

George Mason University
College of Education and Human Development
Recreation Management

SRST 598—Olympics and Paralympics

3 Credits, Spring 2018

Faculty

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Prerequisite

None

University Catalog Course Description

Students will gain first hands experiences of the management of and expectations behind the 2018 Winter Paralympics in PyeongChang, South Korea. Through volunteering via an official Paralympics volunteer program students will learn how accessibility is achieved and inclusion created for athletes involved in the 2018 Winter Paralympics. This immersive course will also provide students a global understanding of the leisure industry of recreation, sport, and tourism.

Course Overview

This course offers experiential education within this growing area of recreation, sport and tourism with a blended-learning format which incorporates seminars and hands-on training. Students are expected to complete a minimum of 80 volunteering hours over a period of 10 days of 2018 Winter Paralympics. Further, upon completion of this course, students will receive an official certificate of volunteering from the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Following the international experience, students will present a PowerPoint to therapeutic recreation students who will have been following the 2018 Winter Paralympics.

Course Delivery Method

This course will be delivered using seminar and field work format.

Learner Outcomes or Objectives

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

1. Observe the logistics used to retrofit a venue for individuals with physical disabilities to successfully compete.
2. Provide a unique learning opportunity for study in key areas of event, meeting, and recreation and sport management.
3. Recognize and apply theoretical concepts in mega event management, policy development, and decision-making.
4. Gain first-hand experiences of mega event organization, sporting event operations and sport tourism.
5. Identify resource allocation and event operation principles.
6. Apply principles of administrative functions and operations, strategic planning, governance structures, and policy development in mega sport events.
7. Obtain great understanding of the impacts of a mega event to the host destination and its legacy

building.

Professional Standards [Commission of Sport Management Accreditation (COSMA)]

Upon completion of this course, students will have met the following professional standards:

Courses offered in the Sport and Recreation Studies (SRST) graduate program are guided by the principles of COSMA. COSMA (2016, p. 1) “bases its accrediting process on principles, rather than standards.” The eight recommended principles are:

- outcomes assessment;
- strategic planning;
- curriculum;
- faculty;
- scholarly and professional activities;
- resources;
- internal and external relationships; and
- educational innovation.

For more information, please see:

Commission of Sport Management Accreditation. (2016, May). *Accreditation principles manual & guidelines for self-study preparation*. Retrieved November 30, 2016 from <http://www.cosmaweb.org/accreditation-manuals.html>

Required Text

None*

*Readings/watching materials may be assigned during the semester

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).

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

Type	Points	Due Date
Training	50	March 4 and 5, 2018
Participation	150 (15 each per day)	March 6 till March 19, 2018: 10 days
Individual Experience Daily log	50 (5 per each day)	March 6 till March 19, 2018: 10 days
Oral presentation	50	March 21
Final Report	100	April 27, 2018
PowerPoint Presentation to PRLS 418	100	April 24, 2018
Total	500	

Professional Dispositions

See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

During their volunteer experience, students must fulfill specific requirements, including completion of specified forms and assignments (**using the templates provided in the Blackboard**), in order to be evaluated and receive a grade for their volunteer activities. These include:

Training

- 1) Attending the mandatory pre-experience meeting with the instructor information session (**this is in addition to the mandatory Paralympics volunteer training (3/4 ~3/5/2018) that students must attend in order to be eligible to volunteer**);
- 2) All students are required to attend a two-day, 10-hour basic training session in order to participate in the PyeongChang 2018 volunteer program. Volunteer training will be conducted in English for international volunteers.

Participation

Students are expected to serve on a volunteer position 8 hours per day (Monday till Friday). Each volunteer day includes a lunch break. A successful completion of a given volunteer role is required to earn participation point (10 point) per each day. During the volunteer period student will abide the Paralympics volunteer committee's policy (it will be provided at the training). Only absence due to a health issue will be excused. If a student misses more than 3 days, the Paralympics committee will additional 10 points per each additional absence will be deducted from the final score of course without a limit.

- Excuses to miss volunteer duty will be considered only when family or health emergency occurs and only that is documented.
- Leaving class early due to a special occasion should be notified to the instructor prior to the beginning of a day. Attendance credit will be given based on the length of hours stayed in a volunteer position.

Individual Daily Log (Dr. Wiggins and Dr. Lee)

Completing the Volunteer Daily Logs for the duration of the volunteering (template will be provided on the Blackboard) beginning the week of Paralympic Training, March 4th.- March 18th

Blackboard PowerPoint Presentation (Dr. Wiggins)

Each student will provide a 20 minute PowerPoint presentation to TR students in PRLS 418 for uploading to their Blackboard site by the professor. The slides will include their volunteer experience and lessons learned about inclusion and accommodations when managing an event for individuals with physical disabilities.

Final Report (Dr. Lee)

Each student will develop an reflective report according to specifications provided by the professor. The report will include reflective review and analysis of; mega event administrative functions and operations, strategic planning, volunteer management, and policy development in mega sport events. Details and evaluation rubrics will be provided at the orientation at the beginning of class.

Grading

	Weighted	Raw		Weighted	Raw		Weighted	Raw
A+	97-100	388 – 400	B+	= 88 – 89	352 - 359	C+	= 78 – 79	312- 319
A	94-96	376 – 387	B	= 84 – 87	336- 351	C	= 74 – 77	
A-	90-93	360- 375	B-	= 80 – 83	320- 335	F	= 73 - 0	

Class Schedule

- 1/22/2018–2/7/2018: Orientation/course preparation (online)
- 3/3/2018: On-site mandatory orientation
- 3/4–3/5/2018: Paralympic committee training
- 3/6 -3/19/2018: Paralympic volunteering (in PyeongChang, South Korea)
- 3/19–3/24/2018: Presentations and Wrap-up session at GMUK
- TBD: Presentation to PRLS 418 at SciTech

*Tentative upon availability of venue and speakers

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

Accommodations:

PyeongChang 2018 will provide students with free dormitory-style

accommodation, available from March 3rd – 19th, 2018, for the Paralympic Winter Games.

Accommodations are provided from the beginning of volunteer training until the day after the last work shift, or the day after Closing Ceremony, whichever is later.

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

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>).
- 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 Mason 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 with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <http://ods.gmu.edu/>).
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be silenced during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to tk20help@gmu.edu or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <http://coursessupport.gmu.edu/>.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/> .

