

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
College of Education and Human Development
School of Sport, Recreation, and Tourism Management
RMGT 260 Foundations of Campus Recreation
Spring 2024, Section 001

DAY/TIME:	T/R 1:30pm-2:45pm	LOCATION:	RAC 2001A (Overlook)
INSTRUCTOR:	Chris Sato	EMAIL:	csato@gmu.edu
OFFICE HOURS:	By Appointment	CREDITS:	3 hours

PREREQUISITES:

None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course covers key processes and considerations for planning, delivering, managing, and evaluating campus recreation services.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

The learning experiences in this course are afforded through assignments, class participation, lecture, notes, discussion, group activities, program and facility visits, and technology assisted activities. Course content includes, but is not limited to, the following: contributions of campus recreation to the university environment, the significance of well-being as a consideration for campus recreation programming, targets and types of campus recreation programming, competitive sports as elements of campus recreation, key management operations for campus recreation, obtaining and retaining skilled personnel in campus recreation, and marketing considerations for campus recreation.

COURSE DELIVERY METHOD:

On-campus, face-to-face. Some classes will incorporate visits to Mason Recreation programs and facilities.

LEARNER OBJECTIVES:

The student will be able to:

1. Describe the purposes of campus recreation services in college/university settings
2. Formulate plans for campus recreation programming
3. Address managerial functions for campus recreation programs and services
4. Identify human resource requirements for campus recreation programs and services
5. Generate marketing tactics for campus recreation programs and services

REQUIRED TEXT:

NIRSA (Eds.) (2008). *Campus recreation: Essentials for the professional*. Human Kinetics.

**Free PDF available via Blackboard*

COURSE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time via Blackboard.

Assignments and Examinations:

There are 200 points available in this course as follows:

1. Evaluation of a Mason Recreation activity: 50 points (40 points assignment, 10 points presentation)
 - a. Activity selection emailed to instructor by February 1
 - b. Assignment due February 29
2. Midterm Quiz: 40 points
 - a. February 29 in class
3. Campus Recreation website critique: 35 points
 - a. Institution for website critique emailed to instructor by March 19
 - b. Assignment due April 9
4. Analysis from Bluefishjobs: 35 points
 - a. Assignment due April 25
5. End of Semester Quiz: 40 points
 - a. April 25 in class

All requirements listed above must be completed and submitted as assigned in order to pass the course. Assignments are due by 11:59pm ET on the due date listed in the course schedule.

The quizzes are based on the text, lectures, and course activities. The three assignments are described below:

Mason Recreation Activity Evaluation:

Students will engage in a Mason Recreation activity outside of class time to assess the program's strengths and weaknesses. Examples of potential activities include attending a group fitness class, playing in an intramural sports game/tournament, going on an outdoor adventure trip, visiting one of the facilities for an individual workout, participating in a special event, etc. **The activity you plan on attending must be approved by the instructor no later than February 1 to ensure the activity's suitability for this assignment and for the instructor to provide input on specific focus areas for evaluation.** It is recommended that you select a program and begin the assignment before that date.

You will engage in your approved activity. Your final report will be 2-3 pages long and include the following:

- Name and description of the activity, including:
 - Time, date, and location
 - Target demographic
 - Implicit or explicit benefits/goals of the activity
- Evaluate the activity quality by commenting on its strengths and weaknesses in the areas of:
 - Customer service
 - Cleanliness and safety
 - Accessibility
 - Contributions to wholistic well-being
 - Overall participant satisfaction
- Provide recommendations for the future (based on your analysis), considering both what should be retained or strengthened, and also what might be changed or improved, and why

Campus Recreation Website Critique

Evaluate the website of a campus recreation program from a college or university other than Mason. No two students can do the same institution. Your program choice must be approved by the instructor no later than March 19. It is recommended that you make your choice and begin your assignment before that date.

Your report will consider strengths and weaknesses of the site in terms of the following:

1. Ease of use
2. Clarity of information provided
3. Utility of information provided
4. Information not provided that would have been useful

Conclude with recommendations for the site based on your analysis

The report should be 2-3 pages. Screenshots and hyperlinks to the website should be added to the report to support your analysis, but they do not count toward the assignment page length.

Analysis from Bluefishjobs:

Go to <https://careercenter.bluefishjobs.com>. Browse the selection of campus recreation jobs that are listed and select two positions that you believe you would be interested in applying. Review the position descriptions and external information on the positions' departments and colleges/universities.

