

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY  
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

SPMT 302 -001 Philosophical and Ethical Dimensions of Sport (3)  
Spring 2017

DAY/TIME:	Tues. 7:20 – 10:00 p.m.	LOCATION:	FX-West RM 1001
INSTRUCTOR:	Mr. Mark Shriver	EMAIL ADDRESS:	<a href="mailto:mshriver@gmu.edu">mshriver@gmu.edu</a>
OFFICE LOCATION:	West RM 1001	PHONE NUMBER:	401-419-8951
OFFICE HOURS:	AFTER CLASS OR BY APPOINTMENT	FAX NUMBER:	

**PREREQUISITES:**

NONE

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course investigates the 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.

**NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY:** Face-To-Face in a lecture format

**LEARNER OUTCOMES OR OBJECTIVES:**

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

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.

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

Schneider, R. (2009). *Ethics of sport and athletics: Theory, issues and application*. Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Malloy, D.C.; Ross, S.; Zakus, D. H. (2003). *Sports Ethics: Concepts and Cases in Sport and Recreation (Second Edition)*. Thompson Educational Publishing.

Various case studies posted via Blackboard.

### Course Performance Evaluation:

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, Tk20, hard copy).

### POLICIES

1. Participation: Attendance is essential for the success of the class. Much of your work is based on information from the lectures and participation in class discussions. Should you miss an assignment due to absence, you will be allowed to make it up provided that you have written documentation regarding the nature of the absence.
2. Written Assignments: Written assignments will be expected to demonstrate college quality writing. Papers and written assignments not turned in on the specified day will be given a grade lower than the one deserved. For example, an "A" assignment submitted late will be given a grade of "B."
3. Honor Policy: George Mason University take its honor policy quite seriously. Examinations, papers, and other assignments must be your own work with the only exception of group projects.

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.

Exams (3) multiple choice, true/false, matching, short essay 300 points Participation (attendance, class participation, writing assignments, in class assignments) 20 points Sport Ethics Debate Presentation (group project) 150 points Mini Class Discussion – Current Sport Ethics Event 50 points  
TOTAL 400 points

### EVALUATION:

*This course will be graded on a point system, with a total of 400 possible points.*

Requirements		Percent
Exam		
#1	First Exam (Chapters 1, 2, 3)	100
#2	Second Exam (Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7)	100
#3	Third Exam (Schneider: Chapters 8, 9)	100
<i>Quizzes (3 quizzes worth 10 points each)</i>		30
<i>Mini-Class Discussion (one current event article)</i>		50
<i>Participation (attendance, class discussions)</i>		20
TOTAL		400

### Instructor Expectations:

1. All assigned reading for each class is expected to be done prior 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.

**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: Students are expected to attend the class periods of the courses for which they register. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but to the class as a whole. Because class participation may be a factor in grading, instructors may use absence, tardiness, or early departure as de facto evidence of non-participation. Students who miss an exam with an acceptable excuse may be penalized according to the individual instructor's grading policy, as stated in the course syllabus.

**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.

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			

**Professional Dispositions:**

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: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>.

## **GMU POLICIES AND RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS**

- a. Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code (See <http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/>).
- b. Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- c. 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.
- d. The 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/>).
- e. Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester (See <http://ods.gmu.edu/>).
- f. Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- g. The 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/>).
- h. The Office of Student Support staff helps students negotiate life situations by connecting them with appropriate campus and off-campus resources. Students in need of these services may contact the office by phone (703-993-5376). Concerned students, faculty and staff may also make a referral to express concern for the safety or well-being of a Mason student or the community (<http://studentsupport.gmu.edu/>) and the staff will follow up with the student.

## **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.

**TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:**

DATE			TOPIC	READINGS/ASSIGNMENT DUE
T	January	24	First Day of Class	<b>Buy the Book</b>
T	January	31	Moral Reasoning: An Introduction	Chapter 1 Malloy Ch 3 p57-64
T	February	7	Ethical & Unethical Behavior	Chapter 2 Malloy Ch 4 p71-79
T	February	14	Moral Education and Development	Chapter 3 Malloy Ch 6 p109
T	February	21	Exam 1	
T	February	28	Performance Enhancement	Chapter 4
T	March	7	Violence In Sport	Chapter 5
T	March	14	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
T	March	21	Race Equity in Sport	Chapter 6
T	March	28	Gender Equity	Chapter 7
T	April	4	Exam 2	
T	April	11	Intercollegiate Sport	Chapter 8
T	April	18	Sport Managers	Chapter 9
T	April	25	Ethical Principles for Sport and Recreation	Chapter 7 (Malloy)
T	May	2	Recreation and Sport in the New Millennium	Chapter 2 (Malloy)
T	May	9	<b>READING DAY</b>	
T	May	16	<b>Final Exam 7:30 - 10:15</b>	Schneider: Chapters 8 ,9 Malloy: Chapters 2, 7

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

**Tests:** Tests will be multiple choice covering the assigned chapters and readings. There will be two tests (mid-term and final exam). Each worth 120 points.

**Quizzes:** There will be three quizzes throughout the semester. They are unannounced and based on the reading from the previous class. The quizzes will be true/false, ten questions.

**Participation:** Students will be asked to choose two current event articles from any reliable media source that relates to a chapter in the book. Students will then present the article for discussion. Each article is worth five points.

