

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY  
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

SPMT 302-001 – Philosophical and Ethical Dimensions of Sport (3)  
Spring 2016

<b>DAY/TIME:</b>	MW 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.	<b>LOCATION:</b>	FX – Aquia Building Room # 213
<b>PROFESSOR</b>	Dr. Christopher Atwater	<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>	catwater@gmu.edu
<b>OFFICE LOCATION:</b>	PW – Bull Run Hall Room # 223	<b>PHONE NUMBER:</b>	202-500-6279
<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	W 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.	<b>FAX NUMBER:</b>	703-993-2025

### PREREQUISITES

None

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course investigates moral issues in sport, and judgments about right and wrong behavior among athletes, coaches, spectators, and others. The class format is primarily lectures and class discussions, supplemented by group work and discussions of assigned readings and current ethical issues in sports.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the moral basis of decision making in sport management
2. Develop a protocol for ethical decision-making within the organizations which govern sport programs
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the various issues and contemporary problems confronting sport managers and how ethical decision making can be applied
4. Critically analyze various decision-making approaches to resolving ethical issues in sports management
5. Demonstrate an understanding of a variety of ethical theories
6. Attain the knowledge to understand & refine a personal and professional code of ethics to guide decision making

### 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**

Hybrid

### **REQUIRED READINGS**

DeSensi, J. T., & Rosenberg, D. (2010). *Ethics and Morality in Sport Management (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.)*. Morgantown, WV: Fitness Information Technology, Inc.

Malloy, D.C. (2003). *Sport Ethics: Concepts and Cases in Sport and Recreation (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.)*. Scottsdale, AZ: Holcomb Hathaway.

### **EVALUATION**

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

<b>REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>% of Grade</b>
<b>Attendance and Participation:</b> Students are expected to attend class regularly and participate in active discussions and lectures.	10%
<b>Online Learning Modules and Quizzes:</b> Students are required to work through online learning modules and complete multiple choice, matching and true/false quizzes demonstrating comprehension of the materials contained in the modules - (10 total worth 2% each).	20%
<b>Examination # 1:</b> Matching philosophical and ethical terms with definitions. Short essay ethical case analysis using model # 1 of the ethical decision-making process. All materials covered in chapters 2, 3 and 4 of Malloy will be included.	20%
<b>Examination # 2:</b> Fill in the blank and definitions. Short essay utilizing moderators associated with ethical decision-making and model # 2 of the ethical decision-making process. All materials covered in chapters 5, 6 and 7 of Malloy will be included.	20%
<b>Examination # 3:</b> Multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank and short essay – All materials covered in chapters 10, 11 and 12 of DeSensi will be included.	15%
<b>Examination # 4:</b> Multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank and short essay – All materials covered in chapters 13, 14 and 15 of DeSensi will be included.	15%
<b>TOTAL</b>	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/ASSIGNMENT DUE
<b>Part I – Sport Management and Ethical Theory</b>			
W	January	20	Introduction to class and Sport Ethics; expectations for semester, how you are evaluated
M		25	Recreation and Sport in the New Millennium
W		27	Philosophical Foundations of Ethics
M	February	1	<b>Online Learning Module and Quiz # 1</b>
W		3	Sources of Ethical Decision Making and the Process of Ethical Decision Making (Model # 1)
M		8	<b>Online Learning Module and Quiz # 2</b>
W		10	<b>Examination – Part I – Sport Management and Ethical Theory – (Malloy, Chapters 2-4) - Online</b>
<b>Part II – Ethical Decision Making Principles and Process</b>			

DATE		TOPIC	READINGS/ASSIGNMENT DUE	
M	February	15	Chapter 5 (Malloy)	
W		17		
M		22		<b>Online Learning Module and Quiz # 3</b>
W		24	The Process of Ethical Decision Making (Model # 2)	Chapter 6 (Malloy)
M		29	<b>Online Learning Module and Quiz # 4</b>	
W	March	2	Chapter 7 (Malloy)	
M		7	No Class – Spring Break	N/A
W		9		
M		14	Review of Materials	N/A (Mandatory Attendance)
W		16	<b>Examination – Part II – Ethical Decision Making Principles and Process (Malloy, Chapters 5-7) - Online</b>	N/A

<b>Part III – Sport Ethics Applied</b>				
M	March	21	<b>Online Learning Module and Quiz # 5</b>	Chapter 10 (DeSensi)
W		23	Ethics and Sport Marketing	
M		28	<b>Online Learning Module and Quiz # 6</b>	Chapter 11 (DeSensi)
W		30	Ethics and Human Resource Management	
M	April	4	<b>Online Learning Module and Quiz # 7</b>	Chapter 12 (DeSensi)
W		6	Governance and Legal Aspects of Sport	
M		11	<b>Examination – Part III – Sport Ethics Applied – (DeSensi, Chapters 10-12) - Online</b>	N/A
<b>Part IV – What Lies Ahead</b>				
W	April	13	Sport Ethics and Concern for the Environment	Chapter 13 (DeSensi)
M		18	<b>Online Learning Module and Quiz # 8</b>	
W		20	The Challenges of Globalization	Chapter 14 (DeSensi)
M		25	<b>Online Learning Module and Quiz # 9</b>	
W		27	The Future of Ethics and Morality in Sport and Sport Management	Chapter 15 (DeSensi)
M	May	2	<b>Online Learning Module and Quiz # 10</b>	
W		4	<b>Examination – Part IV – What Lies Ahead – (DeSensi, Chapters 13-15) - Online</b>	N/A

*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/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.