In 2-3 pages, include the following:

- Briefly describe each job. Include the Bluefishjobs posting website URL in your report.
- What interests you about each position?
- What skills do you currently have that match the job requirements, and what skills would you need to build or improve to make you a strong candidate for the job?
- How could these jobs prepare you for future career advancement?
- What are the pros and cons of each job when compared to one another?

COURSE GRADING SCALE:

A+= 98%-100%

A = 94%-97.9%

A- = 90%-93.9%

B+ = 88%-89.9%

B = 84%-87.9%

B- = 80%-83.9%

C+ = 78%-79.9%

C = 74%-77.9%

C- = 70%-73.9%

D = 60%-69.9%

F = below 60%

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

It enhances your academic success to be in class; therefore, you should attend all scheduled class meetings in accordance with George Mason University policy. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but to the class as a whole. We will have fun if everyone is engaged. To be engaged you have to keep up with the reading and be refreshed when you attend class. It is important that everyone arrive on time as late arrivals are a distraction to the conduct of the class.

PROFESSIONAL DISPOSITIONS:

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

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Date	Topic	Readings	Due Dates
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Tuesday, January 16	Course Introduction/Overview/Intro to Campus Recreation	Syllabus	
Thursday, January 18	Overview of Campus Recreation	NIRSA Chapter 1; Chapter 2 and 3 Recommended	
Tuesday, January 23	Fitness and Wellness	NIRSA Chapter 5	
Thursday, January 25	Fitness and Wellness		
Tuesday, January 30	Aquatics	NIRSA Chapter 7	
Thursday, February 1	Aquatics		Activity selection emailed to instructor
Tuesday, February 6	Outdoor Recreation	NIRSA Chapter 8	
Thursday, February 8	Outdoor Recreation		
Tuesday, February 13	Administration of Intramural and Extramural Sports	NIRSA Chapter 6	
Thursday, February 15	Administration of Intramural and Extramural Sports		
Tuesday, February 20	Sport Clubs	NIRSA Chapter 9	
Thursday, February 22	Sport Clubs		
Tuesday, February 27	Integrative Review of Foundations and Programming		
Thursday, February 29	Midterm Quiz		Activity evaluation assignment due via Blackboard
Tuesday, March 5	Spring Recess		
Thursday, March 7	Spring Recess		
Tuesday, March 12	Activity Evaluation Presentations		Upload presentation file to Blackboard
Thursday, March 14	Facilities	NIRSA Chapter 10	
Tuesday, March 19	Facilities		Website critique institution emailed to instructor
Thursday, March 21	Marketing for Campus Recreation	NIRSA Chapter 12	
Tuesday, March 26	Marketing for Campus Recreation		
Thursday, March 28	Business Planning for Campus Recreation	NIRSA Chapter 11	
Tuesday, April 2	Business Planning for Campus Recreation		
Thursday, April 4	Human Resources and Careers in Campus Recreation	NIRSA Chapter 17	

Tuesday, April 9	Human Resources and Careers in Campus Recreation		Website critique assignment due via Blackboard
Thursday, April 11	Risk Management	NIRSA Chapter 13	
Tuesday, April 16	Risk Management		
Thursday, April 18	Assessment	NIRSA Chapter 14	
Tuesday, April 23	Review		
Thursday, April 25	Final Quiz		Analysis from Bluefish Jobs due via Blackboard

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

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:

- a. Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>).
- b. Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <https://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- c. 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.
- d. 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 <https://ds.gmu.edu>).
- e. Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources:

- a. Support for submission of assignments to VIA should be directed to viahelp@gmu.edu or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/assessments>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>.
- b. For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://cfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>.

NOTICE OF MANDATORY REPORTING OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, SEXUAL HARRASSMENT, INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE, AND STALKING

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Non-Confidential Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, sexual harassment, 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 the [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 or support measures 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 <http://cehd.gmu.edu/>.

INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS:

1. All assigned reading for each class is to be completed prior to coming to class.
2. All written assignments must be typed in 12-point font, double spaced, and include appropriate citations in APA style as necessary.
3. Regular attendance and participation are expected. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain class materials.
4. Students must abide by the Honor Code, guided by the spirit of academic integrity.
5. We will refrain from the use of electronic devices in class during the lecture period, except to follow the power point presentation or take notes.
6. All required assignments must be completed fully and submitted as required in order to pass the course.

Alternative Work and Absences:

There is no make-up work of any kind, and late assignments will not be accepted. Absences supported by documentation, as per Mason policy, may be excused. Alternative work due to religious observances or participation in university-sponsored activities must be arranged prior to due date.

