

George Mason University
College of Education and Human Development
School of Sport, Recreation and Tourism Management
Sport Management
Course Syllabus: Fall 2022

Section: SPMT 302 – DL1 Phil/Ethic Dimensions of Sport (3)

Class Day/Time: Asynchronous

Faculty

Name: Daniel Meehan
Office Hours: By appointment
Office Phone (Cell): 703-501-6993
Email Address: dmeehan2@gmu.edu

Prerequisites/Corequisites

none

University Catalog Course Description

Investigates moral issues in sport and judgments about right and wrong behavior among athletes, coaches, spectators, and others. Offered by Recreation, Health & Tourism. May not be repeated for credit. <https://cehd.gmu.edu/courses/SPMT-302/>

Course Delivery Method

This course will be delivered online (76% or more) using an asynchronous format via Blackboard Learning Management system (LMS) housed in the MyMason portal. You will log in to the Blackboard (Bb) course site using your Mason email name (everything before @gmu.edu) and email password. Under no circumstances, may candidates/students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles.

Further, as expected in a face-to-face class meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication. **A standard week runs from 12:01am Monday and ends 11:59pm Sunday.**

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 Texts

Champion W., Karcher R., Ruddell L. (2020). *Sports Ethics: For Sports Management Professionals*. Burlington: Jones and Bartlett Learning

Articles/Clips posted on Blackboard

Course Performance Evaluation

Students are expected to submit all assignments **on time** through Blackboard.

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.

Three Quizzes (20 points per quiz) <i>multiple choice</i>	60 possible points
Discussion Boards (10 boards, 5 points per)	50 possible points
Case Study of Current Ethical Issue (group of 3) & peer feedback	50 possible points
Scholarly Sport Ethics Final Paper	40 possible points
Total	200 possible points

Instructor Expectations:

1. Participation: Students are expected to actively engage in all course activities throughout the semester, which includes viewing all course materials, completing course activities and assignments, and participating in course discussions and group interactions. Your contributions are not only welcomed, but they are also essential.
2. Log-in Frequency: Students must actively check the course Blackboard site and their GMU email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to course materials frequently throughout the week. **It is highly recommended that you login at least THREE TIMES a week.**
3. Technical Issues: Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. **Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.**
4. Online learners who require effective accommodations to ensure accessibility must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services.
5. Students must abide by the Honor Code, guided by the spirit of academic integrity.

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

This course will be graded on a percentage system, with scores adding up to 100 percent.

Professional Dispositions

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

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://oai.gmu.edu/mason-honor-code/>).
- 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>
- Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:
As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu

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

COURSE OUTLINE

This outline indicates which chapters will be covered and when exams will be administered. The ordering of the chapters may be changed as current events dictate.

Week	Topic, Readings, Assignments Due
1 8/22-8/28	Welcome to SPMT 302 Acquire the textbook Review the syllabus
2 8/29-9/4	Ch. 1: Ethical Concepts in Sports Blackboard Discussion board #1 and #2 due
3 9/5-9/11	Ch. 2: Sportsmanship, Gamesmanship, and Cheating Blackboard Discussion board #3 due
4 9/12-9/18	Ch. 3: Gambling in Sports and Society Blackboard Discussion Board #4 due
5 9/19-9/25	Quiz #1 (ch. 1-3)
6 9/26-10/2	Ch. 4: Ethical Issues Involving Coaches Blackboard Discussion Board #5 due

7 10/3-10/9	Ch. 5: Ethical Considerations Involving Parents and Fans Blackboard Discussion Board #6 due
8 10/10-10/16	Ch. 6: Violence in Sports Blackboard Discussion Board #7 due
9 10/17-10/23	Quiz #2 (ch. 4-6)
10 10/24-10/30	Ch. 7&8: The Ethics of Drug Use and Testing/ Ethical Consideration of Race in Sports Blackboard Discussion Board #8 due
11 10/31-11/6	Ch. 9&10: Ethical Duties of Sports Agents/Gender Discrimination and Title IX Blackboard Discussion Board #9 due
12 11/7-11/13	Ch. 11&12: Ethical Consideration in Sports Media/Commercialization of College Sports Blackboard Discussion Board #10 due
13 11/14-11/20	Quiz #3 (ch. 7-12)
14 11/21-11/27	<i>Thanksgiving Week, no class</i>
15 11/28-12/4	<i>Work on Final Papers, no formal class</i>
Final Exam Period	Submission of final paper on blackboard

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

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Blackboard Discussion Boards

Online discussions are a way to provide a collaborative classroom experience online. Discussion boards will be **due no later than Sunday @ 11:59pm (Prompts for each week will be posted by the instructor no later than Monday at 12:00pm)**. For each discussion board, you are to contribute one post of 2 paragraphs minimum. Additionally, you are to provide a one paragraph comment on 2 of your peer's post. **Comments are due by 11:59pm the Wednesday after your discussion board post is due.**

Scholarly Ethical Issue Final Paper

You will select a total of 2-3 scholarly journal articles that relate to a philosophical/ethical dimension in sport. Your paper topic must be approved by **September 18**. In your paper, briefly summarize each article (300 words each). Following these summaries, you will write a 2-page

critical analysis of the ideas presented in the journal articles as it relates to what you learned in class. It will be useful in this assignment to concentrate your articles within an area of interest to you. This paper is to be **NO LESS THAN FOUR** pages in final length. The paper format should be double spaced, with a cover page AND APA format reference page. The reference page does not go towards the page count.

Case Study of Current Ethical Issue

You and a peer will analyze and present on a current issue pertaining to sport ethics. The main goal of this activity is to highlight how you interpret the resources (news clips, scholarly documents, etc.) and presenting your thoughts and ideas for the class. Within your presentation you are expected to examine both sides of the issue. The presentation format is flexible and should not exceed 15 minutes (in-person, Prezi, PowerPoint, etc.).

