a 30-minute discussion on sport policy in an assigned country. Groups will include at least 2 students and no more than 3 students. Presentation materials will be created based on the assigned readings in Nicholson	25%
Country Project Presentations and Paper: Students are expected to write a 15-20 page paper describing sport governance and policy in a country of choice other than America, Canada or their assigned country for student teaching. Students will also present their project to the class.	25%
Final Examination: True/False, Matching, Short Definitions and Short Essay. All materials covered from the midterm exam to the final exam will be included.	20%
Total	100%

GRADING SCALE

A	= 94 – 100	B+	= 88 – 89	C+	= 78 – 79	D	= 60 – 69
A-	= 90 – 93	B	= 84 – 87	C	= 74 – 77	F	= 0 – 59
		B-	= 80 – 83	C-	= 70 – 73		

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

DATE		TOPIC	READINGS DUE
January	22	Overview of Governance and Policy in Sport Organizations	Syllabus
	29	Introduction to Sport Governance	Hums – Chapter 1
February	5	Managerial Activities Related to Governance Strategic Management and Policy Development	Hums – Chapter 2 & 3
	12	Ethics in Sport Organizations Canada and US Sport Policy	Hums – Chapter 4 Nicholson – Chapter 16 & 17
	19	England and Japan Sport Policy Scholastic Sport	Nicholson – Chapter 2 & 13 Hums - Chapter 5
	26	Amateur Sport in the Community Campus Recreation Intercollegiate Sport	Hums – Chapter 6, 7 & 8
March	5	Midterm Exam - Online	N/A
	12	No Class – Spring Break	N/A
	19	The Major Games in Amateur Sport Olympic Sport Paralympic Sport	Hums – Chapter 9, 10 & 11
	26	Professional Sport Leagues in North America Professional Individual Sports Professional Sport Beyond North America	Hums – Chapter 12,13 & 14
April	2	The Netherlands, Germany, China and Singapore Sport Policy – Student Teaching Assignment (Group 1, 2, 3 & 4)	Nicholson – Chapter 2, 3, 11 & 12
	9	Norway, Finland, South Africa and India Sport Policy – Student Teaching Assignment (Group 5, 6, 7 & 8).	Nicholson – Chapter 5, 8, 9 & 10
	16	Country Project Presentations – Day # 1	N/A – Mandatory Attendance
	23	Country Project Presentations – Day # 2	N/A – Mandatory Attendance
	30	Review of all Materials for Final Exam	N/A – Mandatory Attendance
May	7	Final Exam - Online	N/A

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code-2/>].
- 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.

